



Embassy of Canada in Ukraine **KYIV**

*compiled by officers and staff of the
Canadian Embassy*

Canadian Embassy

- Ambassador Christopher Westdal's first regional visit outside Kyiv was to Ivano-Frankivsk and Lviv February 13-16, meeting with local leaders, business people, and Canadians working in the region. In Ivano-Frankivsk, the Ambassador announced Canada's \$5 million Small Business and Entrepreneurship Development Initiative for the oblast. In Lviv, he visited the Canadian-supported Dzherelo Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy, and met with local CESO volunteers and recipient companies.
- In support of provincial outreach to regions of central Ukraine, representatives of the Embassy's Political and Trade sections joined Manitoba Trade's Archie Gamivrelis in an exploratory visit to Kirovohrad oblast March 15-16. Meetings with the oblast leadership and managers of all key agricultural, industrial and construction companies, as well as site visits to factories and farms, will help Manitoba target potential partners for trade and investment success. Manitoba Trade's itinerary in Ukraine also included stops in Cherkasy and Poltava oblasts.
- As active members of the International Trade Club, representatives of the Trade and Political Sections visited Donetsk (March 28-29) and Ternopil (April 18-19). In both cities, roundtables with local business leaders and enterprise visits produced over a dozen new leads for Canadian exporters and investors.
- In April, George Saibel, Director, Former Soviet Union Division, CIDA, made a five-day visit to Kyiv to meet with key Ukrainian contacts and discuss the strategy for technical cooperation in Ukraine.
- On April 16, Kati Csaba, Second Secretary (Technical Cooperation), participated in a one-day visit to Odesa to discuss the incidence of HIV/AIDS and measures to prevent the disease from spreading further throughout Ukraine. The visit was coordinated by the UN office in Ukraine.
- In a bid to boost bilateral trade, the Embassy's trade section joined the Trade Facilitation Office in organizing a Canadian importer's mission to Kyiv, Ternopil, Lviv and Ivano-Frankivsk April 27-May 3. Some of Canada's biggest wholesalers and retailers found a host of opportunities, and will be sending their buyers to work with Ukrainian companies to adapt and package their products for the Canadian market.
- In May, the Embassy hosted the visit of Réal Lalande, Deputy Director for the Ukraine program, and Paule Parent, project officer, from CIDA headquarters. This was the first trip to Ukraine for both, and was a useful opportunity to meet with Ukrainian contacts and see technical cooperation projects in action. Lalande also participated in the second board of directors meeting of the Science and Technology Centre of Ukraine.

- Ambassador Christopher Westdal, along with First Deputy Minister of Health Dr. Andriy Serdiuk, opened a three-day continuing Medical Education conference on May 14 in Kyiv on maternal and child care. The conference was organized by the University of Alberta's OSVITA Medical Project, with Canadian volunteer physicians playing an active role. The same week, OSVITA's model laboratory, established at the Children's Hospital #1 as a quality control centre, was officially handed over to the hospital.
- Adding depth to the special partnership linking Canada with Ukraine, DFAIT Director General for International Security, Ralph Lychyn, held talks in Kyiv May 13-14 with policy planners and analysts at the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence.
- Over fifty business people and government trade/investment officers from three oblasts attended a forum on "Doing Business with Canada" in Poltava May 22-23. Organized jointly by the Embassy and "Venture", a Ukrainian small business consultancy, the event featured a keynote address by Trade Counsellor Dennis Goresky. The seminar also saw the launch of "Canada - a Partner for You", a guide for Ukrainian companies, and "Investments and Credit", a backgrounder on international and domestic financing available to Ukrainian entrepreneurs.
- Two observers from Canada's Department of National Defence were on hand June 4-5 for Peace Shield '96, a major military exercise held at Ukraine's Yavoriv base as part of NATO's Partnership for Peace program. Soldiers from ten countries honed their skills in coping with the challenges posed by ever more complex peacekeeping operations. Canadian and Ukrainian troops both serve in the NATO-led Implementation Force (IFOR) in Bosnia.

NOTE TO CANADIAN ENTREPRENEURS

The Canadian Embassy in Kyiv is offering its assistance to enable Canadian companies to participate in upcoming major trade shows in Ukraine. Please see page 66.

NEW SENIOR TRADE COMMISSIONER IN KYIV

Larry Duffield has been appointed Canada's Senior Trade Commissioner (Senior Commercial Counsellor) to Ukraine, replacing Denis Goresky. He joins the team of Ambassador Christopher Westdal with a major first challenge - to organize the inaugural meeting of the Canada-Ukraine Intergovernmental Economic Commission in October, 1996. Canada's Minister of International Trade, Arthur Eggleton, is expected to lead a Canadian team of primarily private sector representatives to Ukraine.

Mr. Duffield and his wife, Joyce Young, have studied Ukrainian for five months which they are confident will help them in their day-to-day living and in exploring Ukraine.

In October 1995, Mr. Duffield organized the first meeting of the Canada Russia Intergovernmental Economic Commission and in March 1996 Canada's participation at the Fourth West East Conference in Baltimore. He is a career diplomat who has served in Dayton, Bonn, Islamabad, Tokyo, and Detroit. Since 1990 in Ottawa he has had several assignments including more than two years as Vice President of the Canadian Exporters Association during which his duties included managing four business cooperation projects in Africa, the Caribbean and Japan. Mr. Duffield is experienced in investment promotion and has specialized in the auto, defence, and high tech industry sectors.