



key Canadians at various levels of government and the private sector.

The program was ambitious in scope and organization. Many people contributed. There were presentations and panel discussions; hands-on demonstrations; visits to departments and regions; site examinations with the private sector; and formal and informal receptions hosted by officials as well as members of the community.

The formal part of the program, held at the CCMD campus in Ottawa, provided an overview of Canadian political and economic structures, processes and results. Views on governance, the decision-making process, and the management of the public sector were expressed by such distinguished Canadians as Alain Gourd, Deputy Clerk of the Privy Council Office, or the number two public servant of Canada, and David Zussman, President of Enviro-nics. Pavlo Lazarenko, the President's representative in Dnipropetrovsk, one of Ukraine's most industrialized areas, liked the relative clarity with which Canada separates federal, provincial and municipal powers. He was amused, however, that Canadians have been writing the constitution for over a century. "We would like to do it quicker", he joked.

Arthur Kroeger, Chairman, Public Policy Forum, formerly deputy minister of Employment and Immigration, Transport and Energy, reflected on political/bureaucratic relations. Volodymyr Nehoda, responsible for the creation of Ukraine's public service and leader of the group, found them very relevant.

Discussions about trade and foreign affairs were particularly lively. Harry Swain, Deputy Minister, Industry Canada, and David Wright, Foreign Affairs' Assistant Deputy Minister, responsible for Canada's policy towards Ukraine, outlined Canada's perspectives. Ukraine's Konstantyn Petrov, Head of Relations with the CIS, and Vasyi Krawchenko from the President's Office, put forward Ukraine's positions on such critical issues as nuclear arms, privatization, Canada's role as a friend to Ukraine and trade opportunities. Discussions spilled over into the official luncheon hosted by David Wright.

The Ukrainians were dismayed at the lack of knowledge that exists in Canada about Ukraine beyond the "bad boy" image. "Why was Ukraine not invited to the international discussions on nuclear arms control," they wanted to know. "To understand our insistence on sovereignty guarantees," said one of them "one must know the Russian psyche and history, and be its neighbour." A need to examine these and other issues led to a special session organized by Jane Billings, Assistant Secretary to Cabinet.

Mykola Portnoy, Deputy Minister of Machine-Building, Industrial Complex and Conversion, regretted that Canadians were not looking at the opportunities that exist for them in Ukraine. "Our tax incentives favour foreign investors and joint ventures. Countries like Germany, Italy, Israel, the United States are already in Ukraine. We would like to work with Canadians."

The Ukrainian deputies spent three days in meetings with departments and agencies in their Ottawa offices. Over one hundred Canadian officials were involved in this part of the program. The Department of Industry Canada hosted several Ukrainian officials. Michel Binder, one of the assistant deputy ministers of the department stated with a certain degree of pleasure "The Ukrainians have mobilized the whole department. Everyone is talking about them. They are very impressive."

The Deputy Minister of Communications from Ukraine, Yuri Soloviov, was very pleased with the contacts that were organized for him. He indicated an interest in having a Ukrainian delegation at the upcoming International Institute of Communications in Finland in September 1994. "It is important for Ukraine to be represented at international fora," he said. Valentyn Nedryhaylo, responsible for Internal Affairs, enjoyed meeting Norman Ingster, Commissioner of the RCMP, again. They had met at a previous international venue. "I would like to discuss drug trafficking and the possibility of officer interchange with Canada," he said.

At his request, the Canadian Department of Justice added several meetings to an already full agenda for Mykola Solivon, Head of the Legal Department at the

Cabinet of Ministers, charged with the daunting task of writing and re-writing Ukraine's legislation. "It was a pleasure to work with him," said Guy Goulard who co-ordinated the program within the Department.

Lorette Goulet and Harry Rogers, the lead federal officials in Quebec and Ontario, were instrumental in the development of the regional segments of the Executive Program. In Toronto, two days were devoted to meetings with the provincial and municipal governments and the engine of Canada's economy, the private sector. The subject of privatization discussed in the context of economic development and Canada-Ukraine trade generated differing views. Some Canadian panelists considered current progress too slow. The Ukrainians responded by pointing out the length of time it took to privatize Air Canada and about the turn-around with Petrocan. "We must change, but don't rush us," someone on the Ukrainian side observed. Basil Kalymon and Don Stevenson acted as Chairmen for the stimulating sessions.

Peter Melnichuk, Industry Canada, set up the Toronto program and co-originated the logistics. "I enjoyed this very much," he said. "It's good preparation for three months that I'll be spending in Donetsk, this spring, working with the Ukrainian government."

Bohdan Onyschuk, President of the Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce, André Benoit, Executive Director of the Canada-Ukraine Business Council and Yaroslav Sokolyk, Secretary General of the World Congress of Ukrainians hosted the fine dinner and lunches in Toronto. These events were attended by over six hundred Canadian business and officials, numbers that indicate considerable support for Canada-Ukraine relations. Businessmen Roman Herchak and Ed Southern came from Vancouver and Calgary to meet the Ukrainian deputies. "I'm glad I came," said Herchak, "This is an important time for both countries."