



NEWSLETTER

PROGRAMME PARLEMENTAIRE CANADA-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY PROGRAM
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OTTAWA PERIOD – A GOOD INTRODUCTION TO CANADIAN POLICY

Our two week stay in Ottawa allowed us to "discover" the Canadian capital, and learn about the political features of the country. Since we lived in downtown Ottawa, we were able to feel the rhythm of Ottawa, and get a taste of Canada's patriotic spirit. These experiences inspired us to become interested in all that was happening around us. Actually, before we began working in the election campaign in 4 different cities for different parties, we became nearly as accustomed with the Canadian political system as with our own Ukrainian system. Also, by visiting Parliament Hill, the Parliamentary Library, the Museum of Civilization, the Light Show or the Tulip Festival, we were becoming better acquainted with Canada and its history. In other words, the Ottawa experience fostered a sense of closeness to Canada, and in accordance with CUPP tradition, the many meetings with the outstanding Canadians of Ukrainian origin promoted this growing attachment.

Our memories are captured not only on paper, but are kept alive by the many interesting conversations and unforgettable impressions. In the Supreme Court of Canada we observed how the court system worked, and sat in on a case

before the court concerning an company's bankruptcy with Mr. Justice John Sopinka on the bench. Ukrainian Ambassador Volodymyr Furkalo described to us Canada-Ukraine political and economical relationship and shared his view of Ukraine's role in International policy. These meetings with prominent Ukrainians gave us a wealth of information, and reinforced the fact that Ukrainians in Canada have achieved prominence.

A few of our interns were not fortunate enough to meet with the various guest speakers in Ottawa during the last week. They left Ottawa

for Calgary where they were scheduled to work for the National Office of the Reform Party. Undoubtedly they had the opportunity to meet with other equally interesting individuals during the election campaign. And they, like all interns, in spite of what party they worked for and where, promised to share their thoughts and recollections about the election campaign in the next edition of the CUPP Newsletter, wholly dedicated to the elections. No doubt, our next issue will be very interesting since we all have many opinions and impressions to share with our readers.



Meeting with Ukrainian Ambassador Volodymyr Furkalo

OUR FINAL INSTRUCTION

On May 2nd, the day before our departure for Canada, our group of CUPP Interns were invited to the Canadian Embassy for a reception by Ambassador Christopher Westdal.

This meeting at the Canadian Embassy was a pivotal point, which introduced us into the CUPP-in-Action mode for the next three months. From this point onward, we would enter our Canadian mode, which for most of us would be our first opportunity to travel outside of Ukraine or the former Soviet Union.

On May 2nd, the doors of the Canadian Embassy were opened to us and we were met with a very warm and friendly reception inside the Embassy. In the official part of our meeting, Ambassador Westdal greeted us, in Ukrainian, then gave us a brief introduction to current events in Canada, relations between Canada and Ukraine and information about Nato's expansion into Eastern Europe. Ambassador Westdal drew our attention to the Rule of Law, the Principles of Western Democracy and invited us to focus on these during our stay in Canada.

Discussing the present

state in Ukraine, Ambassador Westdal stressed that Canada's aim, as well as that of other western countries, was to provide to Ukraine a measure of stability and opportunity to develop, through closer ties to Western European political and economic institutions, and by promoting economic development in Ukraine facilitate Ukraine's guarantee of its independence.

After the discussion,

famous Canadian blackflies and mosquitoes. Towards the end, two of us, who had participated in the CUPP program in previous years and who are returning as coordinators, shared our impressions of Canada and of the CUPP program. We said our goodbyes to Ambassador Westdal who wished us good luck and hoped that our stay in Canada would be an interesting and useful one.

We are grateful to Ambassador Westdal for welcoming students of the 7th Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program in the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv and for his warm reception and kind words of encouragement. After we left the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv, we boarded our

flight at Borispil airport for Toronto. Our journey to the "new world" had begun.

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The meeting with Canadian Ambassador Cristopher Westdal

there followed an informal session during which we exchanged interesting stories, asked questions and even shared some anecdotes. Ambassador Westdal suggested that if we go on the traditional Algonquin Park canoe trip or if we paddle along the Rideau Canal that we observe Canadian wildlife and protect ourselves from the

Easter celebration with Canadian Ukrainians: as if I'd never left Ukraine

The day after our arrival in Canada, our group of twenty-three university students from every corner of Ukraine joined with the Ukrainian community of Toronto to celebrate Easter. The celebration began with a brief religious service and was followed by Easter greetings, a traditional Easter meal and then a concert.

My first impressions of this celebration were mixed. I was both surprised and baffled. Surprised because I did not expect to see so many Ukrainians in Canada in one place speaking Ukrainian. Baffled because I was expecting to see something different, something unusual, something Canadianized. Here we were in Toronto, celebrating a traditional Easter celebration as if we were in Lviv, Kyiv or Uzhhorod. Nevertheless, the warm reception made us feel right at home. It was heart warming to meet so many people who welcomed us, wanted to know about our home towns, and the changes in

Ukraine.

The meal was delicious with all the traditional preparations. After dinner, kindergarten and primary school children put on a brief concert. The children looked to be two or three years old and their participation in the concert brought great joy and amusement to the audience, to their parents and teachers. I could not help but enjoy myself thoroughly and took many photographs of these youngsters. The smiles and laughter of these young performers demonstrated that the Ukrainian spirit is alive and well in the hearts and minds of the next generation of

Ukrainian-Canadians.

I feel compelled to thank the sponsors of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program, the Chair of the Ukrainian Studies Foundation of Toronto for giving us the opportunity of coming to Canada and even though this Easter celebration was only first of our many planned activities, I already feel proud to be part of such a strong Ukrainian community here in Canada.

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A MULTICULTURAL APPROACH TO UKRAINIAN HISTORY



Meeting with Professor Paul R. Magocsi

" This is the first time that a history of Ukraine has been written in this fashion... as bold as this may sound to you, yet this is in fact so! The published history books which we have today are written only about the Ukrainian people"

With these words, Professor Paul R. Magocsi, opened his lecture to the student interns of the 7th Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program. Later on Professor Magocsi, the author of the

newest "History of Ukraine" as well as the author of "The Historical Atlas of Ukraine" and many other publications explained what he meant in his introduction. "Who are these significant minorities of Russians, Jews, Poles, Germans, Rumanians, Hungarians, and Czeche living on the territory of Ukraine? "They are Ukrainians, of different ethnic origins. They should be recognized as being part of the country

they live in. Some Ukrainian historians do not accept this theory or this reality."

Why should an American write a history of Ukraine, one could ask. Because Professor Magocsi says the western world needs it badly. North Americans were not familiar with Ukraine before its independence and only now are beginning to learn about this country.

For North Americans and even Western Europeans, everything that was part of the former Soviet Union was considered to be Russian. That is not correct stated Dr. Magocsi, who went on to say that great countries or big states know less about people in other lands. Smaller states are more knowledgeable about other countries and for example the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Belgium, The Czech Republic are countries where citizens speak more than one language and are much more knowledgeable about , Eastern Europe or even Ukraine than the citizens of, for example, the United Kingdom, France or the

more narrow minded on questions of cultural and linguistic origins and differences.

Dr. Magocsi claims to be impartial and stated that some chapters of Ukrainian history were good and some were bad, just like the history of any other country, and he sees no need to apologize for or to tamper with the history of Ukraine.

Westerners often thought of Ukraine as an Eastern land referring to it as Russia. Dr. Magocsi points out, Ukraine is a part of Cent-ral Europe together with the Czech Republic, Hungary, Rumania, Austria, and Italy among others.

The question period following Dr. Magocsi's lecture was most interesting. We fired questions at him from every perspective. We asked him whether he would accept an invitation to teach in Ukraine and he stated that he looked forward to such an opportunity.

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Can Conflict be resolved without a Third-Party Neutral?

In our advanced and contradictory times, the ability to resolve a dispute is becoming more and more valuable. After time consuming and tiresome arguments, people come to realize that it is more beneficial to achieve some consensus or compromise than to continue a dispute without prospect for a settlement. In such case, the role of a mediator or facilitator who leads the process of conflict discussion and resolution is of great importance for the disputing parties.

The one week course at the Canadian Center for Conflict Resolution at Saint Paul University has become one of the more significant aspects of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program. I firmly believe that all the CUPP'97 participants were extremely lucky for being given the opportunity to take the course.

The Third-Party Neutral (TPN) course is a fascinating, skill-based training which is impressive. All of us were eager to learn what a TPN is, and what that person's role is, in a conflict. We explored the differences between disputes, conflicts and deep-rooted conflicts. By different and fascinating role plays, games, discussions and training we learned how to mediate and resolve a conflict. Our teacher was Roman Didenko who carried out his task of a mediator and facilitator expertly and did a terrific job of teaching us.

(Continueing on page 6)



Can Conflict be resolved without a Third-Party Neutral?

If two hostile parties are interested in a resolution of their conflict, they request a Third-Party Neutral to mediate between them. It is important that during the discussions, the TPN facilitates and leads the process of negotiation. At the very beginning of the dialogue, the two opposing parties may speak to each other through the Third-Party Neutral only, if they are not willing to talk to each other directly. The role of the TPN is to make the opponents realize that they have a vested interest in a speedy resolution of their dispute or problem and to make them talk to each other directly, without the intervention of the Third-Party Neutral.

From the outset, the role of the TPN may seem pretty insignificant and inconsequential. But that is not so. It is a very responsible role or job and every step taken by the TPN must be well thought out. The disputants may look at the TPN as a judge who will lead them to a responsible and satisfactory outcome. In fact, a Third-Party Neutral may make many decisions throughout the process but that must be relevant and helpful to the dispute resolution process. The Third-Party Neutral should be involved in the process of conflict resolution but he or she should not interfere with the contents. No doubt, sometimes this is a very difficult role and could increase or elevate the

conflict instead of ameliorate or resolve it. The Third-Party Neutral should be intelligent and considerate in asking questions of both parties and should handle discussion in a constructive and mediating fashion. In addition, the Third-Party Neutral must remain calm, patient and attentive to the process underway. If the Third-Party Neutral manages to bring the disputants to an

In fact, CUPP participants had the opportunity to try on the role of a TPN. In my opinion, the conflict resolution course has taught us skills and experience in solving not only conflicts but it has also enriched us as human beings by teaching us to be more tolerant, friendly and diplomatic in every day life. No doubt all of these lessons learned will become even more important to those of us



Mediation

agreement rapidly without any difficulties, this indicates that he or she is an effective mediator.

The role of a Third-Party Neutral consists not only of mediating conflicts, but can also be adapted to resolving disputes within a group. In the case of a group, the TPN directs the workshop and mobilizes every participant's energy and ideas and maintains a steady flow of constructive discussion.

who will go on to public service and participate in the political life of Ukraine.

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Вікно в Україну

Кінець лютого. Надворі ознаки близької весни. Сиджу біля вікна й дивлюся на сніг, що давно вже перестав піднімати настрій. Він поступово тане, відступаючи під натиском все сильнішого сонця. Звідкись лине тиха музика. Познаю U2, А потім Depech mode. За вікном мчать машини, деś пішов саодикий пішохід, а я все дивлюся и думаю. Де я? Чому я тут? І де я був рік тому?

Ще з тих часів, як я був студентом першого курсу, пам'ятаю одну фразу з підручника англійської мови Аракіна: "Canada is a far away country..." И ось я тут, у цій далекій країні, в її адміністративному центрі (зауважу, що в цю пору року я нізащо не хотів би опинитися у географічному центрі), У Канаді я вже вдруге. Позаду - надзвичайно цікава низка подій і пригод. Попереду - великі перспективи, що відкриваються завдяки набутому досвіду й бажанню втілити в українське життя все те позитивне, що я бачу в цій країні, яка, за визнанням ООН, є найкращим у світі місцем для життя.

А почалося все вранці 4 травня 1996 року, коли літак авіакомпанії "Авіалінії України" відірвався від рідної землі з серйозним наміром перетнути Атлантику, несучи мене в мою першу закордонну подорож. Я був одним з тридцяти



Студенти з послом України в Канаді В. Фуркало

студентів з усіх куточків України, що перемогли у відбіркових змаганнях, щоб стати учасником шостої Парламентської програми "Канада - Україна".

Дев'ятого травня переможців зустрічала Оттава - чарівне місто на березі одноіменної річки. Перед нами повстав з туману Парламентський пагорб, піднятися на який і було нашою основною метою. Будівлі канадського парламенту витримані в єдиному стилі, що дуже нагадує британський. Це зрештою не дивно, зважаючи на те, як тісно пов'язана історія двох країн. Прохолодний туман, суворі парламентські будівлі, Башта миру, що височить над усією Оттавою, а особливо

церемонія зміни караулу Королівською Гвардією миттєво створюють відчуття, ніби ти в старій добрій Англії. Але це лише перше враження, тому що Канада вже давно провадить свою власну політику.

Учасники програми "Канада - Україна" мали виняткову нагоду переконатися в цьому, працюючи в офісах депутатів Палати громад і спостерігаючи політичне життя зсередини. За словами одного зучасників програми, величезна цінність її полягає в тому, що це - можливість набути професійний досвід, який є безцінним для людей, зацікавлених у політиці, а радше у майбутньому своєї країни. Враження, отримані

(закінчення на 8 стор.)

Вікно в Україну

(продовження, початок на 7 стор.)

під час зустрічей з канадськими поліками та урядовцями, юристами та науковцями, дуже важко передати словами і навряд чи можливо забути.

Культурна частина програми була не менш насиченою та захоплюючою. Я ніколи не мріяв побачити так багато за такий короткий час. Торонто, Монреаль, Ніагарський водоспад, національний парк "Алгонквін", автомобільний завод "Дженерал Моторс" в Ошаві, і сама Оттава з її чисельними музеями, фестивалями й кафе на будь-який смак - все це було частиною програми і назавжди лишилося частиною моїх спогадів.

Багато країн стараються надати своїй молоді можливість попрацювати в канадському парламенті. Тим більш приємно знати, що програма "Канада - Україна" є лідером, як за кількістю учасників, так і за рівнем організації, випереджаючи навіть "у всьому перших" американців. Все це стало можливим завдяки Фондації Кафедри українознавчих студій в Торонто на чолі з паном Ігорем Бардином. Розуміючи, що майбутнє України не можливе без освіченої і досвідченої молоді, Фондація

в 1991 році започаткувала парламентську програму і до тепер робить все, щоб надати українським студентам можливість навчатися, набувати досвід в найкращих наукових і професійних установах світу.

Не варто і казати, що два місяці програми пролетіли дуже швидко. І не зчулися ми, як уже настав час для офіційної церемонії закриття програми, що відбулася в Торонто в атмосфері піднесення і суму, бо тож було таки логічне завершення.

Завершення, але не кінець. Багато хто з минулорічних учасників програми навчається в престижних університетах західної Європи та Північної Америки. Дружба, що почалася під час програми, залишеться назавжди. Бо вже зараз випускники програми активно включаються в суспільне життя. Але це лише початок... Кажучи словами одного з учасників ППКУ '96: "Україна буде в надійних руках, коли ця група молодих енергійних і освічених людей вийде на політичну арену країни".

На прикінці програми я отримав почесну нагороду: стипендію ім. Івана Сопінки для однорічного стажування в Канадському інституті пологдження

конфліктів. Я вивчаю науку, що є новою навіть тут, у Північній Америці. проте вона надзвичайно швидко розвивається і тіснить традиційні суди та бійки як засоби розв'язання конфліктів. Пезперечно, ця наука знайде своє місце і в Україні, тому я в захопленні від можливості бути одним з перших українців у цій новій сфері.

Отак роздумуючи біля вікна, не можу не думати про те, що програма стала для мене вікном у Канаду, в новий світ широких перспектив. Пербування в чужій країні, відділений тисячами кілометрів води і суші від рідної домівки, дало мені, крім усього іншого, одну можливість, яку я взагалі не очікував. Вперше я посправжньому відчув свою тотожність, причетність до України, гордість за свою націю і країну. Тому участь у парламентській програмі стала для мене і вікном у мою власну душу. А чи можна отримати знання більші, ніж розуміння самого себе?

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