



testing the product. Also, private vehicle fleets and manufacturing concerns, as well as government and private marine vessels have been included in the program. Preliminary test reports have proven to be both positive and conclusive and are consistent with those documented in the British test program. These test programs have recently been expanded and now include selected applications involving the pulp and paper industry, high-speed, high temperature manufacturing, offshore drilling and emergency power generators. Tests are being conducted in the provinces of Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia (where the Canadian headquarters is located). The Central European test program is already underway in Latvia, the Czech Republic and Slovakia and new distributors are active in Poland and Hungary. The former Soviet republics of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan together with Romania and Bulgaria are available for marketing and distribution.

However it is the potential of the Ukrainian market that I speak of today and find so very exciting. As the mast head of the June issue of the *Ukraine-Canada Policy and Trade Monitor* proudly proclaimed, Ukraine is a natural trading partner for Canada. A country that is home to 53 million people with an orderly, well-educated, skilled and highly motivated work force, an economy that is still one of the largest in the world and which has already provided much to the world, including the ethnicity of some 5% of the Canadian people.

This is the first presentation of this information in North America and I am pleased that it was done in this publication. We appreciate the opportunity to reach so many influential individuals, such as those who comprise its readership, and are hopeful of having contact with many of you in the future.

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## IMMIGRATION PROGRAM IN THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN KYIV

### Personnel in the Immigration Section

- The Immigration Section of the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv is staffed by 3 Canadian officers: Robert J. Shalka - Counsellor (Immigration); Nathalie Smolynech - Second Secretary (Immigration) and Keith Swinton - Second Secretary (Immigration). The three officers are Foreign Service Officers of the International Service Group of the newly-formed Department of Public Security, formerly Employment and Immigration Canada. All have served at a variety of Canadian diplomatic missions (ie. Germany, Thailand, former-USSR, Singapore, India, USA, China and Sweden) prior to coming to Ukraine. All speak Ukrainian with varying degrees of fluency.
- The Section is supported by 8 local Ukrainian employees.
- Since late 1992, the Section has been located at the Chancery of the Canadian Embassy at 31 Yaroslaviv Val Street in Kyiv. Office hours are Monday to Friday from 8:30AM to 12:30PM and from 02:00PM to 05:00PM. Visitor visa applicants are normally seen in the morning. Afternoons are reserved for immigrant interviews.
- Present facilities for receiving enquiries from visitor visa applicants and prospective immigrants are less than ideal and have been acceptable only as a temporary measure pending completion of renovations to the Embassy building. In particular, the waiting room is much too small for the level of traffic. Arrangements at the reception counter are also unsatisfactory. Because of the crowded nature of facilities, it has been necessary to manage access to the waiting area at peak periods. Because of crowded facilities, every effort is made to deal with the public as quickly as possible. Fortunately, renovations to the Embassy are now underway and a properly functioning waiting room and reception area will be in operation by the end of the year.

### Visitor Program

- The Embassy has offered full services to persons seeking temporary entry to Canada (ie. private and business visitors, tourists, students and temporary workers) since late 1991.
- The visitor movement from Ukraine to Canada is growing, as shown by the following statistics:

VISAS	1992	1993 (To August 31)
Applicants received	4,628	3,868
Applicants refused	1,035 (ie. 22% of applicants received)	547 (ie. 14% of applicants received)
Visas issued (all categories)	3,594	3,341

### NOTES:

- An "application" may include one or more individual (eg. a family of 3 persons applying on the same forms would be considered as one application,
- Visas are issued to individuals. Consequently, an application may generate more than one visa.
- Although each case is decided upon on individual factors, the main reason visitor visa applications are refused is that the Canadian officer is not satisfied that the person(s) applying will return to Ukraine or leave Canada upon completion of their authorized stay. When a refusal is necessary, the applicant is provided with the reasons. Canadian law defines a "visitor" as a person who intends to stay in Canada for a temporary period. Sufficient numbers of persons issued visitor visas do attempt to remain in Canada to warrant a relatively cautious approach to issuing visas. For persons wishing to live permanently in Canada, other programs are in place at the Embassy.
- Every effort is made to offer "same day" service to visitor applicants. Normally, persons applying in the morning are given a decision that morning. The principal exceptions are persons requiring medical examinations or who wish to apply for a multiple-entry visa.

### Immigrant Program

- Since January 1, 1992 the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv has also dealt with applications from persons wishing to immigrate to Canada. Prior to that date, immigrant applications were dealt with by the Canadian Embassy in Moscow.
- Since beginning its immigration operations to the end of August 1993, the Embassy has received 1,745 preliminary enquiries. These enquiries have resulted in 352 formal applications. To date, the Embassy has issued 121 immigrant visas. These have included most immigrant categories (ie. family class, assisted relatives and independent).