



*His Excellency Victor Batyuk
Ukraine's New Ambassador to Canada*



On January 6, 1994 the President of Ukraine Leonid Kravchuk appointed His Excellency Mr. Victor H. Batyuk as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to Canada. Since March 1992, Ambassador Batyuk had been the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations.

Mr. Batyuk has been in his country's diplomatic service since 1962. From 1984 to 1992 he served as a member of the Board and Director of the Department of International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other international organizations in Geneva from 1978 to 1984. Mr. Batyuk's previous assignments include posts of Secretary General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1974-1978); Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (1973-1974); Second Secretary at Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the United Nations (1968-1973); and Third, Second, and First Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1962-1968). In 1964 Mr. Batyuk was a fellow at the Institute for Labour Studies of the International Labour Organization (ILO). He was a student at Moscow State Institute for International Relations from 1956 to 1962. As a member of Ukrainian delegations, Mr. Batyuk participated in numerous international meetings. He is also a member of the Ukrainian Writer's union and has published translations of Bangladeshi, Indian and United States literature. Mr. Batyuk, who was born on March 1, 1939, is married and has three children.

The security of Ukraine is linked to the prosperity of the people. Our involvement there, is not only a political one, but also an economic one. Canada already has a Trade Commissioner in Kyiv and solid programs to expand trade. The Program for Export Market Development helps Canadian exporters tap new and expanding markets, such as Ukraine. Our Renaissance Eastern Europe program provides funding to set up Canada-Ukraine joint ventures. We are also helping Ukrainian firms show their products and make contacts with Canadian business. Through our Trade Facilitation Office, we are offering exporter assistance programs, including seminars on how to sell in the Canadian market.

- *Canadian businesses wishing to initiate trade with Ukraine have indicated that an expansion of Canada's physical presence in Ukraine is crucial to assist them with the process. Can you indicate what initiatives or plans you foresee for Canada's Embassy in Kyiv in these matters? Are there plans for any additional Consulate or Trade Missions in Ukraine, eg, in Lviv, Western Ukraine?*

Work on the chancery in Kyiv is virtually complete. All staff have moved in and are now working under one roof. This makes the Embassy more effective in pursuing Canadian interests and delivering services to Canadians in Ukraine. We have added a technical assistance section to the

MESSAGE TO OUR READERS FROM THE NEW AMBASSADOR

Today, Canada shares a new and special relationship with Ukraine. More than ever before, the future of independent Ukraine, which chose for herself the paths of democracy, denuclearization and transition to market economy, is decided by her ability to improve economic efficiency and her ability to work with the international community of nations.

Having come to Canada as the Ambassador of Ukraine, I discovered that the soil of the Canadian-Ukrainian special relationship is fertile, that the current international environment is conducive so that the good seeds of cooperation may be sown and rich crops harvested.

This special partnership is an asset which must be used to our mutual benefit. In fact, these words have become the motto of your business organizations and the readers of this digest. **Canada means business, so does Ukraine.** The firm commitment of many Canadians to ensure a better and stronger Ukraine is heartening for our crisis-stricken country. A friend in need is a friend indeed! We want to follow your example and your advice. We trust you the same way the Ukrainian pioneers trusted Canada, when they went overseas 100 years ago.

Isn't it high time that some of the experience they acquired here should be brought back to Ukraine? I wish all Canadians who are working with Ukraine the utmost of success in their endeavors.