



КОНГРЕС УКРАЇНЦІВ КАНАДИ
ЦЕНТРАЛЯ

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS
HEADQUARTERS

CONGRÈS DES UKRAINIENS-CANADIENS
(SIÈGE SOCIAL)

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November 3, 2004

Honourable Pierre S. Pettigrew, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Foreign Affairs
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister:

RE: SUPPORT FOR SECOND ROUND ELECTIONS IN UKRAINE (NOV 21, 2004)

As the newly-elected President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC), I am appealing to you for assistance in assuring that the second round of the presidential elections in Ukraine scheduled for November 21st will not be subject to the same or escalating abuses reported by press and observers that occurred during the first round held October 31st, 2004.

During your meeting with Eugene Czolij and a delegation of Directors of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) in Winnipeg on October 1, 2004, a great deal of emphasis was placed on the significance of ensuring a fair, transparent and democratic electoral process during the presidential elections in Ukraine. In your subsequent address to the Congress delegates you confirmed that you would do whatever was in your power to ensure such an election. The time has come to act in this respect. The citizens of Ukraine must be allowed to register their choice for the next president of Ukraine without undue interference in the voting process.

During the same meeting we also voiced our concern with the lack of representation of the Ukrainian Canadian community in the Canadian International Development Agency's observer mission to Ukraine. Some 70 observers from the Ukrainian Canadian Community participated, at their own expense, in the October 31st election. Furthermore, the UCC expended significant resources in organizing, training and managing our election observer project. It is equally important that the same or even a greater number be present for the second round (November 21, 2004). We request your financial assistance for this project.

Your immediate attention to this matter would be appreciated and we welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the issues contained in this letter.

Sincerely,
UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS

Irene (Orysia) Sushko
President

cc: The Honourable Aileen Carroll, Minister of International Cooperation,
Carroll.A@parl.gc.ca

Encls. UCC Press Release – Nov. 2, 2004 - Ukrainian Presidential Election Results