Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Ontario Provincial Council invites you to celebrate:

The First Annual Ukrainian Heritage Day in Ontario
September 7, 2011
Front Lawn of Queen’s Park
12 pm - 1pm

День Української Спадщини в Онтаріо:
7 вересня 2011 р.
12 -1 год. дня біля Парламенту Онтаріо
1:30 год. дня - Інститут св. Володимира

Commemorative Open House - 1:30 p.m.
St. Vladimir Institute
Ukrainian Heritage Day

On Thursday March 24th, 2011, the Ontario Legislature unanimously passed Bill-155 the *Ukrainian Heritage Day Act* which proclaimed September 7th of each year Ukrainian Heritage Day in the Province of Ontario. Bill-155 was introduced by Gerry Martiniuk, MPP (Cambridge) and was co-sponsored by Donna Cansfield, MPP (Etobicoke Centre) and Cheri DiNovo, MPP (Parkdale-High Park).

Ukrainian Heritage Day provides a special opportunity to recognize the role that Ontario has played in successfully welcoming generations of Ukrainians seeking a better life here in Canada while celebrating the contributions of Ukrainian Canadians across many communities and walks of life to our province and our country.

**Queen’s Park (12:00 noon)**

**Program**

The program at Queen’s Park will offer an opportunity to commemorate the first Ukrainian Heritage Day in Ontario through both official and artistic components.

- Official welcome & blessing
- Artistic performances
- Remarks from co-sponsors of Bill-155 the *Ukrainian Heritage Day Act*:
  - Gerry Martiniuk, MPP Cambridge
  - Donna Cansfield, MPP Etobicoke Centre
  - Cheri DiNovo, MPP Parkdale - High Park
- Keynote remarks – Ted Woloshyn
- Artistic performances
- Acknowledgments & closing blessing
- “O Canada”

*Artistic performances featuring:* Taras Chmil, Soloist & the Desna Ukrainian Dance Company of Toronto

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1 Free Borsch and Varenyky Lunch
Redeemable only on September 7th at
St. Vladimir Institute
Opening welcome by Paul Strathdee (President, Board of Directors, St. Vladimir Institute) with Ivanna Tarnoevch (Miss Universe Canada 2011 contestant and St. Vladimir resident)

- Music by Crazy Voda, members of the University of Toronto Ukrainian Students Club (USC)

**Exhibits:**

- *Trace Your Genealogical Roots* presented by Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group
- *Ukrainians in the Canadian Armed Forces* presented by the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Centre (UCRDC)
- Archival Display at UCRDC on the second floor
- *The Michael Tomas Exhibit, one man’s search for his roots*, presented by the Ukrainian Museum of Canada, Ontario Branch
- *Remember when...* exhibit by artist Johnny Filipchuk
- *Passing it Forward* documentary presented by USC

**Episodes in Ukrainian Ontarians' History**

(Archival material courtesy of Andrew Gregorovich)

**September 7, 1891**: Vasyl Eleniak and Ivan Pylypiw step onto Canadian soil then head westward through Ontario becoming the first official Ukrainian immigrants in Canada.

**1914-1920**: 5,000 Ukrainians are interned by Canadian authorities and many more are required to report regularly to police being deemed “enemy aliens” for having been citizens of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. There are six internment sites across Ontario.

**1917**: King George V presents the Victoria Cross to WWI hero Filip Konowal, a resident of Ottawa before and after the war.

**1940**: The Ukrainian Canadian Congress is founded to represent the community across the country. Today there are 9 branches of the UCC in Ontario.

**1951**: John Yaremko becomes the first Ukrainian Ontarian elected to the provincial legislature - serving 25 years.
1957: The Hon. Michael Starr, Copper Cliff native and Oshawa resident becomes the first Ukrainian Canadian Federal Cabinet Minister.

1964: The Hon. Paul Yuzyk, delivers his maiden speech in the Senate of Canada and introduces the concept of multiculturalism.

1972: Ukrainian language classes are offered for the first time in Ontario high schools.

1976: Artist William Kurelek, an Alberta native and Ontario resident, is appointed to the Order of Canada.

1988: John Sopinka, a resident of Ontario is appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada

1989-1995: Ramon Hnatyshyn serves in Ottawa as Governor General of Canada

1991: Canada is the first nation in the Western World to recognize Ukraine’s independence.

2002: Ernie Eaves becomes the first premier of Ontario of Ukrainian Heritage.

2007: Steve Peters becomes the first Ukrainian Canadian to hold the position of Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario

2007-2008: Business and community leaders Erast Huculak and James Temerty, both Ontario residents, are appointed to the Order of Canada.

2009: The Holodomor (the 1932-33 man-made famine in Ukraine) is recognized as a Genocide by the Ontario Legislature.

March 24, 2011: The Ontario Legislature unanimously passes a bill proclaiming September 7th as Ukrainian Heritage Day in Ontario

336,000: The number of Ukrainian Canadians out of 1.2 million, who call Ontario their home.

Note: Parking isn’t permitted on Queen's Park grounds but is located on streets and in lots within a short walk.