



EMBASSY NEWS'N ACTIVITIES

Embassy of Canada in Ukraine **KYIV**

compiled by officers and staff of the
Canadian Embassy



Canadian Embassy

Canada Day Celebrations (See story on page 63.)



Canada Day celebrations in Kyiv kicked off June 28 with a formal reception for senior Ukrainian politicians, officials and the diplomatic corps, hosted by Ambassador Christopher Westdal. Earlier that same day, the Supreme Rada had adopted Ukraine's new constitution. The festivities ended up marking banner days for both Canada and Ukraine. Ukrainian Environment Minister Yuriy Kostenko (r) joined Ambassador Westdal in planting a maple tree in Kyiv's Shevchenko Park.

Canada's Foreign Minister to lead Business Delegation (See story on page 10.)

The Embassy is gearing up for the visit of Canadian Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy to Ukraine in October. Minister Axworthy will lead a business delegation, supported by provincial as well as federal officials, whose major event will be the inaugural session of the Canada Ukraine Intergovernmental Economic Commission (IEC). The primary objective of the IEC is to facilitate bilateral economic relations at the level of the individual firm. The IEC will be of interest to those companies which are export ready, have made a long-term commitment to do business, and have invested significant resources to realize their business objectives.

NOTE TO CANADIAN ENTREPRENEURS

The Canadian Embassy in Kyiv is offering its assistance to enable Canadian companies to participate in upcoming major trade shows in Ukraine. Please see page 65.

The Business Delegation (expected to number about 50) is being organized in partnership with the Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce (CUCC) which will be organizing a program of activities for delegation members around the IEC program.

Additional Activities

- Recognizing Ukraine as a potential source of highly skilled immigrants that could make significant contributions to the Canadian economic, cultural and social life, the Canadian Embassy has undertaken to promote Canada as a destination for those interested in emigrating. As part of their ongoing campaign, Keith Swinton, the Deputy Program Manager of the Visa Section, was interviewed in July about immigration requirements by AMT, an independent television station with a viewing audience covering the Odesa, Mykolaiv, Kherson and parts of Vinnytsia oblasts.
- Technical Assistance Counsellor Emil Baran visited the Saskatchewan Power Commercial project in Zelenodolsk near Kryvyj Rih. Objectives of the visit were to review this important project in the power sector and to meet Canadians assigned to carry out the work. Davor Razlog, the Saskatchewan Power representative on site, made all the arrangements including a visit to the Kryvyj Rih power plant. Canadian participation in this project consists of support to the Ukrainian power plant management to prepare the technical documents and the specification for the rehabilitation of three power generations units. Financial assistance for this rehabilitation of over \$200 million is expected from the World Bank. *The Kryvyj Rih plant by itself has almost the same installed electricity generating capacity as all the plants in Saskatchewan combined (about 3,000 mw).*
- The technical cooperation section is working towards the grand opening of the Small Business and Economic Development in Ivano-Frankivsk (SBEDIF) project, planned for mid-September. A project steering committee meeting will take place on September 12, attended by Kati Csaba on behalf of CIDA. Ambassador Westdal is expected to attend the official opening on the 13th, along with senior representatives of the Canadian partners and from the Ukrainian national, oblast, and city governments.
- On August 19, more than 20 managers and representatives of Canadian executing agencies implementing projects in Ukraine gathered at the Embassy for one of the regular project managers' meetings. The meetings are used to discuss various practical and administrative issues, such as project registration and clearing equipment through customs, as well as overall concerning Canada's role in the political and economic reform process in Ukraine. Following the meeting, the participants gathered at a small reception to give the new managers a chance to meet each other and learn more about other project activities.

On the Move

- This past summer has seen a number of Canada based staff changes at the Embassy. As noted in the previous edition of the *Monitor*, Dennis Goresky, Commercial Counsellor, has returned to Canada after a three year assignment. He has been succeeded by Larry Duffield. In the Immigration Section, Keith Swinton is being cross-posted to London, U.K. and will be succeeded by Romana Hur. Janine Arpin, the Ambassador's Secretary, has completed two years in Kyiv and is now on her way to Tanzania; she has been replaced by Sharon Landry. Les Gramlich, the Embassy's Property Manager, returned to Canada earlier this summer and was replaced by Guy Chenel.