

Presidential Message

Adapted from President's remarks at the Annual General Meeting of the Canada-Ukraine Foundation held Saturday, June 5, 2021

Dear friends and supporters of the Canada-Ukraine Foundation,

One year into my term and 15 months into the COVID-19 pandemic, it would be natural to look back and reflect on what has been accomplished over the past year. While it is important to do that in order to track and measure how our internal work and external partnerships and programming are progressing towards achieving our long-term strategic goals, we do that on a regular basis at Ex Comm and Board meetings. So today, here at the AGM I would prefer to look forward.

But before we look forward, I'd like to say Thank You!

Thank you to:

- All the friends, supporters, and donors without whom CUF would not be able to deliver the programs and projects it has been involved in over more than 25 years.
- CUF's member organizations for your collaboration, cooperation and support. The League of Ukrainian Canadians, Help us Help, UNF, Ukrainian Self-Reliance League, Plast, the Brotherhood of Ukrainian Catholics and the Council of Ukrainian Credit Unions.
- Dzherelo for their partnership and continued great work, and to all our other partner fund holders, whether it be the continued work of the Liubov project, the Kovaluk scholarships, the LNAU Jaroslav Zajshlyj scholarships, the donors from the Cosbild group and our most recent partners, the Canadian Friends of Hockey in Ukraine.
- Our partners at UCC, its national leadership and its provincial affiliates, as well as the Ukrainian World Congress and its member organizations
- CUF Board member and the external committee members: each and every one of you is aligned behind CUF's mission and vision and I thank you for your time and commitment.
- Lesya, who has continued to work tirelessly with Brad and the Finance/Audit committee to keep the books in check and our finances in order
- Ambassador Derek Fraser for your years of service to our country and to CUF. Ambassador Fraser stepped down from the Board of CUF earlier this year.

Дякуємо!

Welcome

- On that note, I'd also like to make a few Welcomes!
- Ambassador Roman Waschuk joined the CUF board earlier this year and already brought his calm and thoughtful approach to several discussions on a range of topics
- I'd also like to introduce Julia Stech, our Executive Coordinator. Welcome Julia! We look forward to the energy and skillset you bring to our organization. One of Julia's first tasks will be overseeing CUF's summer students, whom we also welcome at this time!

Вітаємо!

Looking forward

As we add new board members and begin to build out the CUF office, let's look forward as we continue to write the second 25 year chapter in CUF's story together.

Key internal areas of focus from the strategic plan are:

1. Fundraising (for capacity building)
2. Promoting the CUF brand to all stakeholders
3. Optimizing the CUF organizational chart
4. Establishing a paid support staff
5. Expanding presence on the ground in Ukraine

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Dzherelo Children's Centres

Dzherelo Children's Rehab Centre in Lviv is growing new branches. No longer will all programs be provided from the one centre on Chervonoyi Kalyny Avenue. Dzherelo is expanding and developing its programming for children with special needs by getting ready to establish a sixth satellite branch!

For over 25 years, Dzherelo Children's Rehabilitation Centre has been operating as an independent facility in Lviv, focusing on the consultation, rehabilitation treatment, education and counselling of both children with special needs and their families. For too long, many of these children had been hidden from mainstream society, locked up in homes and prevented from attending school. So, while Ukraine's education system is slowly adapting to inclusive education close to special needs students' homes, Dzherelo is also making strides in this direction. The new Dzherelo satellite branches are located in residential neighbourhoods outside the Lviv city centre, offering services closer to the homes where the children live.



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Honour 150 Story

The Canada-Ukraine Foundation is proud to congratulate Roman Yereniuk on being recognized as an Honour 150 recipient in honour of the 150th anniversary of the Province of Manitoba.

Honour 150 recognizes 150 people from across the Province who give back to the community and enrich the places in which we live, work, play, and come together in unity. Nominated by members of their own communities in 2020, these 150 individuals represent the diversity of the province.

CUF Past President Victor Hetmanczuk said: "Roman's work on the Liubov-Love Fund dovetails wonderfully with the humanitarian mission of the Canada-Ukraine Foundation. We are profoundly grateful for his efforts in organising the volunteers of the Fund for these many years and applaud this recognition as he sets an example for all Canadians to emulate."



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Internally, we have made progress in bringing technology to our meetings and operations, in financial reporting and oversight and we are hiring our first staff member. All these advances will help create a solid foundation for addressing CUF's strategic priorities.

Welcoming Julia is just the beginning of the build-out of the CUF office. As she onboards with the leadership of Oksana and others on our board and executive, Julia will bring her fundraising and communications skillsets and help progress the work on a couple of immediate needs – capacity building and communications.

External

Key external areas of focus from the 2020 strategic plan are:

1. Developing smart partnerships – with key organizations inside and outside our community, inside and outside government;
2. Developing smart processes – to assess impact and sustainability of future projects and measure projects underway;
3. Shift the geographic focus to ensure Eastern Ukraine is included in the scope of work.

I'm pleased to see progress from all our committees has continued through the pandemic.

The external committee chairs will update the AGM and our external stakeholders in separate presentations/communications.

CUF President Advisory Councils

Finally, I'd like to announce that we are forming President's Advisory Councils in the areas of Healthcare, Education, Civil Society and Youth.

The members of councils will be experts in their respective fields and serve as advisors to the CUF President and members of our board who are working on the relevant committee.

Stay tuned to our social media channels and website for more updates in all the above areas in the coming weeks, months and years.

Thank You once again for your support and dedication – together, we will continue the culture of excellence and take CUF to the next level.

Orest Sklierenko
President & CEO
Canada-Ukraine Foundation

Dzherelo Children's Centres

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These new satellite projects are necessary to reduce the stressful, costly and lengthy travel time and ultimately improve families' quality of life.

The Dzherelo team is constantly working on updating and improving their programs. Since 2018, they have opened five satellite branches of Dzherelo in different areas of Lviv city. The satellites and expansion of programs are only possible with the City Council's financial help, other government levels, and community fundraising. Together, with each partner's contribution, it becomes possible to renovate, furnish, and install the facilities' special equipment. Only then can the staff, trained at Dzherelo, begin taking in and integrating the children planning to attend. With five branch satellites operating, the next challenge is expanding the Dzherelo Centre's programs by opening branch No.6 in Vynnyky (a suburb of Lviv).

The facility will have a total area of nearly 300 square meters and offer daycare programs for ten younger children plus ten youths with special needs living nearby. The availability of services close to home is paramount for the children and their families health and welfare.

Lviv City Council had made a specific funding decision to allocate an appropriate building for use by Dzherelo. The local city administration provided such a building, and in due course, other government levels were also committed to funding the costs involved in building improvements and specific adaptations.

Dzherelo satellite branch No.6 now requires about \$23,000 (500 thousand hryvnias) to furnish the premises with specially adapted furniture, a projector, a computer, some mobile and ceiling lifts.

To ensure this funding and the completion of this expansion project, Canadian donors have volunteered to supply the required portion of the costs, as indicated by the Lviv Regional (Oblast) Council's budget proposal.

Druzi Dzherela, through the Canada-Ukraine Foundation (CUF), is committed to providing the promised community contribution funds.

You can donate to this worthwhile project through Druzi Dzherela in Toronto with the Canada-Ukraine Foundation's help. Your generosity will ensure the successful and timely completion of Dzherelo satellite branch No.6 for the benefit of Lviv's special children!

For more information about Dzherelo, please view their website at www.dzherelocentre.org.ua

To donate, contact the Canada-Ukraine Foundation at www.cufoundation.ca/dzherelo-childrens-rehabilitation-centre

A new Module for the Holodomor National Awareness Tour

"A Genocide begins with the killing of one man; not for what he has done, but because of who he is." – Koffi Annan, U.N Secretary-General 2001

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed not only how people interact with each other, but also how Holodomor awareness is brought to the public. Although the HMC's travels across Canada are currently on hold, we continue to spread awareness by strengthening our social media presence on Twitter and Facebook, and turning to online virtual learning for students.

As classrooms around the globe are going virtual so have we, by creating a pre-recorded online high school module, "Introduction to the Holodomor: A Virtual Lesson for Schools".

This lesson is a primer on the concept of genocide, the history of the Holodomor, and offers a call-to-action for students to fight against hate and prejudice and to advocate for social justice in their communities. Guided by a narrator, students explore primary and secondary sources,

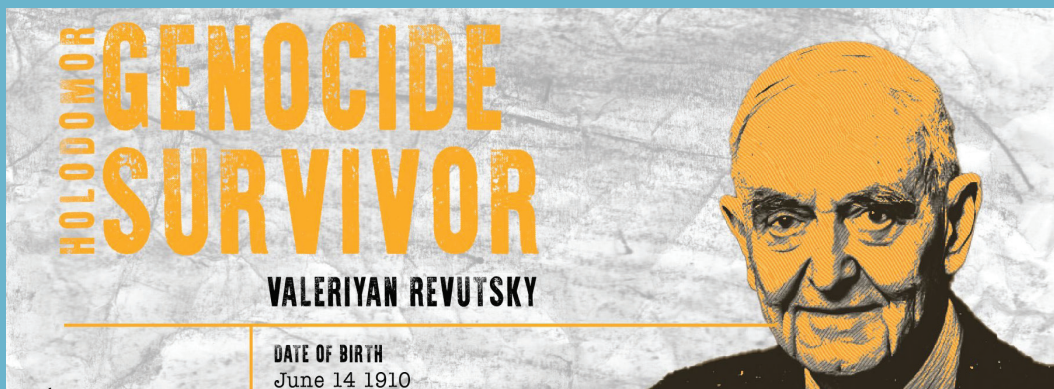
do a short quiz, and write a reflection piece exploring the steps they can take towards being active citizens, which their teacher receives. We are reaching out to high school principals and teachers about this lesson, and have over 129 schools now signed up for the lesson.

We continue to have a strong presence on Facebook with over 2,450 followers averaging a 1.12% engagement rate, well above the average for non-profit organizations. On Twitter we have over 800 followers, with a rate of 1.8%, and an "impressions" rate of 1.8 million views. We develop organized posts about the Holodomor, other genocides and international human rights abuses. Being inclusive of other atrocities not only widens the reach of the Holodomor genocide, but also lends support to others who have also suffered, and are currently experiencing, crimes against humanity.

2021 continues to be a year that has many global events taking the news forefront and we are extremely pleased with our direct school based and social media Holodomor awareness campaigns. The Canada-Ukraine Foundation and the Holodomor National Awareness Tour gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation as well as that of the Federal Government and our many private sponsors, so that we can continue to carry this project further into the future.

About the Ontario Trillium Foundation

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's largest granting foundations. With a budget of over \$136 million, OTF awards grants to some 1,000 projects every year to build healthy and vibrant Ontario communities.



CUF Welcomes New Executive Coordinator

The Canada-Ukraine Foundation (CUF) is excited to welcome our newest team member: Julia Stech!

Julia has joined us as our Executive Coordinator and will be reporting to our President/CEO Orest Sklierenko and COO Oksana Kuzyshyn. Julia will also be responsive to our Board and Committee chairs, assisting them with their programming requirements.



Julia's primary focus will be developing, launching and executing CUF's capacity building fundraising campaign and optimizing communications with major donors, partner organizations and other stakeholders. Over this summer she will also assist in supervising our three Canada Summer Jobs employees, making sure that they are engaged and provided with interesting and useful tasks beneficial to their skills development.

Julia comes to us from the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute Foundation (Executive Administrator) and has working experience from the Petro Jacyk Education Foundation (Administrator) and the Ukrainian Canadian Research & Documentation Centre (Marketing Specialist). Prior to that she was the Project Manager – fundraising at the Ukrainian Catholic University, development department. Julia earned her Master's degree in journalism from the Institute of Ecumenical Studies at the Ukrainian Catholic University, her Bachelor's degree in journalism from Ivan Franko National University of Lviv as well as holds a certificate in conflict management and a diploma in marketing.

Julia is a member of the Board of Directors at Svitlychka, Ukrainian Cooperative Nursery School of Toronto and a member of Plast – Ukraine's national scouting movement.

We are excited to see her apply her extensive fundraising, marketing and management experience and first-rate education to help us grow our Foundation and achieve our Strategic goals.

Support the work of the Canada-Ukraine Foundation, donate today
cufoundation.ca/donate

A Changing of the Guard at CUF

The Canada-Ukraine Foundation ("CUF") went through a changing of "the Diplomatic Guard" at its recent Board of Directors meeting on January 30th, 2021.

Canada's former Ambassador to Ukraine Derek Fraser – one of CUF's longest serving Board members – where he served for over 13 ½ years – retired from active service, and was replaced by Roman Waschuk, Canada's most recent former Ambassador.

The Board of CUF heartily thanked Ambassador Fraser for his service to Canada and to CUF, and warmly welcomed Ambassador Waschuk to the Board.

Derek Fraser served as Canada's Ambassador to Ukraine from 1998 to 2001, during the latter part of the Kuchma Presidency and Victor Yushchenko's Prime Ministership.

In thanking Derek for his years of service to CUF, the Chair of the Board, Bohdan Onyschuk, said: "The Ambassador gave us great advice for almost 14 years on civil society, politics, who was who in Ukraine, and what directions we should go.

Derek Fraser will continue to serve on the CUF/International Foundation Fundraising Committee for the new National Holodomor Museum being built in Kyiv, for which CUF is the North American and European fundraising partner of the International Foundation for the Museum in Kyiv.

The CUF Board then turned to welcoming former Ambassador Roman Waschuk to its Board.

Ambassador Waschuk is very well known for his achievements in diplomatic circles, particularly for his double tour of duty during trying times as Canada's Ambassador to Ukraine from 2014 to 2019, and the Russian invasion of Crimea and the Donbass.

He previously served as Ambassador to Serbia, with concurrent accreditation to Macedonia and Montenegro in the Balkans. Before that

he had served as second secretary for politics in Moscow, as minister-counsellor in Berlin, and senior advisor in Kyiv in counsellor positions going back to 1994-98. In Ottawa, between postings, he held positions of deputy director of the EU Division, deputy director of the Policy Planning Division, director of the Global Partnership for Biological and Chemical Weapons Non-proliferation, and director of the Stabilization and Reconstruction Program Division.

Derek Fraser commented on Roman Waschuk's achievements, saying: "Roman was identified as one of the brightest people dealing with Eastern Europe after only one month of service as a very young man in the Canadian embassy in Moscow in the 1980's." As Director of Relations in Eastern Europe and in subsequent postings Derek followed Roman Waschuk's career closely. He opined that he was "very confident Roman will be able to provide a lot of diplomatic background relating to CUF".

Roman Waschuk will be a terrific replacement to Derek Fraser and will serve alongside CUF's other Canadian Ambassador to Ukraine, Andrew Robinson, who served in Kyiv during the Orange Revolution. Ambassador Waschuk's knowledge of the current situation on the ground in Ukraine, in economics, politics, civil society and rule of law will be invaluable to CUF in its strategic planning and delivery of projects in Ukraine for its development as a strong democratic post-Soviet nation. He will also join the CUF/International Foundation Fundraising Committee for the new National Holodomor Museum project in Kyiv.



Support the Canada-Ukraine Foundation

Your donation ensures our programs and committees receive the funding they need to provide life-changing aid to Ukraine. We appreciate any support for the continuing work of the Canada-Ukraine Foundation in delivering assistance projects, especially during these troubled times.

Donate online at:

www.cufoundation.ca/donate

Donate by mail:

Make your cheque out to:
"Canada-Ukraine Foundation"

If you would like to specify to which project you'd like to make a donation, please indicate so in the memo line.

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