



Embassy of Ukraine in Canada  
**OTTAWA**

### Canada Supports Hot-Line for Victims of sexual abuse

Ambassador Christopher Westdal announced a contribution of 12,000 Hryvnia to finance the operations of the Women's Crisis Centre in Kyiv. The funds will be used to allow the Centre to install and operate a hot-line for women and teenage girls who have suffered from sexual abuse. The hot-line, which will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, will provide professional help in the psychological rehabilitation and recovery of women and girls who have been raped or suffered other forms of sexual abuse.

"Sexual abuse is deeply repugnant because it is the violation of our most basic human right, the right to control our own bodies, our own selves," said Amb. Westdal. "Because victims are often socially stigmatized and frequently know well those who offend against them, sexual abuse is one of the most unreported crimes. I hope the Crisis Centre, reinforced with the hot-line service we are funding, will deepen public understanding and help victims in their healing and recovery." The contribution comes from the Embassy's Canada Fund, which provides support to Ukrainian non-governmental organizations working toward social, economic or democratic reform.

### Canada Contributes to Ecological Publication *Naturalist*

Ambassador in Ukraine, Christopher Westdal announced a contribution of 11,000 Hryvnia to support the ecological magazine *Naturalist*. Canada will fund the purchase of publishing equipment for the *Naturalist*. The magazine provides Ukraine's youth with information about environmental problems and describes action they can undertake to improve the environment in Ukraine. Published by the League of Life Rights Defence and Balance Support in Nature, it is very popular among youth and school teachers, who use it in the classroom.

"Think globally, act locally. We can all make a difference in enhancing our environment," Ambassador Westdal said. "Our experience in Canada has shown that young people, armed with current environmental information, can be very successful agents of change in modifying not only their own behaviour towards the environment, but also that of their parents and other family members. Providing the youth of Ukraine with this important information is a vital step in maintaining and improving the environmental situation in Ukraine." The contribution comes from the Embassy's Canada Fund, which provides support to Ukrainian NGOs working toward social, economic or democratic reform.

### Canada Helps Flood Relief

On August 4, the Canadian Embassy announced a contribution of \$10,000 from the Canada Fund to assist the Lviv Oblast in recovering from devastating flooding in late July. The funds provided will be used to purchase disinfectants to restore water and sewage systems in the Oblast.



Ukrainian Sr. Asst. Military Attaché to Canada Col. Oleksandr Shemet (l) greets Canadian General Isidore Popovych and Russian Sr. Asst. Military Naval & Air Attaché to Canada Col. Alexander Soukharev at the reception commemorating Ukraine's Independence, held at the Embassy of Ukraine in Ottawa.

### Partners in Health Delegation

In early October, Halyna Ivashko and Tatyana Levishchenko, President and Vice President, respectively, of the Association of Nurses of Ukraine visited Canada under the Partners in Health Program. Together with the Program Manager Paulette Schatz, they visited the Ukrainian Embassy, where they met with Minister-Counsellor Vasyl Korzachenko and First Secretary for Science and Technology Prof. Andriy Hrehov. They attended a roundtable session at the Department of Health Canada, where health and medicare-related topics were discussed.



L-r: First Secretary for Science and Technology at the Canadian Embassy Prof. Andriy Hrehov; Halyna Ivashko, Pres. Association of Nurses of Ukraine; Patricia Erickson, Director International Information Division, Health Canada; Tatyana Levishchenko, VP ANU.