

# Recipients of Excellence Award

**John Kalas**

Lifetime Achievement Award - 2018

**Robert Sochaj**

Executive of the Year 2018

**Chris Korwin Kuczynski**

Political Leadership of the Year 2018

**Dominic Roszak**

Political Activist of the Year 2018

**Wojtek Wolski**

Polonia's MVP

**Jolanta Ostrowska Nóżka & Paulina Nóżka**

Volunteers of the Year 2018

**Ania Krosińska**

Preconstruction Inside Sales Specialist of the Year 2018

**Edyta Kepa**

Spa of the Year 2018

**Aggie Janiak**

Insurance Agent of the Year 2018

**Antoni Kantor**

Contractor of the Year 2018

**Krzysztof Kida**

Philanthropist of the Year 2018

## **MENU**

### **Specialty Bread Basket**

*An Assortment of Specialty Breads & Fresh Baked Focaccia  
"My Mother's Olive Oil" Imported from Greece*

### **Duo Pasta Course**

*Penne with Plum Tomato and Fresh Garden Basil Sauce  
Risotto with Wild Mushroom and Prosecco*

### **Main Course**

*8oz New York Striploin topped with Fried Onions &  
Sautéed Mushrooms  
Seasonal Vegetables  
Chef's Choice Potatoes  
Mixed Field Greens with a Red Wine Vinaigrette*

### **Dessert Course**

*Warm Sticky Toffee Pudding with Crème Anglais Coffee,  
Tea, Espresso Service to Tables with Dessert*

# Excellence Awards Gala

## AGENDA

- 7:00 pm      Cocktails
- 7:15 pm      Performance by Anna Cyzon
- 7:45 pm      Welcome by Mr. Wojciech Śniegowski  
- President of the CPCC
- 7:50 pm      Mr. Krzysztof Grzelczyk - Consul General of  
the Republic of Poland
- 7:55 pm      Mr. Peter Milczyn - Minister of Housing of  
Ontario
- 8:00 pm      Opening remarks by Ms. Bonnie Crombie -  
Mayor of Mississauga
- 8:05 pm      Presentation of the Awards
- 8:25 pm      Dinner
- 9:15 pm      Entertainment

# **CANADA POLAND**

## **Chamber of Commerce**

### **Board of Directors:**

**Wojciech Śniegowski**

President of Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce

**Waldemar Halek**

Treasurer of Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce

**Jack Smagala**

Vice President of the Board of Canada-Poland  
Chamber of Commerce of Toronto

**Stephen Klus**

Vice President of the Canada Poland Chamber of Commerce;  
Vice President of EUCAN

**Sophia Śniegowska**

Vice President IT & Communication  
Canada Poland Chamber of Commerce

**Jack Krosiński**

Vice President of the Canada Poland Chamber of Commerce

**Vitek Manitius**

Vice President of the Canada Poland Chamber of Commerce

### **Committees:**

Higher Education Affairs Committee

**Paulina Nóżka**

Innovation Committee

**Magdalena Ordyniec**

Corporate Affairs Committee

**Ania Smith**

# ABOUT THE CHAMBER

The Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce (CPCC) was incorporated on June 21, 1994. The CPCC is dedicated to the promotion, development and expansion of business, trade and investment opportunities between Canada and Poland as well as the development of relationship and networking opportunities with other ethnic business organizations in Canada.

On October 27, 1999, the Chamber entered into an agreement with the Business Centre Club and Association of Polish Artisans (Związek Rzemiosła Polskiego). The organizations agreed to co-operate to further their individual missions and increase membership privileges.

On March 3, 2005, the Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce became a member of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in Toronto. Since 2005, members of the Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce also receive EUCOCIT/EUCCAN membership. Our Vice President is also a Vice President at EUCCAN and acts as our official liaison.

We are primarily a networking organization and the majority of our hosted events take place in the Greater Toronto Area. We strive to raise the profile of our members and Canadian Polish businesses. To reinforce the significance of their contributions we host an Excellence Awards Gala.

Although we are based out of Toronto we help organize, promote and participate in Trade Missions to Poland, Forums, Conferences, and we traveled with Prime Minister Harper in 2015 on his Delegation to Poland.

The members of the Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce of Toronto do not have any obligation to the organization other than to attend the networking events of their choosing. The benefits of the membership are numerous and listed under the Membership Types page on our website. The most important factor is to be a part of the organization that offers excellent networking opportunities leading to expansion and development of members businesses and contacts. With our growth in new members the Chamber is in a position to advocate with different levels of government in Canada on our member's behalf. Joining does not translate to a responsibility unless one is interested in becoming an active member, joining a committee or running for a board of director position. All members regardless of their level of involvement gain the opportunity to grow and support their own business.

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1994

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- Entrepreneurs
- Food Industry
- Marketing and Publishing
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- Engineering and Technology
- Nuclear Power and Engineering
- Health Industry
- Hospitality and Linens
- Financial Services
- Investment and Banking
- Real Estate
- Lawyers, Barristers and Solicitors
- Regulatory and Scientific Solutions
- Architecture and Design
- Government Relations
- Domestic and International Trade
- Public Relations Agencies
- Construction
- Photography and Videography
- Travel Industry
- Sharing Economy Companies
- Polish Foundations
- Non-Profit Organizations

**CANADA**  **POLAND**  
Chamber of Commerce



## FACTS ABOUT CANADA-POLAND RELATIONS

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- Canada and Poland enjoy excellent political, social and commercial relations with expanding military cooperation and growing academic cultural ties.
- Canada was the first country to ratify the Accession Protocols for Polish accession to the North Atlantic Organization (NATO).
- Poland is Canada's largest market in Eastern Europe, with bilateral merchandise trade reaching over \$1.9 billion in 2014 - \$346 million in Canadian exports and \$1.6 billion in Canadian imports.
- Business on both sides of the Atlantic will benefit from provisions in the Canada-European Union Trade Agreement (CETA), ratified in 2017.
- CETA will significantly improve market access for services and investment. Canada's Market Access Plan (MAP), a three-year plan under Canada's Global Markets Action Plan, for Poland will help Canadian business benefit even further from those opportunities.

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Waldemar Halek, Managing Partner  
[whalek@yorklanecapital.com](mailto:whalek@yorklanecapital.com)  
+1-416-505-0020

Bernard Koszyk, Managing Partner  
[bkoszyk@yorklanecapital.com](mailto:bkoszyk@yorklanecapital.com)  
+1-416-835-3700

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- High Net Worth Individuals
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- Wealth Managers
- Insurance Companies
- Sovereign Wealth Funds

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(core / core plus)

**Growth Fund**  
(opportunistic / value-add)

### INCOME GENERATING

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net target returns

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across Canada



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# John Kalas

## Lifetime Achievement Award - 2018



John F. Kalas

John grew up in St. Catharines, the son of parents who emigrated to Canada from Poland after World War 2. Active within the Polish community, he eventually served as President of the Central Executive of the Polish Canadian Alliance Youth, the youth organization associated with the Polish Alliance of Canada.

He attended the University of Windsor, where he obtained his Bachelor of Commerce (Honors Business Administration) degree. Moving to Toronto, he joined a major international accounting firm, where he obtained his Canadian CPA (Chartered Professional Accountant) designation. Later he went on to obtain his USA CPA (Certified Public Accountant) designation.

John has over 30 years of experience as the Chief Financial Officer of both Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX) listed as well as private companies. With a financial and operational background and successes in growing companies, his international experience includes stints in diverse industries including aerospace, wireless communication technology, environmental solution, consumer products, advertising, manufacturing, franchise and service industries. He has substantial experience in strategic plans to restructure and reorganize operations to return them to profitability, raising money, investor relations, merger and acquisitions, launching new ventures, establishing joint ventures and managing a Company's financial, IT and legal issues.

He is currently retired from the corporate world but still actively pursuing his personal interests.

# Robert Sochaj

## Executive of the Year 2018



Robert Sochaj - Executive Vice President of Cyclone Manufacturing

In his early years, Robert showed an enthusiastic interest in the family business and learned the fundamentals of manufacturing aerospace parts from the ground up. Starting from the basics of grinding, conventional milling and throughout his apprenticeship has become a resource for today's new generation of Cyclone employees as he is well versed in all aspects of the aerospace manufacturing process.

In 1992, Robert officially joined the Company and over the years, has undertaken material resource planning and inspection with a progression into managerial positions. Currently, Robert is approving materials and asset purchases, negotiating long-term agreements with OEMs and valued customers. As Cyclones Executive Vice President, he is the final customer contact (other than our President).

Robert holds diplomas in Mechanical Engineering Technology and Accounting, both from Sheridan College. Never resting on an opportunity to learn, Robert has pursued his professional accreditations in CNC programming - Mastercam, GD&T & CMM Training - Mitutoyo, AQR approved Quality Auditor, Industrial Health and Safety Training. Robert is a proud father of two.



# Chris Korwin Kuczynski

## Political Leadership of the Year 2018

Chris Korwin-Kuczynski is a Polish Canadian with Polish parents in west end Toronto. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from York University. Chris worked in business until he was elected as Councillor in 2003 where he served for twenty-two years as Deputy Mayor.

Throughout his career he has held more than 100 numerous positions and member on committees, and boards. He has served as Deputy Mayor of Arts Councillor, City Manager, Physically Disabled City of Toronto Board Member; Millennium Community Council and Hockey Hall of Fame; Toronto Zoo; Toronto International Film Festival – TIFF; Captain Canadian Navy and Chair of the Canada Day City Hall Events Committee.

Living in his ward, Parkdale-High Park, Korwin-Kuczynski was active in his community, working with resident groups and other local organizations and institutions, to represent the interests of the community at city hall. Building new recreation centers, libraries on the Lakeshore boardwalk, the Western Beaches storage tunnel, bridges and parks, as well as start Canada Day, Flag Day and the annual New Year's Eve celebration at Toronto City Hall were some of his many achievements during his political career.

Korwin-Kuczynski supported the needs of the Polish community in Canada. He and his father organized the first demonstration in front of the Polish Consulate in Toronto in support of Solidarity and a free Poland. Following democracy coming to Poland, he was instrumental in providing prestigious offices at Toronto City Hall for the Czech and Polish Education and Training Programs sending in the years 1991-1996 over 400 Canadian teachers to teach English in Poland. He played a role in the erection of the Katyn Monument which was dedicated to the 19,000 Polish Officers and high profile Poles murdered by the Soviets. He and his father also brought forward the idea of erecting a statue of Pope John Paul the II on Roncesvalles Avenue.

Chris also spearheaded the friendship agreements between Toronto and Warsaw, the removal of visa requirements for Polish Citizens visiting Canada, restoring pensions for Allied Veterans, and the twinning of HMCS Haida in Canada and ORP Blyskawica in Poland. He also was responsible for getting the Canadian Government to officially recognize April 2nd as Pope John Paul the II Day. Korwin-Kuczynski was also instrumental in getting the Canadian Government to be the first country to ratify an agreement that let a number of Eastern European countries and Baltic States into NATO. Chris continues to be very active in the community, he is the Chair of the McCormick Arena Board; Board Member of the Polish Studies Council at the University of Toronto; Director of the Canadian Forces Liaison Council; Chair of Famous People Plyers; Chair of the Toronto – Warsaw Friendship Committee; Chair of the Pope John Paul the II Day Committee; and Chair of HMCS HAIDA – ORP Blyskawica Twinning Committee.

Chris Korwin-Kuczynski has received many awards and trophies, some of which are The Order of St. John, The Order of Polonia Restituta, Polish Order of Merit, Byzantine Order of the Holy Sepulchre, Templar Order, Queens Diamond and Jubilee Medals, Polish Gold and Silver Cross of Merit, Combatants Cross, and St. John's Service Medal.



was born in 1953 of Polish parents in west end Toronto. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from York University. Chris worked in business until he was elected as a Toronto City Councillor in 2003 where he served for twenty-two years as Deputy Mayor.

Korwin-Kuczynski held numerous positions as chair of various committees, and boards. Among them, the Faculty of Arts Councillor, City Manager, Physically Disabled City of Toronto Board Member; Millennium Community Council and Hockey Hall of Fame; Toronto Zoo; Toronto International Film Festival – TIFF; Captain Canadian Navy and Chair of the Canada Day City Hall Events Committee.

# Dominic Roszak

## Political Activist of the Year 2018



Dominic Roszak, M.A., is a first-generation Canadian of Polish heritage. He has previously served in the Prime Minister's Office and as an advisor to a senior Cabinet Minister between 2006 and 2015 in the Ministries of Citizenship and Immigration, Employment and Skills Development, and finally the Department of National Defence, where he was responsible for the federal government's outreach activities vis-a-vis Canada's diverse cultural communities. In 2015, Dominic was a member of the coordinating team for the Prime Minister of Canada's official visit to the Republic of Poland.

He is a long-time advocate in Canada's Polish community, contributing to numerous Polonia initiatives and helping to strengthen Canada-Poland relations, including participating in the Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce's 2012 trade mission to Poland.

Dominic's volunteer activities include being the co-founder of the Young Polish Canadian Professionals Association's Ottawa branch and helping advance the project to build the national Memorial to the Victims of Communism in Ottawa, which is to be completed next year.

He remains active in public life, currently working in the Ontario Legislature and serving as the Press Secretary on the Canadian Polish Congress National Executive Board.

# Wojtek Wolski

## Polonia's MVP



Wojtek Wolski, a Polish-Canadian professional ice hockey player, was born on February 24, 1986 in Zabrze, Poland. He left Poland with his parents and older brother Kordian in January 1989. Two years later, by way of West Germany, they finally landed in Toronto. He learned how to skate at a local outdoor skating rink in Etobicoke using his brother's skates, which were a few sizes too big. In order to make them fit, he would wear three pairs of socks.

Wojtek attended St. Michael's College School and played for the Buzzers hockey team in 2001-2002. Before making the Avalanche Colorado roster, he recorded 14 franchise records as a member of the OHL's Brampton Battalion and earned the award for Ontario Hockey League (OHL's) Most Valuable Player (MVP) in 2006. He was the OHL Player of the Month an unprecedented four months in a row (December, January, February, and March). He was also an Alternate captain for Ontario's Under 17 team at the 2003 Canada Winter Games. Wojtek suited up for Team Canada in 2004 Canada /Russia Series and was voted player of the game (Team Don Cherry) for 2004 CHL Top Prospect Game. In June 2004 he was drafted in the first round, 21st overall NHL Entry Draft by Colorado Avalanche where he played 9 years in NHL.

On May 20, 2013, Wojtek Wolski signed with Torpedo Nizhny Novogorod of the Kontinental Hockey League. After two successful seasons within Novogorod, he moved to Metallurg Magnitogorsk in signing a lucrative two-year deal on May 1, 2015. He won the Gagarin Cup in 2016, his first season with Metallurg Magnitogorsk. On October 13, 2016 Wojtek broke his neck, fractured his seventh and fourth cervical vertebrae, injured his cervical spinal cord, was diagnosed with a concussion and herd abrasions to his face, in a freak accident during the game between Metallurg and Barys Astana, which left him unable to play for rest of the season.

After sixteen months removed from the scariest moment of his life, Wojtek is not only walking and functional but playing hockey at a high level. He was selected to represent Canada at the 2018 Winter Olympics and won a bronze medal (scored 3 goals and 1 assist). He has a beautiful wife and two wonderful children.

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# Jolanta Ostrowska Nózka & Paulina Nózka

Volunteers of the Year 2018



Jolanta Ostrowska Nozka and Paulina Nozka are the founders, producers and hosts of the Polish Radio Program "Twoje Radio" (Your Radio) that is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year.

On November 8, 1998 at 4:00 pm, the first program of Twoje Radio was broadcasted from the CFMU station at McMaster University in Hamilton. Since then, we have hosted hundreds of guests - not only from our direct community, but from all over the world - who represented various voices and opinions of Polish people wherever they live. We have discussed community, country and world issues through the lenses of personal human experiences. A wide range of topics, from light gossip, through entertainment, to serious issues were on the table. Every program also includes a selection of Polish songs.

Over the years, we have had a number of great volunteer co-hosts, but no one has contributed to the program more than Janek Wichrowski, who has been with us for most of the time we have been on the air, initially part-time and over the last decade full time. We really like working together and even though we quite often do not agree on discussed issues, we always stay respectful and open to ideas presented by the other side.

In 2016, we have been honoured by a Volunteer Service Award from the Ontario Government (MCIIIT) for our long term service to our community.

<http://cfmu.ca/shows/97>



# Ania Krosińska

## Preconstruction Inside Sales Specialist of the Year 2018



Ania Krosinska specializes in pre construction low rise, and high rise, residential development agency.

With sales of new homes and condos valued at over \$1 Billion, Ania has represented many of the Greater Toronto Areas top Developers and most discerning buyers.

Clients include Solmar Developments, Pemberton Group, Camrost Felcorp, Lanterra, Lindvest, and Castlepoint just to name a few.

Ania was a Senior Agent at Milborne Real Estate, Toronto's most experienced new home and condo brokerage, and left her position to follow the Senior Vice President to join the newly formed brokerage, Davie Real Estate.

Ania is currently selling Mississauga's highest quality luxury, new condominium project for Solmar Developments.

Edge Towers is three high rise towers, over 1300 condominium apartments, located on the new LRT line, on Hurontario near Burnhamthorpe.

Miss. Krosinska is well known in the Polish community by both the public, and Polish real estate agents, and is fully bilingual.

Real Estate Salesperson of the Year  
New Homes and Condos



# Edyta Kepa

## Spa of the Year 2018



Edyta Kepa was born in Skarżysko Kamienna, Poland. At the age of 25 she immigrated to Canada.

In Poland Edyta studied Finance and Accounting at Radom Management School. Edyta's passion for the beauty industry began 13 years ago. She graduated in 2005 from Humber College as a makeup artist. After learning and mastering the art of make-up application, their ingredients and effect on the skin, she decided to combine her passions for make-up artistry and skin care becoming a licenced Medical Aesthetician.

She went on to establish her own business, Monterella Boutique & Spa for men and women. She has travelled to Italy, France, Las Vegas and Montreal for business development, spa classes, shows, and various other events in the beauty industry. Edyta is always searching for the newest and the most advanced skin care and technology available on the market today.

"I believe in offering only the best for all my clients and always give an honest opinion. I truly enjoy and love helping my clients enhance their appearance, so they can always put their best face forward. There is no greater satisfaction than knowing I've helped a client achieve far more than what they were hoping for."

In her free time Edyta enjoys travelling, reading, walking, listening to music and swimming. Monterella Boutique & Spa is your personal skin care clinic. Located in Downtown Oakville. New clients are welcome.

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# Aggie Janiak

## Insurance Agent of the Year 2018



Aggie Janiak immigrated to Canada in 1986 with the inability to speak English, very little in her pocket yet full of hopes and dreams.

In 1987 Aggie entered the insurance industry, she was soon selected by State Farm Insurance Company to start her own Agency in 1992. Within a short 2 years Aggie made the top 50 out of 17000 agents in North America. She became a life time member of the elite Presidents Club, the top honor within State Farm Organization.

Aggie has been invited to speak all over North America, and at the same time managed to build a large insurance and financial services agency, located in Port Credit/ Mississauga.

Over the 26 years in business she has helped many not only with insurance and financial advice, but she has encouraged and inspired a lot of people on her path, especially women.

Aggie is well respected amongst insurance professionals, her clients, friends, her Port Credit community and her dedicated team members.

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# Antoni Kantor

## Contractor of the Year 2018



Antoni Kantor was born and raised in Poland. He graduated from Cracow Agricultural University. He started his career as a civil engineer in Cracow Corporation of Geodesy and Cartography. When he arrived in Canada in 1989, he was able to seize upon new economic opportunities and start a new life for himself and his family. As a newcomer, he worked very hard in differed jobs. He worked as a party chief in H. Pillar Corporation in Toronto as well as a designer in Ministry of Natural Resources in Peterborough. Finally he managed to successfully start and operate his construction business ABB Construction Ltd. which he does to this day.

He jumped into community service in Canada having served as Commodore of Polish Canadian Yacht Club, Vice-Commander of the Polish Yachting Association of North America, and member of Canadian Coast Guard and Polish National Union.

He has worked close with other group members of PYANA to host events including sailing across the Atlantic Ocean and Polonia Rendezvous.

Antoni had run twice in 2014 & 2015 Elections for Ward 4 Councillor in Mississauga and ended twice in the second position.



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# Krzysztof Kida

## Philanthropist of the Year 2018



Krzysztof (Chris) Kida, born in Tarnograd in Poland, immigrated with his family to Toronto in 1988. He comes from a family with strong work ethics and values. His father Eddy Kida worked very hard and put in long hours to build a successful retail - wholesale business, well known in community, called 'Eddie's Meats'.

Chris's passion has been and always will be soccer. His love for the sport provided him with the opportunity to play competitively in his youth. He is an avid soccer fan that wouldn't miss an opportunity to attend the recent world cup in Poland - Ukraine and is planning to attend upcoming plays in Russia.

Chris has devoted resources and many personal hours not only on supporting, but on directly organizing events focused primary on soccer in the Polish community. His involvement encompasses the following: sponsoring events, organizing, managing teams, putting tournaments together and inviting professional soccer players for meet and greets.

Teams and organizations that Chris has been directly and indirectly involved in are the following: Polandia Soccer Club, Interpol Soccer Club, Polish Soccer League, Polonia Soccer Academy, to list a few. He is currently involved in promoting the Youth Soccer Academy that assists Polish young, up and coming players.

# KALLES COMMERCIAL



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# Anna Cyzon

## Gala 2018 Performer



She has a smoky-pop voice, animated stage presence, and a sexy one-of-the-boys kind of personality that ranks up there with Gwen Stefani and Debbie Harry. Toronto's own, Anna Cyzon is a bona fide rock star.

A former Top 20 Canadian Idol finalist and MTV Canada/Etalk host, Cyzon represented her homeland in the Eurovision Song Contest in 2010, placing second in the pre-selections with her song "Love Me" from her self-titled independent debut album. She's since followed with the release of an EP and recorded a full-length Polish album, which she took back to her native Poland in 2015 to tour. Her song "Into The Sun" received the Grand Prix Award at the International Carpathia Song Festival in Rzeszow, Poland in 2016, where Cyzon along with her band kicked off another series of summer concerts.

Her last highly infectious single "Wannabe", a collaboration with British producer Alex Reid, can be found both on iTunes and Spotify. The video directed by Danny Ruan, shot on the beautiful beaches of Olon, Ecuador, has over 3,000,000 views on YouTube.

Currently, Cyzon is back in the studio working on another full-length album with long-time friend and Toronto producer, La Flamme. She couldn't be happier to share it with her fans.

*"I hope my music, voice, resonates with the rhythm of your heart. These songs are a piece of my soul, my story and I want them to inspire and move you. Make you feel something. This is my ultimate purpose in life."*

# Urszula Urac

## Mrs. Canada



Urszula Urac immigrated from Poland in 1982. She quickly took to school and loved the whole learning experience. This led her to get a Bachelor of Education and Master of Education degree from the University of Toronto. Urszula knows how important education is for students and has devoted her life so that students get the most of their education.

Urszula is also a pageant enthusiast and this year has won the title of Mrs. Canada Globe. She will now go to China to compete with 75 women from around the world for the Mrs. Globe title. The Globe franchise is a fundraising pageant and helps over 10,000 women and children a year through various initiatives. Mrs. Globe has won a United Nations award and has been recognized by Hilary Clinton, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and international media.

As Mrs. Canada Globe, Urszula has started giving motivational talks to youth about being their best-selves, being healthy, finding their own kind of 'greatness' and the importance of having a passion in life to find fulfillment. She also promotes empowerment, charity work and the power of Education. Urszula believes that through perseverance, youth can overcome any obstacle and hopes to help as many young people as possible with her message.

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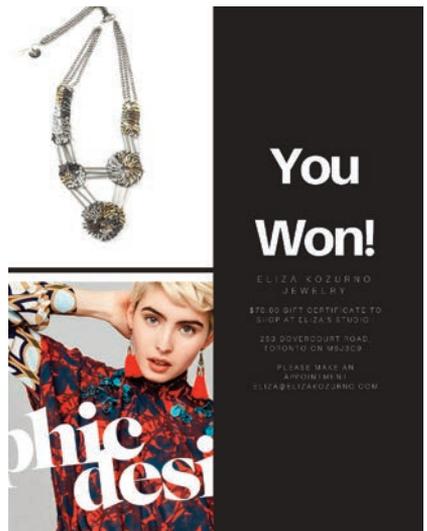
**Two Cooking Lessons  
Tickets**



**Anti Aging Treatment  
Certificate**



**Ania Mielniczak  
four paintings**

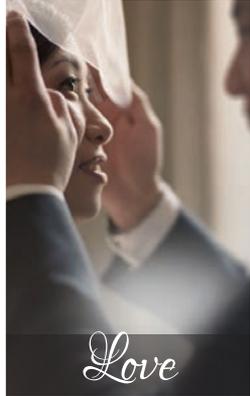


**Eliza Kozurno  
jewelry**

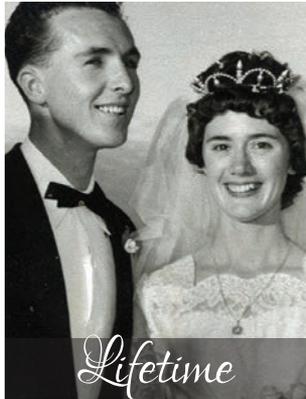
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1821 Albion Rd Unit #9 - 14 Etobicoke, ON | E: info@megacitylinen.com

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