

## **Interview Guide: Chrystia Chomiak about Halyna (Halya) Freeland**

**0:30** Chrystia Chomiak introduces her sister, Halyna Freeland, and provides an overview of her life and career.

**5:33** Chomiak discusses their experiences growing up in the Ukrainian community in Edmonton and their parents' involvement as activists and pillars of the community. The discussion is contextualized by Chomiak's reflections on both the vibrancy of the Ukrainian community in Canada following World War II, and how it maintained a marginal status within broader society at that time.

**18:15** Chomiak discusses how Halyna Freeland engaged with feminism both in her personal life and professional life as a lawyer. She describes Freeland as a leader within the feminist movement in Edmonton and Peace River who advocated for women's rights, especially those of marginalized women, in cases of divorce and custody.

**23:30** Chomiak describes how she introduced Freeland to her friends in the Ukrainian community who were exploring how to maintain their Ukrainian background while addressing New Left, progressive issues. She introduces the Hromada Cultural Group, Hromada Women's Group, and Hromada Housing Co-op in this discussion.

**38:05** Chomiak discusses how she and Freeland came up with the idea to start a "Ukrainian, feminist, socialist, housing co-op" and describes the co-op's principles of governance.

**1:00:54** Chomiak recalls the history of Common Woman Books—the bookstore that Freeland opened with Mair Smith and Julie Ann de Gras—and some of the activities organized by the collective that ran the store.

**1:11:00** Chomiak describes how Freeland learned about The First Wreath/Перший Вінок in a Ukrainian class she was taking at the University of Alberta and became inspired to mark the centennial of the Ukrainian Women's Movement (1884) with the Second Wreath Conference/Другий Вінок. She describes both the success of the conference and challenges.

**1:18:50** Chomiak discusses how Freeland helped form *The Newsmagazine for Alberta Women* and describes how the women in the Hromada Housing Co-op celebrated International Women's Day and Take Back the Night.

**1:25:03** Chomiak describes how the Hromada Women's Group collaborated with Ukrainian and Soviet Women political prisoners after they had been exiled from the Soviet Union.

**1:30:30** Chomiak shares her best memories of Freeland including her run for NDP MP representing the electoral district of Old Strathcona and her significant work on legal reform and drafting the constitution following Ukrainian Independence.