



AMBASSADOR TO RETURN TO UKRAINE

After being away from Ukraine for 18 months and halfway through his term, Ambassador Lukianenko concluded that it was essential that he leave his posting in Ottawa and return to Ukraine. The decision by the 67-year-old constitutional lawyer will enable him to actively participate in the upcoming elections in Ukraine, where he intends to work directly with democratic forces. Mr. Lukianenko ran for the presidency in December 1991, at which time he led the Republican party and placed third out of seven candidates. However, he would not confirm whether he would be seeking office in parliamentary elections next March. The Ambassador stressed the importance of electing a market-oriented, pro-reform majority in parliament which would ensure that Ukraine's economic and political transformation continues and thereby accelerates Ukraine's entrance into the world community of nations.

In addition to the Ambassador, the First Secretary responsible for Trade, Science, and Technology, Oleksander Shandruk, will also be returning to Ukraine. Mr. Shandruk is expected to remain in Canada until the arrival of his successor, who, according to Monitor sources, is to be Oleksander Tytarenko. Both resignations came on the heels of the controversial

UKRAINE'S AMBASSADOR MARKS SECOND ANNIVERSARY

Dear Canadians:

On August 24, Ukraine, the country I have the honour of representing in Canada, will celebrate the second year of its national rebirth.

Independence has returned to Ukraine only after many years of struggle, only after tremendous human, moral and material losses. Ukraine has always sensed the support and encouragement of freedom-loving countries and freedom-loving people, among whom Canadians hold a place of honour. Independent Ukraine will always remember that Canada was the first among western countries to recognize her independence.

Relations between Ukraine and Canada are still in their infancy. Business representatives from both nations are only now becoming acquainted and government bodies are drafting the preliminaries for agreements and contracts, the fundamentals that will protect and guarantee mutually beneficial co-operation. However, since individual contacts are well developed and have been for some time, we have every reason to believe that a solid foundation is in place upon which to develop further mutually beneficial relations between our two countries.

Canada is a world leader in such areas as environmental protection, human rights guarantees, and policies that balance economic and social development. Canadians perceive Ukraine as a country with an ancient and rich culture, as the heartland of very capable farmers and qualified academics. Much can be accomplished on the world market if Canadian and Ukrainian industry and educational institutions join forces.

I call upon you, My Canadian friends, on this occasion of the second anniversary of the rebirth of Ukrainian independence: let us work together to strengthen relations between our countries! Let us both support all efforts that enhance co-operation! Let us establish a united forum of Ukrainian-Canadian goodwill! Then democratic and economic reform in Ukraine will be accomplished with greater confidence.

My sincere best wishes to you and your families.

Levko Lukianenko
Ambassador of Ukraine in Canada

Massandra summit and in the flurry of resignations within the government in Ukraine. While the Russian government has since annulled the alleged agreement to transfer Ukraine's nuclear warheads to Russia, the debate over this question and the Black Sea Fleet are still very controversial. The past few weeks have seen tumultuous events both in Ukraine and Russia. With the cancellation of the September 26 referendum and the calling of early elections, Ambassador Lukianenko is convinced that at this crucial time in

Ukraine's history, the need for his energy and talents are greatest at home. There has been no confirmation as to who will replace Mr. Lukianenko, nor when the new appointment will be announced.

(Ambassador Lukianenko, his wife Nadia, and granddaughter Hanusia will be leaving Canada on November 3. The staff of the Monitor wish them all the best.)