



Since Ukraine's independence and the beginning of its transition towards a market economy, Quebec firms have started to synchronize their time frame with Ukraine. The Director of the *Pharmascience* projects in Eastern Europe, Paul Melekhov, is well aware of that, because he works in Kyiv while his family lives in Montreal. *Pharmascience* manufactures and develops a wide variety of drugs in Saint-Michel and Montreal. The firm's President, Maurice Goodman, was persuaded that it was possible to expand in Ukraine and he dispatched one of his top specialists to set up a team. *Pharmascience* then began to import into Ukraine a number of preparations processed on-site for distribution throughout the country. *Pharmascience* was one of the first Canadian firms to settle in Ukraine.

In light of the successful experience of *Pharmascience*, the development of Quebec-Ukraine cooperation can be seen in areas such as aeronautics and agriculture, where both regions have much in common. In telecommunications and biomedical technologies, Quebec is making every endeavour to share its expertise with its Ukrainian partners.

One of the major projects arising from Quebec-Ukraine cooperation is the rehabilitation and the retrofitting of the *Ukrainian Hydroelectric Complex* by *Hydro-Québec International* (HQI). In cooperation with other Canadian partners, HQI brings its technical assistance to *Dnipro-Hydro Energie* and the *National Commutation Centre*. HQI has dispatched about ten experienced Quebec specialists to Kyiv with a mission to transmit a lot more than just knowledge. HQI is also sharing with Ukraine the energy security and self-sufficiency that make up the strength of the Quebec hydroelectric system.

Beyond the major projects between large institutions, Quebec is building relationships with Ukraine on a more human scale through the initiatives of its Ukrainian community. The Ukrainian community of Quebec, with a population of about 14,000 people, celebrated its one-hundredth anniversary in 1992. Their businessmen, businesswomen and professionals are joining forces to develop Quebec-Ukraine cooperation, particularly within the *Quebec-Ukraine Business Council* (QUBC).

Commercial trade between Quebec and Ukraine remains an area to be developed. In spite of a somewhat low trade volume (import-export) of about 40 million dollars in 1995, Quebec is by far the first partner among the other Canadian provinces. Based on the present trade volume between Quebec and Russia (more than \$200 million in 1996), there is optimism that Quebec-Ukraine trade will also increase. For example, Montreal-based *SNC Lavalin*, internationally-known for engineering consultant services, signed an agreement last October on construction of a World Trade Centre in Kyiv. This project is of huge proportions and a good indicator of the future potential.

## QUEBEC'S 1995 TRADE WITH UKRAINE

EXPORTS BY COMMODITY (\$000)			IMPORTS BY COMMODITY (\$000)		
CATEGORY	QUE	TOT CAN	CATEGORY	QUE	TOT CAN
Beverages, spirits & vinegar	41	225	Beverages, spirits & vinegar	2	42
Salt; sulphur; earth, stone; plaster mat; lime, cement	137	137	Organic chemicals	80	92
Mineral fuels, oils & distillation products	3	320	Wood pulp/fibre mat.; waste, etc	89	89
Inorg chem; compd prec. met., radioact. elem. etc.	1,724	1,724	Printed books; newspapers; pictures, etc	10	49
Pharmaceutical products	81	102	Wool, yarn, & fabric	16	16
Albuminoid subs; mod. starches; glues; enzymes	10	10	Other veget. textile fibres (not cotn); yarn, fabric	214	234
Plastics & articles thereof	93	420	Man-made staple fibres	9	9
Raw hides & skins (non-furskins); leather	36	36	Apparel & clothing accessories	3,816	4,693
Furskins & artificial fur; manufacturers	213	218	Footwear, gaiters & like	590	619
Wood & articles of wood; wood charcoal	281	1,053	Iron & steel	1,147	2,371
Cotton	138	252	Articles of iron or steel	8	73
Man-made filaments	36	72	Other base metals; cermets; articles	4,228	4,228
Man-made staple-fibres	220	220	Nuclear reactors; boilers; machin. mech. appl. prts	24	468
Carpets & other textile floor coverings	2	132	Electr. machinery equip. parts; sound recorder; etc	419	930
Spec. woven fabr; tufted text. fab; lace, tapestries, etc.	11	11	Toys, games & sports; parts & access.	1,099	1,525
Impreg. coated cover/laminat. textile fabric etc.	287	448	Special classification provisions	41	41
Apparel & clothing access.	25	160	Special transactions -trade	2	6
Other textile articles; worn clothing etc.	3	779	TOTAL	11,794	17,219*
Footwear, gaiters, & like	351	391			
Art of stone, plast., cem., asbestos, mica/sim mat	8	54			
Iron & steel, articles	15	893			
Aluminum & articles	4	367			
Tool, implem., cutlery, spoon, fork, of base metal	6	85			
Misc. articles of base metal	28	394			
Nuclear reactors, boilers, mach. & mech. appl. prts.	3,091	7,652			
Electric. machin. equipt. prts; sound recorders, etc	397	1,882			
Vehicles-railways/tramw roll-stock; parts	404	3,013			
Furniture; bedding; mattress; support, etc	98	536			
Toys, games & sports; parts & access.	137	150			
Special transactions -trade	21,358	21,377			
TOTAL	29,238	45,981*			

\* Totals for Canada include items not listed here, as they are imported/exported by provinces other than Quebec.

### For more information:

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"...One province accounts for 63% of all Canadian trade with Ukraine. Ironically that's Quebec - a province with just over 2% of Canada's Ukrainian population..."

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