



UCC HIGHLIGHTS

Canada-Ukraine Relations

As Ukraine endures the fourth year of protracted crisis brought on by the Russian invasion and occupation of Crimea and Russia's war against Ukraine in Donetsk and Luhansk oblast, the priority of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress has been to focus efforts on assisting Ukraine.

We provide daily briefings and weekly to politicians, the press and the community. UCC has and continues to work with all political parties as well as provincial and municipal governments to maximize support for the people of Ukraine. We regularly meet and brief with high-ranking officials of the federal government.

Our efforts have produced tangible results in the Canadian government's policy towards Ukraine. In the last year – the Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement came into force; Canada's military training mission in Ukraine – Operation UNIFIER – was extended until 2019; Canada and Ukraine signed the Defense Cooperation Arrangement; Canada announced over \$15 million in new funding to support the National Police Force and five new initiatives that will primarily focus on continued support of human rights monitoring, conflict resolution, and mine awareness, surveying and clearance, and the Magnitsky Act was adopted by the House of Commons.

Canada 150

In 2017, Canada celebrates the 150th anniversary of Confederation. In honour of the anniversary, the UCC launched the project *Celebrating the Strength of Canada's Diversity: Youth Engaging Youth*. The UCC, together with its member organizations across the country, is organizing youth-led and driven Canada 150 celebratory events in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario.

UCC Parliamentary Internship Program

In 2017 the UCC renewed the UCC Parliamentary Internship Program aimed at providing Ukrainian Canadian youth with meaningful political experience. The Ukrainian National Federation of Canada (UNF) is a founding sponsor and will provide the interns training through the Paul Yuzyk Institute for Youth Leadership. Beginning in September, interns will work in Ottawa with Members of Parliament for 10 months on policy research, communications, legislative affairs and constituency work.

Project Link

Project Link is a Canada-wide project to engage our community in a more formal fashion with their local Member of Parliament so that we have an active information network across the country. This network ensures that our federal elected representatives are kept up to date on issues of concern to our community.

Invictus Games

The Invictus Games were held in Toronto in September 2017. The Games are an international sports competition in which wounded, ill and injured military personnel and veterans take part. For the first time, Ukraine participated in the Games, sending a team of 15 soldier-athletes. The

UCC supported the participation of Team Ukraine in the Games through the UCC Invictus Games Organizing Committee.

Holodomor Commemoration and Education

The Ukrainian Canadian community commemorated the 83rd Anniversary of the Holodomor under the leadership of the UCC's Holodomor Awareness Committee. A series of local commemorative events and activities, were organized together with our branches and member organizations. On November 29, 2016 in partnership with the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group and the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada, the UCC held a solemn commemoration in Canada's Parliament to mark the 83rd anniversary of the Holodomor Famine-Genocide in Ukraine.

On May 5-7, 2017 educators from across Canada, the USA and Ukraine assembled in Winnipeg, Manitoba, to attend the second Holodomor Education Conference: "Education–Awareness–Action" (HEC–2017) on May 5-7, 2017, at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR). The HEC–2017 conference brought together 120 education professionals, who teach from kindergarten to university.

Memorial to the Victims of Communism

In May, 2017, the Government of Canada announced the winner of the design contest for the Memorial to the Victims of Communism – *Canada, a Land of Refuge*. Tribute to Liberty, the charity established to create the Memorial, announced it had raised \$1 million for the project. The Memorial will be built at the Garden of the Provinces and Territories in Ottawa.

Canada's First National Internment Operations

In 2016, with the support of the Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund, the UCC undertook a public campaign to raise awareness about National Internment Commemoration Day among the Canadian public and ethnic communities in Canada affected by the Internment Operations.

UCC Ukraine Appeal

The UCC Ukraine Appeal and its coordinating council bring together and highlight the major Canadian projects operated by UCC member organizations and other leading Canadian NGOs that are working to address the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. The initiative was developed by the UCC 's Ukraine Appeal Coordinating Council and brings together the humanitarian activities of numerous Canadian and Ukrainian groups and organizations who have united around providing assistance to Ukrainians in their time of need.

Ukrainian Canadian Arts Network

A committee of the UCC, the Ukrainian Canadian Arts Network (UCAN) supports a vibrant Ukrainian arts community that inspires creativity and innovation and is part of the fabric of how we live and work, not only in our Ukrainian communities, but as a diverse and an integral component of the multicultural tapestry of Canada.