



ANATOLY BOVT

In the ceremonies commemorating the Fifth Anniversary of Ukraine's independence, two Canadians were among the distinguished guests who were honoured in recognition of their contribution to the development of the Ukrainian state. Along with 54 others, President Kuchma bestowed the Presidential Award (Orden Prezydenta) upon Peter Jacyk (top photo) and Erast Huculak (bottom).



the Leliakivske field is already rather mature and will require somewhat more sophisticated technology to exploit than their Ukrainian partners possess.

Amb. Christopher Westdal noted that, although Ukraine and Canada are not as rich in oil as Saudi Arabia, both possess considerable oil and gas resources. Ukraine is proving especially interesting opportunities to Canadian investors, since much of Canada's high-tech equipment for oil and gas extraction is also suitable for conditions in Ukraine's oil and gas fields.

Canadian Companies Exploring for Diamonds

Nov. 1996... Three Canadian companies conducting diamond exploration in Zhytomyr oblast have allocated additional funds to the project to speed it up. The companies are Vancouver-based Prior Resources Ltd.,

Toronto-based Southern Era Resources and Vancouver-based Antler Resources Ltd. Four sites near the Zhytomyr oblast town of Novohrad-Volynskiy are to be mined, close to where two gemstone quality diamonds, both in excess of 0.5 mm in size, were found earlier.

CUBI '97 Delegation in Canada

Dec. 1996... A delegation from Ukraine travelled to Canada for working meetings on CUBI '97. The group included Volodymyr Ignaschenko, First Dep. Head of Ukraine's National Agency for Reconstruction and Development, Andriy Pochtyarov, Exec. Asst., and Olena Kucharenko, Head of the U.S./Canada Department. This follows the meetings on CUBI held in Ukraine in Oct.-Nov. 1996 between CUBI Chair Lawrence Decore and Agency Chairman Roman Shpek.

The timing of the specific business sector meetings will coincide with major conferences, including the InterCan Oil and Gas show in Calgary, the Western Producers Agri-Show in Regina, and the Housing Export Show in Winnipeg. It is expected that some 100 people from each business sector from Canada and Ukraine will attend. The business sector meetings are designed to develop business partnerships leading to concrete contracts.

See CUBI '97, page 16.

WIG Constructs Giant Donetsk Pharmaceutical

Oct. 1996... Ukraine's biggest pharmaceuticals plant started operating in the Donetsk oblast city of Horlivka following extensive reconstruction.

The factory is a division of the JSC Stirol. Equipment was supplied, installed, and put on operational footing by Canadian company WIG. The US\$15 million cost of the project was financed by a foreign bank in return for guaranteed supplies of Stirol products.

The plant's annual capacity is targeted at 1.2 bln. medicinal tablets of 24 varieties. A considerable portion of output will be exported to Russia, Belarus, Turkmenistan, and other CIS countries. All the pills comply with international GMP standards, and can be produced without damaging the environment.

Former Ambassador Victor Batiuk Killed in Accident

Victor Batiuk, Ukraine's former Ambassador to Canada and one-time representative of Ukraine to the United Nations, was killed December 2nd in an automobile accident in the Zakarpattia region of Ukraine. The 57-year-old diplomat, who had held the title ambassador-at-large since his return to Ukraine, was on his way to Kyiv from a mission to Slovakia when the accident occurred.

As Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada from Jan. 1994 to Dec. 1995, Batiuk worked closely with the Department of Foreign Affairs to establish the special relationship that the two countries now cherish. He played a key role in coordinating the successful historic State Visit of President Kuchma to Canada in 1994. He also developed close relations with Canada's strong Ukrainian community by making frequent visits across the country and promoting trade and cooperation.

Amb. Batiuk was an accomplished linguist and poet. In delivering the Ivan Franko lecture at Carleton University in Mar. 1994, he provided his vision of Ukraine that is valid today: "Ukraine, like Swift's Gulliver, is tied down by the countless threads of the transitional period web. So those in Canada who promote our special partnership at this time will not only bring practical benefit to their country. They will also invoke historical glory upon it for foresightedness in helping to direct developments in Ukraine-- and henceforth in Eastern Europe, in the interests of Ukrainian, European and trans-Atlantic stability and cooperation."

Mr. Batiuk is survived by his spouse Alevtyna and three children.

