

World Congress of Ukrainians Meets in Kyiv



KRISTINA LEW/UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Kyiv, Aug. 21-24, 1997... Some 2,000 ethnic Ukrainians from 46 countries gathered in Kyiv for the Second World Congress of Ukrainians. The four-day forum, titled "In Cooperation and Unity We Enter the 21st Century," brought together Ukrainians from 46 countries to review the work of the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council (UWCC), the umbrella body for Ukrainian organizations worldwide, and chart a course of global activity into the 21st century.

In an opening address, President Kuchma called on the Ukrainian diaspora to exercise influence on their governments to contribute to Ukraine's economic recovery. Participants discussed the survival of Ukrainian ethnicity and preservation of the Ukrainian culture, as well as the political and economic consequences of Ukraine's

six-year statehood. Leaders of the larger umbrella organizations also addressed the forum, among them, Canadians Dr. Dmytro Cipiwnyk, President of the World Congress of Ukrainians and Oksana Bryzhun-Sokolyk, President of the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations.

Some 650 delegates came to Kyiv -- 200 from the Eastern diaspora, 200 from the Western diaspora and 250 from Ukraine, with the largest contingents from the biggest Ukrainian communities: 55 from the U.S. and 34 from Canada. Delegates and more than 1,000 invited guests met in plenary sessions, worked in sections and roundtables, attended concerts, viewed films and participated in an ecumenical prayer service to mark the sixth anniversary of Ukraine's independence.

Air Canada Launches New Service to Ukraine

Aug. 25, 1997... Air Canada introduced codeshare service to Ukraine from Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver. New services to Kyiv and Odesa began operation via Frankfurt in cooperation with the carrier's Star Alliance partner, Lufthansa.

"Extending Air Canada's reach to more destinations in Europe represents an important step in bringing the benefits of the Star Alliance network to Canada," said Rupert Duchesne, Air Canada's VP Marketing.

Air Canada and Lufthansa offer up to three times daily non-stop service between Toronto and Frankfurt, and daily non-stop service between Vancouver-Frankfurt, and Calgary-Frankfurt. In addition, Montreal/Halifax-Frankfurt service will be expanded next year. These flights will connect in Frank-

furt to Ukraine flights operated by Lufthansa.

In May 1997 Air Canada, Lufthansa, SAS, Thai International and United Airlines formed Star Alliance, providing customers with global recognition, reciprocal lounge privileges and a wide range of benefits.

Air Canada's new service comes as a result of an Air Transport Agreement signed between Canada and Ukraine in Winnipeg, June 14, during the visit of former Ukrainian PM Pavlo Lazarenko to Canada.

Cdn. Professional/Business Federation Discusses Community's Future

Calgary, Aug. 1-4, 1997... The direction of Canada's Ukrainian community in the 21st century was the principle issue discussed at the 1997 biennial convention of the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Fed-

eration (UCPBF). Some 135 reps from chapters coast-to-coast participated.

The convention elected a new executive headed by Calgary journalist Donna Korchinski, who replaces Torontonion Raya Shadursky, thus becoming the second woman to hold that post.

Among resolutions adopted were several dealing with issues of youth involvement, commemoration of the Canadian government's internment during World War I, and Internet communications.

The tone was set during the opening plenary session, which emphasized "nation-building," based upon a concept adopted by Saskatchewan's Ukrainian community. In his address, Adrian Boyko, Sask. UCC Council President, said the organized community is in decline. "It is possibly on the way to extinction in Canada, unless we take our rightful place in this society and play our true role as nation builders."

A subcommittee of the UCPBF and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress has identified five key issues for the Ukrainian community: immigration, multiculturalism, foreign relations, bilateral relations and final resolution of the internment issue.

Marco Levytsky, *Ukr. News*

Ukrainian Canoeists at Dartmouth Worlds



Ottawa welcomed the Ukrainian canoe team to the Rideau Canal Club for a Pre-Worlds training camp which served as an exciting prelude to CANOE '97 World Championships. On August 24 (Ukrainian Independence Day) on Lake Banook in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, canoe and kayak enthusiasts were treated to an outstanding display of world class athletic talent. Ukraine's Canoe/Kayak team proved its worth with three bronze medals, and all team members placed in the finals. The Ukrainian team expressed thanks to all volunteers and sponsors who worked to ensure that this championship was a successful one, with special appreciation to the Rideau Canoe Club, V. Sokolyk (Pres. Ukr-Can Olympic Foundation), and I. Charalambiy (former Olympic athlete) for their coordination and technical support. Both countries look forward to meeting at the Australia 2000 Olympics.

Tamara Rudenko-Charalambiy