



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

News Release

November 25, 2015

Legislative Assembly Commemorates Holodomor

Edmonton – “One of history’s grave crimes against humanity, the Ukrainian famine and genocide (Holodomor) must not be forgotten,” said Honourable Robert E. Wanner, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. “Holodomor Memorial Day recognizes the countless victims of this tragic event and reminds us that defending and upholding human rights is not only a global responsibility but also the only way to prevent such an atrocity in the future.”

Today at noon Speaker Wanner will host a ceremony in the Legislature rotunda to commemorate Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial Day in Alberta.

Remarks will be provided by:

- Honourable Rachel Notley, MLA, Premier of Alberta
- Honourable Deron Bilous, MLA, Minister of Economic Trade and Development
- Mr. Brian Jean, MLA, Leader of the Official Opposition
- Mr. Ric McIver, MLA, Leader of the PC opposition
- Dr. David Swann, MLA, Leader of the Liberal opposition
- Mr. Greg Clark, MLA, Leader of the Alberta opposition
- Ms. Olesia Luciw-Andryjowycz, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council

The ceremony will also include a performance by students from St. Martin and St. Matthew Catholic school choirs, followed by a candle lighting and prayer.

The Holodomor was a government-imposed famine in the Ukrainian SSR during 1932 and 1933. It is estimated that between 4 and 10 million individuals died of starvation during this time.

Over 300,000 people of Ukrainian ancestry, some of whom are survivors of the Holodomor or are descendants of those who suffered, call Alberta home.

In 2008 the Legislative Assembly of Alberta passed *Bill 37, Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial Day Act*, proclaiming the fourth Saturday in November as a day of Holodomor remembrance in Alberta.

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For more information contact:

Tracey Sales, Communications Consultant
Legislative Assembly Office
Mobile: 780.862.6446
Tracey.Sales@assembly.ab.ca

Beverly Alenius, Chief of Staff to the Speaker
Legislative Assembly Office
Mobile: 780.974.9507
Bev.Alenius@assembly.ab.ca