

**Serbian Heritage Museum**

6770 Tecumseh Road East  
Windsor, Ontario  
N8T 1E6

Tel: (519) 944-4884

Fax: (519) 974-3963

**MUSEUM HOURS**

Monday-Friday: 10 am - 4 pm

Sunday: 2 pm - 4 pm

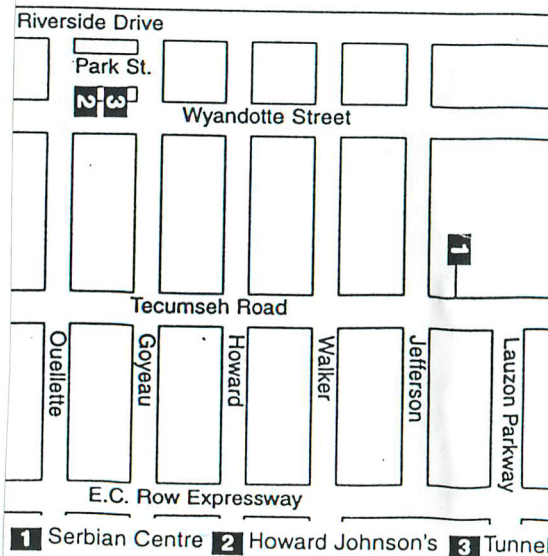
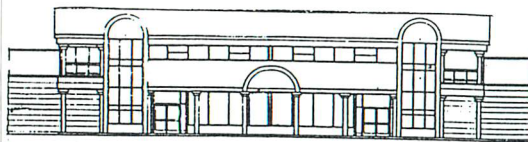
*Groups are welcome  
by  
appointment*

*Visits may include viewing of fresco  
paintings at the Serbian Orthodox  
Church "Gracanica". Light lunches  
served to groups of 15 or more, upon  
request.*

**SERBIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

6770 Tecumseh Road East  
Windsor, Ontario

From Highway # 401: Exit Essex Road  
#19 to Tecumseh Road and left on  
Tecumseh Road to # 6770



*Serbian Heritage Museum  
of  
Windsor*

**CELEBRATING  
SAINT SAVA  
IN  
WINDSOR**



Exhibit: January 24 - March 27, 1998

## INTRODUCTION

*Saint Sava is a Serbian patron saint. There is a deeply rooted belief that he is a protector of Serbs and children. January 27 is the school Slava, Saint Sava day. Serbs celebrate that day.*

Born in 1169 as Rastko Nemanjic, the youngest of three of Nemanja's sons. At the age of 17 he went to the Vatoped monastery. His entire life marks a dedication to God and to Serbs.

He became one of the most respected figure in not only religious circles but also in the history of the Serbian state, in education and in Serbian tradition and culture.

As a monk he traveled a great deal. During his visit to Constantinople in 1219, the Byzantine tzar approved Sava's proposal to impart independent status to the Serbian Orthodox Church. Sava became the first Serbian Archbishop.

As a scholar his major work was a set of rules known as Nomocanon, i.e., Karejski Tipik. He also translated the Byzantine Nomocanon for use in religious and monastic life in Chilandar, that needed order and organization. Sava and his father, later monarch Simeon, founded Chilandar in 1190-ties. It was built upon the foundation of an old and abandoned monastery Zig. The Byzantine tzar Aleksis Angel granted them that land and remnants approving the new establishment of Chilandar.

Sava died on January 12, 1236, by the old calendar, in Trnovo, Bulgaria. From there his remnants were transferred to Milesevo monastery where in 1594 Turks took away and in their rage and vendetta burned the relics in Belgrade, on Vracar. Today, the new majestic church is erected at the same place and dedicated to Saint Sava. It stands as a symbol of celebrating the best of what Saint Sava accomplished during his two lives: monastic and saintly.

This exhibit is about the celebration of Saint Sava in Windsor. A memory of his good deeds, his desire to root and organize the state and life for Serbs: to educate and enlighten them and bring culture to a high level. In 1972 a group of Serbian women established a society: Serbian Heritage Women's Society and

the next year the first ball named St. Sava Ball started to take Place.

The Society's dedications, sense for good food and dancing, reflect the cheerful Serbian nature. The society has also been promoting education and culture.

Displayed items on this exhibit tell the unique story on celebrating life and culture. There are also a variety of fancy costumes Serbian ladies wore at the balls.

The Gracanica school as another entity to the society, celebrates as well. Every year children perform, sing, dance, play music



### Acknowledgment:

To Aleksandra Budisavljevic, Stanislava Markovic, Deana Pavlov who graciously loaned their ball gowns for display, the Serbian Heritage Museum extends a grateful thanks.

### Volunteers:

Serbian Heritage Museum is grateful for the help to the following individuals during the process of setting this display: Biljana Angelovski, Petar Bulet, Nadia Chuk, Janice Cuckovic, Lucy Seka Stajic Jevrem Mrkonjic, Goran Todorovic, two young Serbian men, Milan Demic, Bosko Saric