

UKRAINIAN PHARMACY SCHOOL DEANS VISIT CANADA

by Marta Dyczok, Special to the
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Even the greatest doctor in the world cannot cure a patient without availability of adequate medication. This is the situation doctors in Ukraine face every day. Dr. Lesia Babiak of the Ontario Ministry of Health, Drug Programs Branch, has been working with pharmacists in Ukraine to address this very problem for over two years.

Last fall, the deans of Ukraine's pharmaceutical schools came to Canada through a Canadian Partners in Health project organized by Dr. Babiak. They met with representatives of the full gamut of the pharmaceutical profession, including the Ontario College of Pharmacists, the deans of two top Canadian pharmacy schools, Ministry of Health officials and even the Canadian Drug Wholesalers Association. Dr. Babiak observed, "They got a comprehensive overview of what pharmacy is all about in Canada." The visit was the third component of a five-part project aimed at improving the provision of pharmaceutical services in Ukraine, through an exchange of skills and a creation of links in a variety of areas, the two most important being education and commerce. The project's goal is to effect long-term changes in the teaching of pharmacy in Ukraine and, more immediately, to create links with Canadian-based pharmaceutical companies, which would improve the availability of affordable drugs to Ukrainians.

With the assistance of Canadian partners, particularly the faculties of pharmacy at the universities of Toronto and Saskatchewan, a new curriculum for Ukraine's pharmaceutical schools is being developed. Upon completion it will be presented for approval to the Ukraine's Ministry of Health. Clinical pharmacy, which involves a move away from chemistry and hard sciences to patient-focused services, will be part of the new curriculum.

Meetings were held with Canadian-based pharmaceutical companies Novopharm, Global Pharm, and Apotex. These meetings were aimed at developing contracts with Ukrainian pharmacies, particularly the pharmacy at the Lviv Medical Institute, which meets the pharmaceutical needs of Lviv and surrounding area. They also had the opportunity to meet with Ukrainian Canadians working in their field. In addition to a formal dinner at the University of Toronto Faculty Club through the Ukrainian Canadian Pharmacists Association, they visited their professional environments, ranging from the Clarke Institute of Pharmacy to community pharmacies owned and operated by Ukrainians.

Dividing their time between Ontario and Saskatchewan, the Ukrainians had an opportunity not only to see the Canadian pharma-

PETER JACYK CENTRE: CANADIAN FOUNDATION SUPPORTS HISTORICAL RESEARCH

In 1989 the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) expanded through the establishment of the Peter Jacyk Centre for Ukrainian Historical Research. A donation of \$1 million by Peter Jacyk of Toronto established an endowment which became \$3 million through a two-for-one matching program then in effect in the province of Alberta.

In 1990, Dr. Frank E. Sysyn, formerly Associate Professor of History at Harvard University and Associate Director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, took up the post of Director of the new Centre.

From its creation, the Centre has provided financial support for the realization of a number of major historical projects, including an English language monograph series, a Ukrainian language translation series, publication of sources, organizing conferences, and sponsoring research in Ukraine and in the West. Its central focus has been the preparation of an English language translation of Ukraine's translation of Ukraine's Mykhailo

Hrushevsky's comprehensive ten-volume "History of Ukraine-Rus" originally published in 1905. Six translators have worked on the authoritative work, and numerous specialists provided scholarly consultations.

The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded the project a grant to pay for translation costs of the sub-series on the history of the Ukrainian Cossacks. CIUS provided a subsidy for its publication, while the Petro Jacyk Foundation spearheaded a major fundraising drive to assist the project.

Volume I of the "History of Ukraine-Rus" is to appear in July 1997. A newly compiled bibliography provides information on the more than 1,700 sources and publications used by Hrushevsky.

For information and to order copies, contact the CIUS Press at 352 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton T6G 2E8, or by FAX at (403) 492-4967.

ceutical system at work, but to get to know each other - something that can be difficult to do when living in different cities and working at competing institutions. Representing the only three pharmacy schools in Ukraine, located in Lviv, Zaporizhia and Kharkiv, Drs. Valentyn Chernykh, Timothy Katenyuk, Volodymyr Komar and Ivan Mazur came to work as a team during their first trip abroad.

At the airport prior to departure, Dr. Babiak overheard the Ukrainian deans making plans for the creation of a Ukrainian College of Pharmacists (the industry's self-regulating body), a Pharmacy Examining Board (licensing board) and a Ukrainian Pharmacists Association (voluntary professional society). "Having seen how our system works, they are now preparing to use it as a model for setting up their structure, to fill in the missing pieces," said Dr. Babiak.

The next phase of the project involves the deans of the University of Toronto and Saskatchewan schools of pharmacy going to Ukraine in 1997, to join their Ukrainian colleagues in lobbying Ukraine's Ministry of Health to approve the new pharmacy curriculum. The final step involves bringing Ukrainians to Canada for 3-6 month periods to study at Canadian universities.

So What Do Ukrainians Think of Us? Peacekeepers, Sexy

Among the Canadian government's numerous polls, the Department of Foreign Affairs wanted to know how foreigners perceive Canadians. This would add another voice to foreign policy decision-making. In early April, they released the results of an Angus Reid Group survey of people in some 20 countries, including Ukraine. Of all those surveyed, it was Ukrainians who viewed Canadian society and government as our most positive assets. They consider us highly-educated, recognize our role as peacekeepers, and give Canada top marks as a desirable place to live abroad.

It should come as no surprise that this admiration coincides with the sectors which Canada has specifically targeted for technical cooperation with Ukraine.

Another survey result is that Ukrainians find Canadians sexy. Our volunteers are making a great impression!