

The Ontario PC Caucus and candidates believe that the tragic history of the Holodomor is an important historical fact and that it is important to develop awareness among Ontario's youth about the real consequences of intolerance, bigotry and hatred worldwide. As a result of this position, Ontario PC Leader Tim Hudak's answers to the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Ontario Provincial Council Pre-Election Questionnaire reflect the position of the PC Caucus and candidates running in the 2011 Ontario provincial election.



КОНГРЕС УКРАЇНЦІВ КАНАДИ
Провінційна Рада Онтаріо
UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS
Ontario Provincial Council
CONGRÈS DES UKRAINIENS-CANADIENS
Conseil Provincial de'Ontario

8 York Street, Suite 2811, Toronto, Ontario, M5J 2Y2. uccontario@gmail.com

Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Ontario Provincial Council Pre-Election Questionnaire

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Ontario Provincial Council represents Ontario's Ukrainian Canadian community. There are more than 335,000 Canadians of Ukrainian heritage in Ontario.

There are several issues of concern within the community related to the upcoming revisions to the Ontario history and social sciences curricula.

Prior to the upcoming October 6th provincial election, we would like to better understand the positions of candidates for Provincial Parliament on three issues of importance, as outlined below. We will be publishing the results of this questionnaire in the media, on the Ukrainian Canadian Congress website and distributing the information through our community organizations.

We would appreciate receiving your response to the following questions by September 30th via email to: uccontario@gmail.com

Should you not respond, we will record this as “Did not respond” in the published results.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or wish to discuss this further.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Sincerely,

Valentina Kuryliw
UCC - National Holodomor
Education Committee (Chair)
(416) 242-5361
vkuryliw@sympatico.ca

Yvan Baker
Ukrainian Canadian Congress -
Ontario Provincial Council (President)
(416) 505-5567
ybaker@rogers.com

Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Ontario Provincial Council Pre-Election Questionnaire

Candidate name:

Riding:

Political party:

1. The Holodomor, Famine/Genocide, in Ukraine 1932-33

The Holodomor was a famine orchestrated by the Soviet regime in great part to destroy Ukrainian national resistance to Soviet communism. Confiscation of all foods in Ukraine by the Soviets in 1932-33 resulted in the death, by starvation, of millions. In April 2009, the Ontario Legislature unanimously passed Bill 147, the Holodomor Memorial Day Act, which declares the fourth Saturday of November of each year Holodomor Memorial Day in the Province of Ontario. Nevertheless, this genocide, which was ignored, denied and concealed for many years, is barely mentioned in the Ontario history and social sciences curricula, despite the fact that the Holodomor is an event of major consequence in the history of human rights, and the history of many Ontarians of East European descent.

Do you support the inclusion of the study of the Holodomor Famine/Genocide as a required topic to be taught in the Ontario history and social sciences curricula?

YES NO NOT SURE

2. The First Canadian Internment Operation of World War I, 1914-1920

The First Internment Operation in Canada resulted in the internment of over 8,000 people by Canadian authorities on the grounds they were 'enemy aliens'. 5,000 of those interned were Canadians of Ukrainian descent who were labelled 'enemy aliens' because they had been born in territories ruled by what was then the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The Canadian government has recognized this historical injustice and has established an endowment fund to further the study of this episode. As a key moment in Canadian history and in the development of Canadian concepts of human rights, freedom, and citizenship, we believe that the First Canadian Internment Operation of WWI deserves inclusion in the Ontario curriculum.

Do you support the inclusion of the First Canadian Internment Operation of WWI as a permanent and required topic in the Ontario history and social sciences curricula?

YES NO NOT SURE

3. The contributions of Ukrainian Canadians to the development of the concept of Multiculturalism in Canadian history

This year, Canadians of Ukrainian descent celebrated the 120th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada. Along with many others, Ukrainian Canadians have long contributed to the richness of diversity that is the essence of Canadian history and identity. The pivotal role played by Ukrainian Canadians in the establishment of Multicultural policies in Canada through the work of J.B. Rudnycky, the Bi and Bi Commission, and the broader contributions of Ukrainians such as Senator Paul Yuzyk and the Hon. John Yaremko to Canadian civic identity should be recognized in the Ontario history and social sciences curricula.

Do you support the inclusion of the contribution of Ukrainian Canadians to Canadian Multiculturalism and Canadian history in the Ontario history and social sciences curricula?

YES NO NOT SURE