



Naming Committee

Honouring People and Places in Our City

THE CITY OF
Edmonton

7th Floor, 10250 - 101 Street
Edmonton AB T5J 3P4
Phone: 780-496-6226 Fax: 780-496-6054

Myrna Kostash

(1944)



Myrna Kostash is a third-generation Ukrainian-Canadian who has put Edmonton on the literary map of Canada. She is a writer and journalist whose work includes books, articles, playscripts, and radio documentaries.

Kostash was born and raised in Edmonton. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alberta in 1965, and in 1968 she received her Master's degree in Russian Language and Literature from the University of Toronto.

All of Baba's Children is Kostash's ground breaking nonfiction book. Published in 1977, it has never gone out of print. Researched in Two Hills, Alberta, it provides insight into

the experience of the first generation of Ukrainian-Canadians in the west. This book opened doors for first and second generation prairie authors of ethnic descent and has also been enthusiastically discussed in school syllabi across Europe and North America.

Kostash has eight other highly-praised nonfiction books, including *Prodigal Daughter: A Journey to Byzantium* short-listed for a European prize.. Some of her articles and columns have appeared in magazines such as *Saturday Night*, *Chatelaine*, *Maclean's*, and *Canadian Geographic*, and in literary journals such as *Brick*, *Grain* and *Prairie Fire*. Essays have been translated into Serbian, Polish, Macedonian and German.

From 1989 until 1990, Kostash served as President of the Writers' Guild of Alberta and 1993-94 as Chair of the Writers' Union of Canada. From 1996 to 2000, she represented Alberta on the Board of Governors of the Canadian Conference of the Arts. Kostash has taught creative writing and served as writer-in-residence in Minneapolis, Edmonton, Regina, Saskatoon, Banff, Campbell River and Vancouver. She was a founding member of the Professional Writers Association of Canada, the Writers' Guild of Alberta and co-founded the Creative Nonfiction Collective. She served as an original member of the Board of NeWest Press and on the programming committee of Edmonton's Lit Fest. Kostash continues to lecture across North America and Europe.

Myrna Kostash's commendable list of awards includes the Alberta Achievement Award in 1988, the Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts' "Excellence in Artistry" Award in 2001, the Canadian Conference of the Arts Honourary Life Member Award in 2002, the Queen's Jubilee Award in 2002, and the Alberta Centennial Medal in 2005. Kostash was also the recipient of the City of Edmonton's 2006 "Salute to Excellence" Citation Award, the Writers Guild of Alberta's Golden Pen Award for lifetime achievement, and in 2009, she was inducted into the City of Edmonton's Hall of Fame. She was the recipient of the 2010 Writers' Trust Matt Cohen Award for a Life of Writing.



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Myrna Kostash is currently working on her next two books but still finds time to volunteer at an Edmonton community coffee shop and on the council of St. Elias Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Information compiled by: Danielle Ferchoff

Edited by Myrna Kostash

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CITATION ON FILE

The Canadian Encyclopedia. "Myrna Kostash." Accessed November 19, 2012.

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/articles/myrna-kostash>

The City of Edmonton's 58th Annual Salute to Excellence Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. "Myrna Kostash." Accessed November 19, 2012.

http://www.edmonton.ca/for_residents/SaluteToExcellenceHallofFame2009Program.pdf

Myrna Kostash. "Biography." Accessed November 19, 2012.

<http://www.myrnakostash.com/about/biography/>



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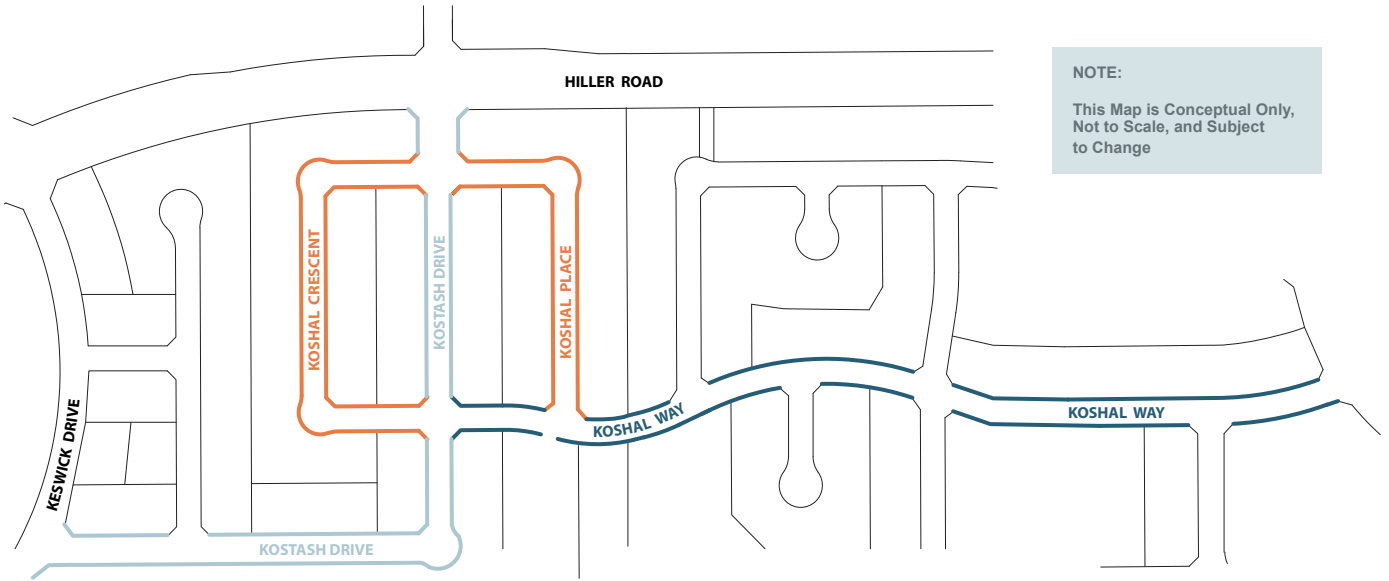


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NOTE:

This Map is Conceptual Only,
Not to Scale, and Subject
to Change



APPROVED ROAD NAMES

Keswick Neighbourhood

May 27, 2014
Naming Committee