



# CANADA'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM WITH UKRAINE

## CANADA-UKRAINE PARTNERS OFFICE: 5<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF SUPPORT OPERATIONS

Canada. As well, the roles of the sector specialists became more proactive as they were tasked with identifying potential new Ukrainian partners and generally taking a more active role in monitoring ongoing project activities.

Under the new CUPP which came about in 1995, the number of sectors was reduced to 3 and the project activities became the subject of



*CUPO Director Lubomyr Markevych*

For the past 3½ years the CUP office has been a formidable presence in the community of international technical assistance offices based in Kyiv. Located high above the banks of the Dnipro River on the main street of Khreshchatyk, the CUP office has served as a beacon of support to the many hundreds of Canadian volunteers who have had the privilege of working in Ukraine in recent years.

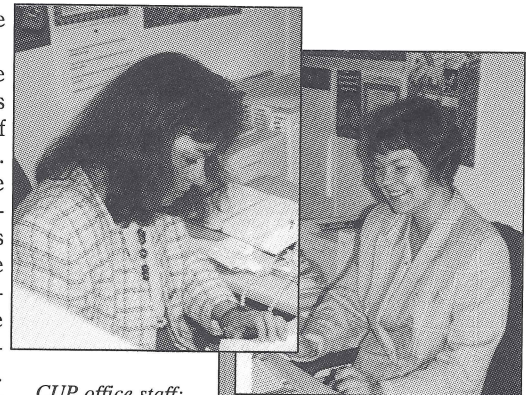
The origins of the office date back to March 1993 when the current Director Lubomyr Markevych arrived in Ukraine to take up his post. These were pioneering times in Ukraine when foreigners were few and office resources even scarcer. The Canadian Embassy at the time consisted of a suite of rooms in the National Hotel and as a result there was no chance of sharing office space in their location. In time an office was established in its present location on the fourth floor of Ukrainsky Dim. From these modest and even difficult beginnings the office evolved and matured into an efficient support organization due for

the most part to the dedication and talents of the 7 local staff recruited to work in the office.

The CUP office was originally known as the Canadian Cooperation Office (CCO) and was formally registered as a representative office of CBIE with the Ukrainian Ministry of Justice. Under CBIE leadership the office supported the first Canadian Technical Assistance (TA) programs in Ukraine known as Partners in Progress (PIP). The initial PIP programs were in the areas of health, public administration, agriculture, human resource development and were respectively headed by such well known Canadian NGO's as CSIH, IPAC, AIC/CFA and CBIE.

At this early stage the project activities took place exclusively in Ukraine with Canadian volunteers brought over to participate in various trainings. Under the CUP program, which succeeded PIP in 1994, the scope of activities expanded to include short-term trainings and internships in Canada. By 1996 some 150 Ukrainian officials had participated in this exchange, gaining valuable experience from working with various partner organizations across Canada.

The change from PIP to CUP brought with it new directions and challenges for the CUP office in Kyiv. In addition to providing logistic and administrative support to Canadian volunteers, the office services expanded to provide briefing services for Ukrainian officials travelling to



*CUP office staff:  
Olena Kurysko (top);  
Olena Horyeva  
(top rt); Andriy  
Haidamashko (rt).*



carefully developed workplans. The remaining sector coordinators: Olena Kurysko (Health Program), Olena Horyeva (Civil Society Program) and Andriy Haidamashko (Public Administration Program) were tasked with assisting with the development of these workplans and ensuring that ongoing activities



*CUP Office located in Ukrainsky Dim in downtown Kyiv.*