Last year, the Ottawa Branch of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in Canada (PINK) actively cooperated with the main Polish-Canadian organizations in Ottawa, such as the Polish Combatants Association in Canada (SPK), Branch No. 8 in Ottawa, and the Canadian Polish Congress (KPK) - National Capital Branch. The Ottawa Branch of PINK, a member organization of the Canadian Polish Congress (KPK), currently has 51 members. As in previous years, the Ottawa Branch of PINK organized lectures and sponsored various cultural activities carried out in the form of film presentations. Five Executive Committee and several meetings of ad hoc Committees set up at the last General Meeting held on May 15, 2004 took place during the year. The President and the Delegate to KPK participated in most meetings of the Canadian Polish Congress, National Capital Branch. The participation was limited since the President’s place of work was transferred to Montreal. Dr. Teodor Blachut, a distinguished member of our Branch, passed away in the last year.

The Executive Committee of the Ottawa Branch of PINK in 2004-2005:

Aleksander Maciej Jablonski Ph.D., P.Eng. – President; Vice President of the National Executive Committee in Montreal,
Professor Marek Zaremba Ph.D., P.Eng. - Vice President,
Andrzej Garlicki, Ph.D. – Senior Advisor, member of the National Executive Committee in Montreal,
Professor Pawel Wyczynski, Ph.D. - Senior Advisor, Publications,
Danuta Iglewski - Secretary (resigned in October 2004),
Jolanta Lesniak, Ph.D.
Eva Karpinski, M.Sc., P.Eng. – Jointly acting as Secretary since November 2004,
Joanna Welfeld, Ph.D. – Treasurer, liaison with Saint Paul University
Professor Jerzy Sasiadek, D.Sc., Ph.D., P.Eng. - Representative to the Canadian Polish Congress, National Capital Branch,
Prof. Richard Sokoloski, Ph.D. – liaison with the University of Ottawa

Dr. Aleksander M. Jablonski participated in the Convention of KPK in Vancouver, October 2004, as delegate of PINK-Ottawa. The travel expenses were partly covered by the National Executive Committee of PINK. Prof. J. Litynski and Dr. J. Kierejczyk represented the National Executive Committee in Montreal and PINK-Toronto respectively.
During the last General Assembly of PINK-Ottawa in May 5, 2004, a motion was passed unanimously that set up four ad hoc Committees, the purpose of which was to define new directions for the operation of the Ottawa Branch.

*Financial Committee* – chaired by Dr. Joanna Welfeld

The Financial Committee will develop the strategy and the financial reform of our Branch, including the identification of the sources for additional funding and grants.

*Support for the Polish Studies in Ottawa Committee* – chaired by Dr. Jerzy Zarzycki

The Committee will develop a long-term strategy for the support of the Polish Studies at the University of Ottawa and will explore other possibilities for the collaboration of the Institute with the universities located in the region of Ottawa-Hull.

*Editorial Committee for the Book on the 60th Anniversary of PINK in Ottawa* – co-chaired by Prof. Richard Sokoloski and Dr. Aleksander M. Jablonski.

The Editorial Committee will work on the steps necessary to publish the anniversary book. The Committee may broaden its mandate and elaborate publication guidelines for the Ottawa Branch, including the web page.

*Committee for Collaboration with other Polish-Canadian Organizations* – chaired by Prof. Marek Zaremba

The purpose of the Committee is to develop a long-term organizational strategy for the Ottawa Branch in terms of the collaboration with other organizations, such as KPK, SPK and SIP, as well as to explore the possibility of expanding the Branch. The Committee will incorporate two additional members from outside PINK.

The generation that survived the World War II and then established themselves in Canada is steadily departing. That generation witnessed the defeat of Poland in the last war, and worked and fought for an independent Poland also in the intellectual sense. Members of this generation found the Institute as an independent American organization in 1943, and a Canadian one in 1976. We must not waste the accomplishments of that generation, and we wish to profit from it transforming it in the spirit of contemporary times. Further aims of our activity have to be developed in accordance with the motto HERE AND NOW – in order not to cast off the doubts concerning our work for the benefit of Canada, Canadians of Polish origin, and Poland. Due to the work of the Committees, the lecture program in Winter 2005 was limited.

The Ottawa Branch of PINK organized a number of meetings and lectures in the academic year 2004-2005. The detailed list is as follows:
August 24, 2004 - Fr. Prof. Dr. Andrzej Gretkowski, Dean of the Pawel Wlodkowic College w Plock – Bol i cierpienie (together with the Association of Polish Engineers, Ottawa Branch)

September 28, 2004 - Krzysztof Serdakowski, M.Sc., geodesist, topographer and cartographer from St-Bruno de Montarville, Quebec - Baie James – największy hydroelektryczny projekt Kanady (including two videopresentations; organized together with the Association of Polish Engineers, Ottawa Branch)

October 22, 2004 - Prof. Marek Jan Chodakiewicz, PhD, The Institute of World Politics, Washington, D.C., USA – Perceptions and Reality: Warsaw Rising 1944 (organized to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of Warsaw Uprising). Reception followed this event.

December 10, 2004 - Prof. Juliusz Lukasiewicz, PhD, Ottawa – Powstanie, ktore nie powinno wybuchnac (a reception to celebrate the 85th anniversary of Prof. J. Lukasiewicz followed the lecture).

January 27, 2005 - Meeting with Mr. Gordonem Swoger, author of the book The Strange Odyssey of Poland's National Treasures 1939-1961 (the talk was presented in English and organized together with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland; a reception followed the lecture).

April 21, 2005 – Prof. Tadeusz Piotrowski, PhD, University of New Hampshire at Manchester, NH, USA – including the viewing of the American documentary film Katyn-Slaughter and Silence (together with SPK–Ottawie).

May 10, 2005 - Fr. Marek Pienkowski, PhD, Monestary of Dominican Fathers in Cracow – Chrzescijanska Europa

All the lectures took place at Saint Paul University in Ottawa.

The Ottawa Branch of PINK continues its co-operation with other Polish-Canadian organizations and local universities, as well as the Embassy of the Republic of Poland. Prof. Jerzy Sasiadek and Dr. Maciej Jablonski participated in the meetings of the Canadian Polish Congress, National Capital Branch. Dr. Maciej Jablonski also participated, to a limited extent, in the meetings of the Executive Body in Montreal. The Ottawa Branch extends their acknowledgment to Ms. Lidia Zielinska, P.Eng., from the Association of Polish Engineers in Canada, Ottawa Branch, for maintaining our web site http://www.kpk-ottawa.org/pink/.

Aleksander Maciej Jabłoński
Marek Zaremba
Jolanta Lesniak