

December 2015



*Zilas zvaigznes naktī baltā
Sudrabotu gaismu lej,
Un mums visiem klusu uzliek
Siltu roku dvēselei.*

The Edmonton Latvian Society *IMANTA* is ending another year of activities and events with many thanks to the members and volunteers who continue to support and encourage us. Thanks to you, we can still say we're the oldest active Latvian society in Canada. Best wishes to all for 2016!

Priecīgus Ziemassvētkus un
Laimīgu jauno gadu
novēl Imantas valde:

Merry Christmas
from Imanta's
executive:

Ena, Edgars, Liesma, Linda, Nelda, Helēna, Agneta, Meagan, Jim, Anita



November celebration: Our celebration on November 22nd at St. John's Cultural Centre was the liveliest and most entertaining *Imanta* event in many years. *Trejdeksnītis* from Seattle entertained us beautifully with stories and dance. Following a delicious buffet dinner, the music and dancing continued into the early morning - it was so much fun! Special thanks to Raivo for the best music! Photos of the evening can be viewed at www.imanta.ca

Children's Group: For the fourth year now, families with young children continue to meet monthly at Laurier Heights Hall for crafts, snacks, stories and music. The group welcomes children of all ages. The Christmas celebration will be December 20th. Many thanks to Agneta and her helpers for this successful program. For more information about children's events, contact agneta.zelle@gmail.com

Ice on Whyte Festival: Imanta is once again sponsoring a team of talented artists at this annual festival. We're excited that Kārlis Ile and Maija Puncule will be representing Latvia at the competition. Judging will take place on January 24th. We will be partnering with the Lithuanian Society at the cultural exhibit and a potluck dinner is planned that evening to meet with the artists. If you can't come to volunteer, then come show your support! www.iceonwhyte.ca

Congratulations to this year's recipients of *Imanta's* scholarships:

Luke Barnes, Peter Birzgalis, Felix Murrle, Ervīns Kononovs, Austen McDonald, Raina Mithrush, Kelsey Pleckaitis, Andrew Rudzītis, Julia Rudzītis, Laura Saicane, Agneta Zelle.

Sincere thanks to adjudicating committee members Venta Kabzems, John Neilson, and Linda Payne for their work in making these scholarships possible.

Congratulations as well to the recipients of *Imanta's* entrance scholarship at NAIT: Ervīns Kononovs and Marisa Pipke.

Several athletes from Latvia will be participating in the **World Cup Biathlon** in Canmore from Feb 3- Feb 7, 2016. They would welcome any kind of support and encouragement, especially with practical details like accomodation and transportation. If anyone is able to help or has any ideas, please contact imantaedmonton@gmail.com and be sure to visit Canmore and cheer for them if you're in the area.

We will be needing volunteers for our casino on March 13 & 14, 2016. Please keep these dates open. The casino coordinator will start booking volunteers in January. Any information is easily updated on Facebook - join us there!