

**University of Manitoba
Institute for the Humanities
Commemorative Symposium**

**THE GREAT OVERLOOKED – PROF. LEONID BILETSKYI AS
TEACHER AND SCHOLAR**

On **November 18, 2025**, the University of Manitoba Institute for the Humanities (UMIH) will host a symposium honoring Professor **Leonid Biletskyi (1882–1955)**, an influential Ukrainian literary scholar, educator, and cultural leader. The keynote lecture will be delivered by **Prof. Rostyslav Radyshevskyi** (Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv).

Born in 1882 in Kyiv province, Biletskyi studied at Saint Volodymyr University (today Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv), graduating in 1913 with a gold medal. He taught at Kamiyanets-Podilskyi State Ukrainian University, the Ukrainian Secret University in Lviv, and later served as professor and rector of the Drahomanov Pedagogical Institute in Prague. Alongside his teaching, he was active as a journalist and editor.

In 1949, Biletskyi emigrated to **Winnipeg**, where—although he lived only a short time—he made a lasting contribution to Ukrainian cultural and academic life in Canada. He became a professor at **St. Andrew’s College**, chaired the **Cultural-Educational Council of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee**, was an **active member of Oseredok (Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre)**, and worked with the “**Trident**” publishing house. His four-volume edition of **Taras Shevchenko’s *Kobzar*** (1952–1954) was groundbreaking in restoring the poet’s texts to their original form.

The symposium will feature a **mixed format**, combining in-person sessions at the University of Manitoba with online participation. It will include scholarly presentations (in Ukrainian and English), roundtable discussions, and community engagement. We welcome submissions and participation from academics, graduate students, and community members interested in Ukrainian literature, cultural history, and diaspora studies.

University of Manitoba, Winnipeg

1 November 18, 2025 — **Dr. Radyshevskyi's keynote lecture at 2:30 p.m.**, other presentations and discussions will be scheduled and announced pending confirmation.

Deadline to confirm participation: November 3, 2025

Please submit proposals to:

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