



### **Mandate**

The Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations provides advice regarding opportunities for partnership between Alberta and Ukraine. It serves as an information resource for Alberta's Ukrainian community, and it helps strengthen ties between the two governments. Recommendations are provided by the ACAUR to the Minister of Alberta International and Intergovernmental Relations.

### **Members:**

<u>Chair</u> Dave Broda, MLA	<u>Co-Chair</u> Hon. Gene Zwozdesky, MLA
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### Members

Dr. Olenka Bilash	Catherine Chichak
John Chomiak	Bud Conway
Dr. Ehor Gauk	Oksana Hnatiuk
Dr. Bohdan Klid	Ivan Kupchenko
Eugenia Leskiw	Yuri Moskal
Art Mykyte	Ed Piasta, Q.C.
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### **Premier Ralph Klein Recipient of 2003 Hetman Award**

The Honourable Premier Ralph Klein received a special Award of Distinction from the Ukrainian Canadian Congress-Alberta Provincial Council (UCC-APC) at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hetman Awards Banquet held on October 29. The Awards Banquet was attended by well over 200 individuals, including the Hon. Gene Zwozdesky, Minister of Community Development (and Master of Ceremonies for the gala), the Hon. Halvar Jonson, Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations, Mr. Dave Broda, MLA for Redwater, and Ms. Mary O'Neill, MLA for St. Albert.



Premier Ralph Klein receives Hetman award from Mrs. Catherine Chichak, President UCC-APC

The Premier is the first recipient of the special Award of Distinction, which has been awarded in recognition of his historic 2002 mission to Ukraine, for his important role in establishing the Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations, and for his leadership in expanding and solidifying Alberta-Ukraine relations. The Hetman Volunteer Award was established in 1998 to recognize outstanding Albertan volunteer leaders who have made significant contributions to the life of the Ukrainian Canadian community. This award is presented annually in three categories: youth, adults, and seniors. Each recipient is recognized symbolically in the name of Ukraine's Hetmans, who were outstanding leaders that fought for generations for their country's independence.

### **Canadian-Ukrainian Advisory Council Meeting**

The Canadian Ukrainian Advisory Council is an initiative between the Government of Canada and the Ukrainian Canadian community, to ensure the exchange of information and intelligence pertaining to the development and enhancement of Canada-Ukraine relations. The last meeting of CUAC was held in Edmonton on November 4, 2003, and was co-chaired by Ms. Irene Mycak and Mr. David Preston, Director, Eastern Europe Division, DFAIT. The meeting in Edmonton is among a series of meetings with stakeholders from the Ukrainian community nationwide, which CUAC hopes, will help revitalize the organization. Further to the November meeting, a roundtable is currently being organized for March 2004 in Toronto to ensure effective cooperation between the Government of Canada and the Ukrainian Canadian community to maximize the impact of activities pertaining to elections monitoring in Ukraine. As a result, the CUAC will meet again in Winnipeg in April/May 2004. The Government of Alberta has been invited to attend both meetings.

### **Canada-Ukraine Development Association**

Members of Edmonton's local Ukrainian community have recently formed the Canada-Ukraine Development Association (CUDA). The first CUDA meeting was held on November 17, 2003 and was attended by approximately 8 businesses. The purpose of this non-profit membership-based association is to facilitate trade, investment and economic cooperation between the business communities of Canada/Alberta and Ukraine. The ACAUR and the Government of Alberta have wholeheartedly endorsed this initiative, as it may serve as a catalyst in raising the level of economic activity between Alberta and Ukraine.

Subsequently, CUDA member, Mr. Sergiy Korniyenko, traveled to Kyiv to establish connections with key business organizations in Ukraine. The mission achieved some success and on December 4, 2003, CUDA signed an agreement focused on business development with the Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (ULIE), headed by Mr. Anatoly Kinakh.

## Mission to Ukraine by Alberta Officials

A small Alberta delegation, consisting of officials from the Departments of International and Intergovernmental Relations, Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, and Learning traveled to Ukraine (Kyiv, Lviv and Ivano-Frankivsk) October 20-24, 2003. The delegation met with various Ukrainian Government officials, academic institutions and non-governmental organizations. The mission provided an excellent opportunity to follow-up on potential areas for cooperation identified in Premier Ralph Klein's Mission in May 2002. Further discussion between Alberta and Ukraine on these and other areas is expected to continue in the following months.

## World Bank Rural Land Titling and Cadastre Development in Ukraine

A delegation from Ukraine visited both Calgary and Edmonton between October 27-29, 2003 to examine the province's land utilization and management policies. A number of the Ukrainian government officials participating in the visit are responsible for managing a \$195 million World Bank loan to Ukraine. The World Bank's primary objective under this project is to allocate land parcels to individuals in rural areas on an equitable basis, establish their property rights by issuing state deeds for land, develop a national *cadastre*, and encourage the restructuring of farms into more efficient units with consideration for environmental and social safeguards. A few of Alberta's private sector companies and academic institutions have been working with Ukraine on developing a land management and registry system since the mid-1980s.

## FARM Project Update

The Facility for Agriculture Reform and Modernization (FARM) project was submitted in November 2002 and approved and launched in March 2003. It targets institutional capacity, agricultural extension services and civil society capacity in the agrarian sector. The project resources total up to \$8.5 million over 5 years, including \$6 million from CIDA, complementing just over \$2.5 million in in-kind resources committed by the three Canadian provinces and the Ukraine partners. FARM has now been operating for eight months with offices in Kyiv and Regina fully staffed and operational. The first provincial/oblast extension office was opened in Volyn in October with offices expected to be operating in Sumy and Rivne by January 2004 and Dnipropetrovsk by March 2004. The scope and nature of Alberta's contributions are being discussed with Ukrainian officials and will be determined throughout the course of the initiative.

## Researching Education for Disabled Children

The University of Alberta and Grant MacEwan College have recently joined together to form the Canada Ukraine Research Team (CURT) to undertake joint research projects over the next five years with researchers and policy staff at the Institute of Special Education (ISE) in Kyiv. ISE is a national institution that oversees research and makes policy recommendations to the Ministry of Education of Ukraine. The director of ISE will be visiting Alberta in February 2004, during which time he will visit various Alberta programs for the disabled and sign a cooperation agreement with CURT.



Dr. Haran', professor of Political Science at the University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

## Visiting Professor Discusses Political Struggle in Ukraine

Dr. Haran', a professor of Political Science at the University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, and recipient of the John Kolasky Memorial Fellowship, was invited by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) to visit Alberta between November 12-17, 2003, to speak on two topics: "Ukraine on the Eve of Presidential elections; Domestic Struggles and Foreign Influences" and "Debates over the 1932-33 Famine and the Current Political Struggle in Ukraine." The John Kolasky Memorial Fellowship, which is awarded by CIUS, allows a Ukrainian scholar to come to Canada to conduct research. Dr. Haran' has been at the University of Toronto, at the Centre for Russian and East European Studies since September of this year and will depart for Kyiv on December 18. His research topic is: "The Dilemmas of Ukraine's Security Policy in the New Geopolitical Situation."

## Recent News

- November 2003: the University of Alberta and the University of Lviv signed a general cooperation agreement.
- November 2003: Ms. Melanie McCallum was appointed as the new ACAUR Secretary.
- In September 2003, the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village, for the second time in its history, received a five-bloom award at the recent *2003 Provincial Communities in Bloom Awards*.
- In August 2003, the University of Alberta's Ukrainian Folklore Centre formally announced the Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography, named after Peter & Doris Kule, the major donors in a \$3 million endowment to fund a full-time professor.
- Early in 2003, the Edmonton Westmount Lions Club initiated the Lviv Regional Specialized Children's Hospital Project, and received a matching grant of \$1,500 from the Wild Rose Foundation. The first steps of the project have been achieved: renovation of the play therapy area, construction of a private office for one-on-one counseling, and provision of office furnishings including a laptop computer. The Club soon hopes to provide support for an upgrading course for the psychologist.