Canadian Partner Organizations

A number of Canadian organizations and institutions have expressed their interest in working in partnership with the selected Ukrainian organizations. These include the Centre for the Study of Public Opinion (Queen's University), Division of International Development (University of Calgary), Institute for the Professional Development of Teachers (Toronto), Manitoba Ukrainian Teachers' Institute (Winnipeg), PLAST Canada, Canadian Council for International Cooperation (Ottawa), Infopak Communications (Ottawa), and Canadian Research Institute on Advancement of Women.

Canadian partners are asked, where necessary, to prepare project proposals which address the needs of a specific Ukrainian partner organization and carry out activities identified in the organization's project work plan. The proposals and resumés are then sent to the Ukrainian partners for their assessment and approval.

For information, contact:
Tony Berezowecki, Manager
Civil Society Program
Canadian Bureau for International Education
220 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 1100
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 5Z9
Tel: (613) 237-4820, Ext. 257
FAX: (613) 233-2937.

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IPAC INCEPTION MISSION: SASKATCHEWAN JOINS IN

n October 1995, Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow led a trade mission to Ukraine and formally launched the Sask-Ukraine Cooperation Agreement with President Kuchma. This agreement established a very effective government-togovernment framework for the promotion of expanded cooperation in economic, cultural, and democratic development.

Implementation of many of the projects and initiatives outlined in the agreement requires a significant amount of technical cooperation between Saskatchewan and Ukrainian public servants in critical sectors such as energy management, business development and legislative drafting. So Saskatchewan accepted the invitation of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) to participate in its inception mission for the second phase of the CIDA Partners in Public Administration technical cooperation program for Ukraine.

This program provided an opportunity for the province's public service to work closely and establish long term connections with Ukraine's emerging professional public service -- to prepare its public service to establish democratic governance and develop the policy and legislative base required to stimulate the growth of a market economy.

In February 1996, Frank Bogdasavich, Deputy Minister to Premier Romanow, accompanied the other members of the IPAC inception mission team: Marie Fortier-Balogh, Director of International Programs, IPAC; Art Daniels, IPAC President-Elect and Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, Province of Ontario; Jack Kuhns, Special Advisor, Canada-Ukraine Partners Program, IPAC; and Andrij Haidamashko, Public Sector Specialist, Canada-Ukraine Partners Office, for direct discussions with Ukraine's national Ministries and local governments regarding priority technical cooperation projects over the course of the next two years.

Mr. Bogdasavich accompanied the IPAC team in meetings with senior bureaucrats at the State Oil and Gas Institute, the Department of Environment and Nuclear Safety, the Department of Justice, and the City of Lviv administration.

His reflections on these discussions are very positive and optimistic. "Public Administration exchanges are a complementary and vital component of many of the commercial and other cooperative initiatives outlined in the Saskatchewan-Ukraine Cooperation Agreement, and I was therefore very pleased to participate in the 1996 IPAC inception mission. During my visit I was very impressed by the commitment, enthusiasm and technological-scientific capacity of Ukraine's public service, a public service that must play a critical role in the transition currently challenging Ukraine."

