



*Above: A cold and drizzly October day set a somber mood for the wreath-laying at the Cenotaph honoring Ukraine's war heroes. Left: Remembering the victims of the Artificial Famine of 1932-33, to which Ukraine lost more than 6 million, up to a quarter of her population in some regions.*



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Minister Udovenko, he reiterated that the Canadian government was committed to continue to cooperate and help Ukraine in its development. "We must expand and develop with the private sectors especially. That is where real partnerships will become possible."

When Udovenko took the floor, he picked up on the original thought, addressing the guests in English: "I have no Canadian roots, but you can see that I have been eating the same varenyky!"



*Just prior to his departure, Min. Axworthy visited Medical Project Pediatric Hospital #1 of OSVITA, a general pediatric centre which originally opened as a Canadian-sponsored Chernobyl children's project (see additional story on OSVITA page 62).*



*During his whirlwind visit, Minister Axworthy made time to have a luncheon with interns and participants of two of Canada's ongoing projects with Ukraine -- the Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration and the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program.*

"Canada is an extremely important country to Ukraine," Udovenko went on in a more serious vein. "It opened the international window for President Kuchma." Referring to the state of the Ukrainian economy, he said "What has happened in Ukraine is not the result of independence, but the aftermath of the collapse of the Soviet Union."

**I**t was at the Cenotaph and Famine Memorial that Minister Axworthy was most moved, as he later stated at his joint press conference with Minister Udovenko. In commemorating the memory of Ukraine's dead, he said he was struck by the many disasters that this nation has endured even in its recent history -- the revolution, two World Wars, the Artificial Famine, Chernobyl, and the economic crisis after its independence -- all of which it has valiantly overcome and survived.