

## Canada-Ukraine Intergovernmental Economic Commission

*Summary of Resolutions of 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting, June 15, 1997, Calgary*

The second IEC meeting was held in conjunction with the Canada-Ukraine Business Initiative and emphasized the close cooperation between governmental and business representatives in the development of closer relations. Co-chairs Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Mykhaylo Zubets underlined the positive movements, which have been taking place in the Ukraine-Canada economic cooperation since the inaugural IEC meeting in October 1996. It was underlined that the bilateral business cooperation is an essential element in the special relationship between the two countries and will benefit economic development in both countries. The proof of this will be found in the successful implementation of trade and investment projects.

The IEC marked the first formal meetings of sectoral working groups on Agriculture, Construction and Energy. During the second IEC meeting, discussions were focused on the issues in respect of the current situation, existing barriers and prospects of bilateral investment projects.

1. The Ukrainian delegation proposed the creation of a joint effort to actively promote Canadian investment in Ukraine.
2. The Ukrainian delegation welcomed Canada's commitment to support Ukraine's accession to the WTO.
3. In order to avoid the excessive obstacles and technical barriers to bilateral trade, the Ukrainian delegation underlined the importance of intensifying cooperation

in the sphere of standardization. The Canadian delegation agreed, and expressed a desire to have specialists in this area visit Ukraine during 1997.

4. Recognizing the importance of the development of the bilateral science and technology cooperation, the Ukrainian delegation proposed an agreement between the Government of Ukraine and the Government of Canada on Science and Technology Cooperation. The Parties agreed to create the working group on Science and Technology within the IEC framework to consider this proposal.
5. Viewing the provision of official export credits as essential to the development of bilateral trade, the Ukrainian delegation noted the ratification of the Export Development Corporation US\$20 mln. dollar credit by the Verkhovna Rada, which will significantly increase bilateral trade.
6. An agreement was signed by Commercial Alcohols Inc. for production of fuel ethanol in Ukraine. TransCanada Pipeline also signed an agreement and Prime Minister P. Lazarenko presented the certificate of registration to Northland Power.

The Parties agreed to organize the third IEC meeting in late 1998 in Ukraine, to which companies in the information technology, aerospace technology will be invited to participate.

## Security Means Investment, Jobs and a Better Life

*Extracts from a Monitor interview with Canada's Amb. Christopher Westdal at CUBI*

The emphasis of (PM Pavlo Lazarenko's) visit has been to fulfill Ukrainian freedom with economic progress, and in that process, Canadian businessmen very much want to participate. Over the past month, Ukrainian leaders have provided a more secure space for their people than they have ever had in their history. It was a pleasure for our political leaders to review these developments with the PM because he was directly involved in the recent agreements. Now that Ukraine has been secured, attention can be devoted full time at the top to management of the country, to fulfilment of Ukraine's freedom through economic progress and jobs.

**The real security guarantees for Ukraine are investment, jobs, trade, fiscal capacity, and a better life for the Ukrainian people.**

Canadian leaders and businessmen have reviewed with the Prime Minister and his large delegation of government and business leaders how Canada can help to contribute to this freedom goal that we both share. I am optimistic that it will lead to quite concrete progress in our relations. There have already been announcements of specific investment opportunities and I know that there will be more.



*Left: Northland Power President James Temerty addresses IEC meeting. Right: Two of the agreements signed at CUBI '97 (see p. 4) - top: TransCanada Pipelines and UkrGasProm; bottom: Commercial Alcohols and State Committee on Oil & Gas/Oil & Gas Processing and State Committee on Energy Conservation.*

