



THE GOVERNOR GENERAL
LE GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL

RIDEAU HALL
OTTAWA

I am pleased to convey the best wishes of the people of Canada on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's independence. This is an important moment for Ukraine and for its many friends in Canada - one that allows us to look back on five years of progress thanks to the hard work of all Ukrainians.

This summer, we have witnessed two events that demonstrate this progress. In late June, Ukraine adopted its first Constitution, laying the groundwork for a modern state. In July, a Ukrainian team stood side by side with athletes from around the world, performing outstandingly at the Atlanta Olympic Games. In different ways, each of these events has demonstrated the emergence of a confident and capable country.

Canada is honoured to have been at your side throughout this process, and looks forward to seeing the friendship between our countries continue to grow and strengthen. As one of the first countries to recognize your declaration of independence in 1991, we are equally pleased to have worked with you over the years to help your transition to a market economy and a democratic political system.

Please accept the best wishes and congratulations of all Canadians on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of Ukrainian independence.

Roméo LeBlanc
Governor General of Canada



August 24, 1996 marks the fifth year since the proclamation by the Ukrainian Parliament of Ukraine's Independence. This historic event represents the fruit of the lifelong struggle and aspirations of the Ukrainian people for freedom, self-determination and sovereignty. After centuries of foreign domination, Ukraine has come to assert its independent presence in the world community.

Ukraine has entered on the path of economic, social and cultural transformation with a heavy legacy of previous regimes and their destructive effect on the whole fabric of the Ukrainian nation. The process of democratic change has been, by no means, easy for the Ukrainian people. There have been and still remain many economic, social and cultural issues which need to be resolved to affect the emergence of a strong democratic Ukrainian state.

The work, however, that has been done is enormous. Although still haunted by the consequences of economic crisis, Ukraine has begun to slowly take control of its finances, production, energy resources and economic reform. There is clear evidence of resolute political will and commitment on the part of Ukraine's Government to continue and precipitate economic transformation in order to stimulate a free-market economy and, at the same time, develop a comprehensive system of social protection of its population. Many important steps have been taken to ensure political stability and promote Ukraine's image on the international arena.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) Headquarters is very pleased to extend greetings on this festive occasion to all our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Ukrainian Canadians and Ukrainians in other parts of the world. The Ukrainian community in Canada has been and remains extremely supportive of Ukraine's effort to become a strong democratic nation. Ukraine carries for us a deep emotional significance as the homeland of our parents and grandparents who taught us to love and treasure our heritage. We strive now to make Ukraine an integral part of Canadian international policies and promote the special partnership between these countries.

It is the wish and hope of all Ukrainians that the next anniversary of Ukraine will bring it yet closer to its aims and make it stronger and prosperous.



5 ВІТАЮ З НАГОДИ
-ТИ РОКІВ
НЕЗАЛЕЖНОСТІ
УКРАЇНИ!

Raynell Andreychuk,
Senate of Canada



David Tkachuk
Senate of Canada

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FIFTH ANNIVERSARY
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