



КОНГРЕС УКРАЇНЦІВ КАНАДИ  
ЦЕНТРАЛЯ

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HEADQUARTERS

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## **UCC statement on the occasion of the commemoration of the Great Famine-Holodomor in Ukraine**

For several years already, the last Saturday of November has been a day of remembrance for the millions of Ukrainians killed by the artificially 1932-33 Great Famine-Holodomor in Ukraine. On this day, Ukrainians, together with all mankind, honour the memory of our brothers and sisters, who became innocent victims of the Stalinist authoritarian regime.

Seventy-four years ago, from April 1932 to November 1933 in approximately 500 days, some 7 to 10 million people, a third of who were children, died of famine. For the first time in human history, a government used the confiscation of a harvest as a weapon for the destruction of the people. In 1932-33, Ukraine lost every fourth or fifth person.

The horrific truth is that mass murder for ethnic reasons can only be called a genocide, the consequence of which was the destruction of the national spirit of the Ukrainian people for ensuing decades.

In spite of attempts to bring the horrible truth of the Holodomor to public attention, the world still knows little about this catastrophe for Ukraine. Therefore, it is during these days that we, Ukrainian Canadians, once again open the horrible pages of history and relate this to our children, friends and neighbours and to all those who are not indifferent to the suffering of others. In the name of present and future generations, we will do everything possible so that memory about the victims of the Famine will remain alive, and that these horrific events never occur again.

With heavy hearts, the entire Ukrainian Canadian community remembers those who suffered and died during the Great Famine-Holodomor by holding memorial services and joint prayers or by honouring their memory with a moment of silence or in some other appropriate manner.

May the memory of these innocents unite us, the living, and give us strength to move forward to a better future.

*Orysia Sushko*  
*President, Ukrainian Canadian Congress*