



Premier of Ontario - Première ministre de l'Ontario

September 7, 2016

### **A Personal Message from the Premier**

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to extend warm greetings to all those celebrating Ukrainian Heritage Day.

This year marks the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to our country. Since 1891, generations of Ukrainians have been coming to Canada to build new lives. And, through hard work and talent, they have found opportunity — and success.

The Ukrainian Canadian community has helped build Ontario into one of the best places in which to live, work and raise families. The community's significant contributions continue to enrich our province's multicultural landscape, and strengthen our social, economic and cultural life. This special occasion, in this special year, presents an ideal opportunity for Ukrainian Canadians to reflect on those contributions and on their rich heritage and culture.

The people of Ontario, along with other Canadians, have worked to help build a stable democracy and economy in Ukraine. Most recently, the Government of Ontario has taken steps to support the Ukrainian people as they defend their democracy and human rights.

As we come together today to celebrate Ukrainian Heritage Day, our thoughts are with the Ukrainian people, who continue to do everything possible to defend their independence — an independence that was so painstakingly earned 25 years ago.

The Ontario government is firm in our support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. We stand with the international community in our commitment to ending foreign aggression and intervention in Ukraine to ensure its freedom, democracy and independence.

I stand in solidarity with you and all those who seek a peaceful, democratic and independent path for Ukraine.

Slava Ukraini!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kathleen Wynne'.

**Kathleen Wynne**  
**Premier**