



КОНГРЕС УКРАЇНЦІВ КАНАДИ

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS

CONGRÈS DES UKRAINIENS-CANADIENS

2019 Federal Election

Ukrainian Canadian Congress Questionnaire for Candidates for Member of Parliament

Dear Candidate:

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) is surveying all candidates in the 2019 Federal Election regarding the following issues of importance to the Ukrainian Canadian community.

Thank you for helping us to inform Canadians about your position on the issues which are very important to the Ukrainian Canadian community. Attached to this survey please find the UCC National 2019 Policy Guide.

We will be publishing the results of this questionnaire in the media and on the UCC website.

We kindly request that you respond to the following questions by October 4, 2019 via email to 2019election@ucc.ca

Should you elect not to respond, we will record this as an expression of "No Interest."

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Candidate Information:

Name of Candidate: Michael Kalmanovitch

Constituency: Edmonton Strathcona

Political Party: Green Party

1. Strengthening Canada-Ukraine Security Relations

a) Do you condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine and illegal occupation of Crimea and parts of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts?

I condemn any country that illegally invades any other country.

b) Do you support Canada providing Ukraine with defensive weapons, increased security cooperation between Canada and Ukraine, and increased Canadian sanctions on Russia in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine?

As a peace activist, I do not support providing Ukraine with defensive weapons since these can be used offensively. I do not want Canada to be involved in supplying arms to anyone. By all means, we can cooperate with Ukraine but providing military consultancy and such is not part of that. At present, I view Russia as being the bully in this altercation/invasion and would exert any political & economic pressure that Canada can muster to evict Russia from the sovereign soils of the Ukraine.

2. Supporting Democratic and Economic Reform in Ukraine

a) Do you support increased Canadian international assistance for Ukraine, including increased humanitarian assistance and increased support for consolidating Ukraine's democratic institutions?

I am not overly familiar with the goings on in the Ukraine but from what I have seen/heard over the past decade or so - the political situation there is not honourable. Politics and governments should be solely for the people and not self-serving or corrupt.

3. Ensuring Security and Dignity for Seniors

a) Do you support increased investment to ensure affordable care for seniors and increased cooperation with ethno-cultural organizations and institutions who provide care to seniors?

Are you talking about people here in Canada with ethno-cultural roots?
I believe that all citizens, including citizens, should be cared for.

4. Welcoming Newcomers to Canada

a) Do you support increasing assistance and cooperation with ethno-cultural, community-based settlement services for newcomers?

Yes. Newcomers to Canada should be supported so that they feel comfortable about being intergrated into the fabric of Canadian society.

b) Do you support visa-free travel to Ukrainian citizens visiting Canada?

Why should there be visa restrictions for Ukranian?
I do not know enough.

5. Helping our Culture Flourish

Historical recognition –

a) Do you support the recognition of the Deportation of the Crimean Tatar People (Sürgünlik) by the Soviet regime in 1944 as an act of Genocide? Do you support establishing May 18 as the annual Day of Remembrance of the Genocide of the Crimean Tatar People?

YES! Definitely

b) Do you support the establishment of October 28 as the annual Day of Commemoration of Canada's First National Internment Operations?

Yes - Canada should admit their inappropriate internment of Ukrainians, and other cultures, over the 20th century.
I would like to see similar days to honour and respect those cultures subjected to discrimination.

c) Do you support increasing funding to multicultural programming in Canada?

Yes

d) Do you support increasing government assistance to heritage language programming in Canada?

Yes. Language is important to maintaining heritage.
My step-mother went back to school in her forties to learn Ukrainian.

6. Fighting Online Hate and Disinformation

a) Do you support increased measures to eliminate online hate and disinformation campaigns from social media?

Huge supporter of this.
We not only need to address the tools that haters use but address why they are doing this - the root cause.