In conclusion, it is worth noting that we received many positive comments from the VIPs and participants in the meeting, who emphasized the professional level of the programme, the effective running of it, and the tasty food, but above all the presence of the large group of young people. We are convinced that our event promotes very well Polonia and Lublin in Windsor, as well as Poland in Canada. It is said that the Windsor Polonia is among the most active in Ontario and in Canada. We are pleased that others speak about us in this way.

Ewa Barycka

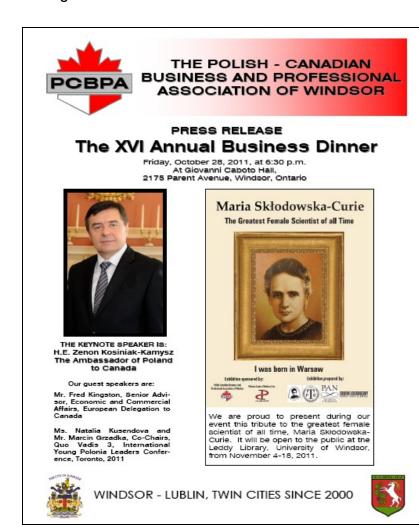
Translated from the Polish by Frank Simpson Windsor, Ontario November 6, 2011





Participants in the 16th Meeting of Businessmen and Professionals of Windsor Bet on the Young

Last Friday, 28 October 2011, about 100 business people and professionals from Windsor participated in the most recent annual meeting, which was in Caboto Hall. The President of many years, Jerzy Barycki, opened the meeting of the Polish-Canadian Businessmen and Professionals of Windsor in the traditional manner. He emphasized that working together we are not only stronger, but also better prepared to meet the challenges of the Twenty-First Century. He noted how important it is to give support to and share our experiences with the younger generation, so that "in the future they might live in prosperity and in safety". He also introduced the MC, Dr. Frank Simpson, who ran the meeting professionally and with almost the precision of a watchmaker in his timing.







The Keynote Speaker was Ambassador Zenon Kosiniak-Kamysz, who in his presentation emphasized the historical role of Poland in Europe and her currently growing commercial and economic position in Europe and in the world. He recalled that during the previous year in trade with Canada, Poland made a record turnover in the order of \$1.2 billion. He also placed emphasis on the most recent discoveries of energy resources - the largest reserves of shale gas in Europe. Canadian companies are already drilling [exploration] wells in Poland, in the hope of extracting gas in the near future. Poland is aiming for independence in energy. Not only may shale gas become the answer to this need, but also in the future Poland might derive major, financial gains from exporting this resource.

The second, extremely interesting speaker was Mr. Fred Kingston, Senior Advisor to the EU delegation to Canada, who talked about the negotiations on an agreement between Canada and the EU, which is to be signed at the beginning of 2012. Presently, the EU, which is the largest economy in the world, is Canada's second largest, commercial partner, while Canada is in eleventh place for the EU. In terms of investments, the EU is Canada's second largest partner and Canada is in fourth place for the EU. The predicted annual growth in GDP up to 2014 will amount to \$12 billion for Canada and \$17 billion for the EU. The agreement will facilitate exchanges, for example, of professionals, between the EU and Canada, thus including Poland.





The last guest speakers were Natalia Kusendova and Marcin Grządka, the Co-Chairs of the International Conference of Young Polonia Leaders Quo Vadis (QV) 3. This event took place during May 2011 in Toronto and brought together 208 delegates from 16 countries. They spoke of the growing role of the movement of young Polonia members worldwide, of the building of a communication network, and of the need for continuing joint projects in the future, for example, QV. This is the reason they are forming a QV corporation, so as to guarantee the continuation of this project. In a few days, on 4 November 2011, there will be an official announcement about the place, where the next conference, QV4, will take place.

Interest in the QV project was highly visible at the meeting, which was attended by a large group of leaders from Toronto and Chicago, in addition to representatives from Windsor, altogether more than 20 individuals. The young people circulated widely, trying to meet as many people as possible. They clearly showed a great need to make new contacts, to share their experiences and to look for new ways of creating future successes. Although for the most part they were born in Canada or the USA, they have in their hearts a place for Poland and this unites them.



Before dinner was served, the guests were able to admire a beautiful exhibition about Maria Skłodowska-Curie, specially purchased and transported by the Association from the Museum in Warszawa. Thanks to the Association, the exhibition has been displayed on loan in Toronto and Windsor and in December it will be in Ottawa.









Representatives of different levels of government in Canada took part in the meeting this year. They expressed their thanks and congratulations for the unceasing activities in Polonia, in the City of Windsor and beyond. They included Representative Joe Comartin, MP for Windsor-Tecumseh and well known to Polonia; Eddie Francis, the Mayor of Windsor, who emphasized our continuing involvement in the development of the collaboration between Windsor and Lublin, twin cities since 2000; and also Karen Majewski, the Mayor of Hamtramck in the USA, not a large town, but very Polish, close by on the other side of the Detroit River. The Hon. Dwight Duncan, MPP for Windsor-Tecumseh, sent a letter with congratulations.

It should be noted that an important part of the guests present consisted of representatives of fraternal, ethnic organizations: Italian, German and Chinese, as well as supportive individuals from the local community. There were also representatives of Polonia from several more distant locations, such as Kitchener and Hamilton and also Detroit, which is evidence of the interest in our event. At the end, there was the latest promotional material from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "Polska? Tak!" - brief comments about Poland by famous people, such as actors, artists, and musicians, for example, Russell Crowe and Robert Redford. This short film, lasting about ten minutes, was very well received by those gathered in the hall.

In the closing part of the meeting, thanks were given to the sponsors, the organizers, and Polonia businesses, which had supplied the wine and the Polish food. The annual meetings of the Association are an unending source of information on the Polish community in Windsor, on Lublin, on Poland and on the activities of the young generation of Polonia leaders.

