

there. With the help of a Canadian expert, who will act as the group's advisor, CIUS will organize a two to four week work-study program for the group in Canada following the completion of preliminary work in Ukraine. The final products - policy papers, draft legislation, or amendments - will be completed upon the group's return to Ukraine, taking into account the information obtained and work experience in Canada.

Alberta, Manitoba Join Project

On Aug. 23, Natural Resources Minister Anne McLellan signed, on behalf of Foreign Affairs Ministers Andre Ouellet, an agreement between the Canadian International Development (CIDA) and the Faculty of Law of the University of Alberta for a project which will contribute to the reform of legal education in Ukraine.

The 40-month legal training and curriculum development project will lead to the creation of a new program of study based on the rule of law and legal system designed to protect and promote democratic principles in a market economy. McLellan said that an effective legal system, based on the rule of law, is essential to a democratic society and is the cornerstone of any economic and social reform. The project will lead to the establishment of a modern program of legal studies in Ukraine. Ukraine plans to develop a hybrid legal system that incorporates aspects of both the European tradition of civil law and the British and North American common law tradition. The project will help Ukraine meet an urgent need for lawyers with the necessary expertise. CIDA's contribution will total \$1.5 million.

"By virtue of its knowledge of common and civil law, Canada is particularly well placed to support Ukraine's effort to modernize its legal system," added McLellan.

The project will enable 18 Ukrainian law professors to receive training at Canadian academic and legal institutions as well as private firms to familiarize themselves with western legal theory and practice. Eighteen new law courses will be developed using western teaching

methods, for about 450 students at the Ukrainian Centre for Legal Studies at Kyiv University. Other Ukrainian law faculties will also benefit from the program of studies and the educational material provided under the project.

It is expected the project will lead to the creation of close ties between Canadian law faculties at the University of Alberta, McGill University in Montreal, and Osgoode Hall Law School at York University in Toronto, and the Ukrainian Centre for Legal Studies and the Ukrainian Legal Foundation.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1995 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

 Premier Gary Filmon also voiced his support for the Canada-Ukraine Legislative Education Program, a nationwide effort to assist Ukraine and its parliamentarians in their move to establish a democratic state based on law and a market economy.

The three-year program will allow officials from Ukraine to gather expertise to create a legal framework to facilitate political and economic reform within their country through policy development and drafting and implementing legislation.

"More than 150,000 Manitobans have either one or both parents of Ukrainian heritage," said the premier. "It is important that Ukraine receive every possible support in their transition to democracy and a free market economy. By sharing our experience in policy development and the drafting of legislation, both Manitobans and Ukraine will benefit."

Over the next three years, the project will train 40 Ukrainian participants annually in Ukraine and Canada, with two intakes of 20 participants per year. In total, 120 legislators, permanent parliamentary staff, technical experts and local government officials will participate in the program, with the first intake scheduled for the spring of 1996.

Rural Development Minister Len Derkach will support this initiative through his membership on the board of directors, which was established in January 1995 and is comprised of provincial and federal legislators, government officials and members of the Canadian Ukrainian community. The minister will facilitate the development of

work-study opportunities for the participants in Manitoba.

Each intake will focus on a specific theme selected on the basis of Ukrainian legislative priorities and Canadian expertise and experience. "We look forward to offering our expertise to this program, and feel we have much to offer, particularly in the areas of budget planning and local self-government," said "We're proud of our the premier. balanced budget legislation and the indepth consultation mechanisms we've established the local governments to enhance their autonomy and further stimulate their economic development."

The Canadian component of the training program will include a two-day orientation at the University of Alberta, a five-day provincial work study program, and a three-day federal program. "This program provides а wonderful opportunity for sharing information, developing partnerships, and establishing closer ties to an emerging democracy," said Premier Gary Filmon. "We are very pleased to be able to work with Ukraine as they develop their political and economic freedoms."

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