



*Inauguration Ceremony*

# UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA ESTABLISHES CHAIR OF UKRAINIAN STUDIES



On November 17, 1995, the University of Ottawa became the third Canadian campus that will be home to a Chair of Ukrainian Studies. Two others exist at the University of Alberta in Edmonton and the University of Toronto.

The Chair will focus on bringing many aspects of both the Canadian, Ukrainian and academic communities together. It will create a think-tank atmosphere in which people from different walks of life will come together and discuss issues.

The Chair of Ukrainian Studies will also host annual conferences and symposia, with the first scheduled for November 1996. Under the theme "Towards a new Ukraine," a number of distinguished scholars are to examine Ukraine's place in the new world order.

Most of the funding for the Chair has come from two endowment funds: \$880,000 from the estate of Dr. Constantine Bida, who taught in the university's Slavic Studies Department, and from Antin and Nadia Iwachniuk. Mr.

Iwanchiuk, 90, received his master's degree in Slavic Studies from the university. An additional \$200,000 was handed over to the Chair at the formal launching by University of Ottawa Rector Dr. Marcel Hamelin. The university is contributing half, while the other is coming from another endowment yet to be announced.

Among those who attended inauguration of the Ukrainian Studies Chair was former Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn, who will serve as its patron; Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada, Viktor Batiuk; and Conservative Senator Raynell Andreychuk, who was also guest speaker.

Through its unique structure, the new Chair is expected to provide the means to study, conduct research, and publish generally on issues affecting Ukraine in its relations with the rest of the world, and specifically on its relations with Canada.

The scholarly directions to be taken by the

Chair were among the themes touched on at the launch ceremony. Stressing the importance of the Chair's interdisciplinary dimensions, Senator Andreychuk said: "The Chair is a tool to connect centuries, continents and disciplines. We owe our time, allegiance, commitment and funding to this concept, to support it so that it succeeds and becomes a success not only for the University, but for the broader community."

The University of Ottawa is by no means new to Ukrainian Studies. In fact, it has one of the longest histories of teaching courses in Ukrainian Studies in literature and language in North America - going back to the early 1960s - and has been conducting research and producing publications in that area since the late 1970s.

The rotational, multidisciplinary Chair of Ukrainian Studies is expected to provide the focus of a long-term commitment to studying contemporary Ukraine in a wider, international context. By benefitting from the special opportunities afforded by its location in the National Capital, the Chair is to form the nexus of insights provided by scholars, government officials, diplomats, and corporate leaders and provide the foundation for a fertile relationship between the academic, diplomatic and private sectors.



UNIV OF OTTAWA

*Guests at the launching of the Chair of Ukrainian Studies: L-r: New Ambassador Christopher Westdal and Madam Sheila Hayes; Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Fedchun, CUCC President; former Gov-Gen. Rt. Hon. Ramon Hnatyshyn; Sen. Raynell Andreychuk; then Amb. Victor Batiuk; and, at far right, Univ. of Ottawa Professors Irena Makaryk and Theofil Kis.*

