



Ukrainian Canadian Congress National Community Calendar 2022–2023

We encourage all Members of Parliament to contact their local UCC branch or Ukrainian community organization for events.

For cross-Canada events (such as Holodomor commemorations, Vyshyvanka Day and Independence Day celebrations), Ukrainian Canadian Congress will post a list to our website:

www.ucc.ca



About Ukrainian Canadian Congress

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) is the voice of Canada's Ukrainian community. The Congress brings together under one umbrella all the national, provincial and local Ukrainian Canadian organizations. Together with its member organizations, the UCC has been leading, coordinating and representing the interests of one of Canada's largest ethnic communities (1.4 million) since 1940 and has been instrumental in shaping Canada's social, economic and political landscape.

What We Do

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) represents the Ukrainian Canadian community before the people and Government of Canada, promotes linkages with Ukraine and identifies and addresses the needs of the Ukrainian community in Canada to ensure its continued existence and development for the enhancement of Canada's socio-cultural fabric.

December

6 December – Ukrainian Armed Forces Day

This day honours the men and women who serve in uniform in Ukraine, defending their homeland against a foreign invader. UCC will issue a statement.

10 December – International Human Rights Day

19 December – St. Nicholas (Sviatyj Mykolaj)

Ukrainians celebrate by giving presents to one another.

25 December – Christmas

Many Ukrainian Canadians celebrate Christmas on this day.

January

6 January – Ukrainian Christmas Eve

7 January – Ukrainian Christmas Day ("Rizdvo")

Christmas is celebrated in accordance with the Julian Calendar that preceded the current Gregorian calendar. Orthodox Christians and Eastern Rite Catholics celebrate Christmas on this day. Groups of carolers go from house to house and "for a song" the hosts provide a donation to the charity the carollers have chosen. Many churches hold Christmas celebrations.

13 January – Ukrainian New Year's Eve "Malanka" *Note that many banquets and celebrations take place from the middle to the end of January

Malanka is a major celebration in January that brings together the local community and usually includes dinner and dance. People gather in groups, dressed in traditional Ukrainian clothing and holding props such as the star and go door to door to their neighbours, nearest friends and family. Malanka is a great way to connect with the community; celebrations take place throughout January.

22 January – Ukrainian Unity Day

This day marks the 104th Anniversary of the Unification Act signing that for the first time proclaimed a unified and independent Ukraine back in 1919. On this day, Ukrainians honour those who bravely defend Ukraine's liberty.

UCC will issue a statement.



February

20 February – Day of the Heavenly Hundred

The Ukrainian Canadian community honours the memory of all those who laid down their lives in the battle for a free and democratic Ukraine. In February 2014 (during Euromaidan Revolution, i.e. Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity), the oppressive, authoritarian regime of former President Yanukovych opened fire on its own people. The Heavenly Hundred (Nebesna Sotnia) gave their lives to ensure that the people of Ukraine may live in freedom and dignity.

24 February – One year Anniversary of Russia's full-scale war in Ukraine

March

9 March – Taras Shevchenko Day

On this day, the Ukrainian community celebrates the immeasurable contributions of Ukraine's bard, Taras Shevchenko (1814–1861), to Ukrainian culture and the formation of Ukrainian national identity and national consciousness. His writings are of immense importance to Ukrainian literature. One of the Shevchenko monuments in Canada is located on the grounds of the Manitoba Legislative Building.

The celebrations in March (the month of his birth and death) include concerts, symposia and academic presentations by members of Ukrainian organizations, churches and especially youth groups.



Taras Shevchenko Monument unveiled on the west grounds of the Manitoba Legislative Building on 9 July, 1961, by Prime Minister John G. Diefenbaker

April

In 2015, with support from all major parties, the House of Commons unanimously passed M-587 designating April as Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month. UCC will issue a statement.

9 April – Easter on the Gregorian calendar

16 April– Easter on the Julian calendar

Commonly known as the Orthodox Easter. Similar to Christmas, many Ukrainians celebrate Easter according to the Julian Calendar. People get together with their families and close friends. Local churches will have an event or fair to attend. UCC will issue a statement.



Pysanka, [pih-sahn-kah]– Easter Egg

25 April – Veselka Festival (Foam Lake, SK) – The Largest Rural Ukrainian Festival in Western Canada

26 April – Chornobyl Day of Remembrance

On this day, Ukrainian Canadians pause in remembrance of the thousands of victims of this tragedy. On April 26, 1986, a reactor at the Chornobyl nuclear power plant near Prypiat, Ukraine, exploded and melted down, releasing large quantities of radioactive material into the atmosphere. The effects of the disaster were made far worse by the Soviet Communist regime's obfuscations and attempts to cover up the scale of the tragedy from the people in Ukraine and world. UCC will issue a statement.

28 April – Commemoration of the Wisla Operation (Akcja Wisla)

76th anniversary of the beginning of the Wisla Operation (Akcja Wisla), the forcible deportation by the Soviet-backed Polish government of Ukrainians from their ancestral lands in what is today eastern Poland. Ukrainians living in the Lemko, Boyko, Nadsiaanna, Kholm and Pidliashia regions were deported to territories in the north and west of post-WWII Poland. UCC will issue a statement.



1,359,655

Canadians who
identify as Ukrainian



May

TBA – BC Ukrainian Cultural Festival (Mission, BC)

Exact date to be confirmed. Website of the festival: <https://bcucf.ca/>

6 May – Vesna Festival (Saskatoon, SK)

48th anniversary of the festival, a showcase of dance, music, song, arts and Ukrainian cuisine

18 May – Day of Remembrance of the Genocide of the Crimean Tatar People

On this day the world recognizes the oppression and mass deportation of the Crimean Tatars by the Stalin regime that caused the death of hundreds of thousands of innocent people.

UCC will issue a statement. There are commemorations across the country which may include flag-raising ceremonies at local city halls.

18 May – Vyshyvanka Day (Ukrainian Traditional Embroidered Shirt Day)

Vyshyvanka Day, held traditionally on the third Thursday of May every spring, is celebrated by wearing a Ukrainian embroidered shirt. Vyshyvanka Day is intended to unite all Ukrainians over the world, regardless of religion, language, or place of residence.

Ukrainian Canadian Congress holds a celebration on Parliament Hill, and our branches and member organizations will organize local events.

26–27 May – UFest (Edmonton, AB)

UFest Edmonton Ukrainian Festival is a celebration of Ukrainian culture, food, music, visual arts, crafts and dance. This free festival, set in a beautiful city park, will feature a main stage with ongoing musical and dance performers, beer gardens, Ukrainian food vendors, arts, crafts and merchandise vendors, displays, buskers, a coffee tent and more.

June

TBA – Mississauga Ukrainian Festival (Mississauga, ON)

3–4 June – Calgary Ukrainian Festival (Calgary, AB)

27 June – Multiculturalism Day

UCC will issue a statement.

July

1 July – Canada Day

7–9 July Vegreville Pysanka Festival (Vegreville, AB)

TBA – Capital Ukrainian Festival (Ottawa, ON)

Exact date to be confirmed. Website of the festival:

www.capitalukrainianfestival.com/

August

4 August – Manitoba Ukrainian Canadian Heritage Day

4–6 August – Canada's National Ukrainian Festival (Dauphin, MB)

6–19 August – Winnipeg Folklorama Festival (Winnipeg, MB) – Ukraine Kyiv Pavilion (Winnipeg, MB)

17–19 August – Saskatoon Folkfest 2023 – Karpaty Ukrainian Pavilion

Website of the festival: <https://saskatoonfolkfest.com>

23 August – Black Ribbon Day

National Day of Remembrance for the Victims of Communism and Nazism in Europe. Black Ribbon Day commemorations are organized across Canada.

24 August – Ukrainian Independence Day

(Community celebrations take place across Canada. The UCC will have a list of events posted on our website: www.ucc.ca). UCC will issue a statement.

INTERESTING FACT:

On December 2, 1991, Canada became the first western country to recognize Ukraine's independence.

September

TBA – Montreal Ukrainian Festival (Montreal, QB)

7 September – Ukrainian Canadian Heritage Day

Alberta, Ontario, Manitoba

TBA – Toronto Ukrainian Festival (Toronto, ON)

North America Largest Ukrainian Street Festival



RCMP at Canadian Pysanka, Vegreville, AB

October

14 October – Defenders of Ukraine Day

This day honours the courage of the defenders of Ukraine's independence and territorial integrity.

Find out more about [Operation UNIFIER – Canadian Armed Forces \(CAF\) mission to support the Security Forces of Ukraine](#).

28 October – National Internment Commemoration Day

Ukrainian Canadians commemorate Canada's First National Internment Operations (1914–1920) – the forced internment of 8,579 Ukrainians and other Europeans, who were branded 'enemy aliens' and sent to 24 internment camps across Canada. [More on this issue](#).

November



2023 is the 90th anniversary of the Holodomor Famine–Genocide

In 1932–33, the Ukrainian nation was condemned to death by starvation by the Soviet Communist regime of Joseph Stalin. Millions of men, women and children were murdered by the Communist regime during the Holodomor Famine–Genocide, because of the Ukrainian people's aspiration for independence, their desire to maintain their traditions and speak their language.

Every year, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress hosts a solemn commemoration of the Holodomor on Parliament Hill.

21 November – Day of Dignity and Freedom, Ukraine

This Day marks the beginning of the Revolution of Dignity (2013–2014) in Ukraine.

25 November – 4th Saturday of November designated as [Holodomor Remembrance Days](#)

Holodomor Commemorations take place across Canada.

(*Holodomor – death by starvation)

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