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ЦЕНТРАЛЯ

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS
HEADQUARTERS

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UCC applauds Ukrainian law on Famine-Genocide

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The Ukrainian Canadian Congress applauds today's decision of the Ukrainian Parliament to adopt a Law which recognizes the Famine of 1932-33 as an act of Genocide against the Ukrainian nation and declares denial of the Famine-Genocide a criminal act.

This famine, known in Ukraine as the *Holodomor* or murder by starvation, occurred as a result of a direct Soviet policy to crush the nationally conscious Ukrainian people. By introducing unrealistically large quotas on grain, the Soviet Government stripped the peasants of their food supply thus launching a famine that in 1932-33 claimed the lives of between 7 to 10 million innocent victims.

In his book *The Harvest of Sorrow*, historian Robert Conquest provided a vivid picture of the devastating effects of the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine: "A quarter of the rural population, men, women, and children, lay dead or dying, the rest in various stages of debilitation with no strength to bury their families or neighbors."

In June of 2004, at the initiative of Honourable Senator Raynell Andreychuk the Senate of Canada unanimously adopted a motion calling on the Government of Canada to recognize the Famine in Ukraine as nothing less than genocide. UCC now calls on Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the Canadian Government to recognize in the House of Commons that the *Holodomor* in Ukraine was an act of genocide committed against the Ukrainian nation.

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