



September 7, 2025

Whereas, 2025 marks the 134th year since the first recorded arrival of Ukrainians in Canada; and

Whereas, Alberta was the province where Ukrainians first settled in Canada and founded many of Alberta's earliest religious and cultural institutions; and

Whereas, Ukrainian-Albertans have contributed immensely to the Province of Alberta, initially through agriculture, forestry, railways and mining and subsequently to Alberta's government, civil society, industry, economic advancement and prosperity; and

Whereas, the early cultural, economic, political and educational contributions for which Ukrainian-Albertans should be recognized specifically include: - bringing their wheat grains with them from Ukraine and developing the "Red Fife Wheat" that is grown throughout Alberta, - contributing to Alberta's rich cultural heritage through the arts, including choral and instrumental music, folkloric and performing dance, fine art, fiber art, literature, architecture, libraries, museums and archival collections and cuisine, and - helping to build our roads, railways and infrastructure in Alberta's national parks; and

Whereas, Ukrainian-Albertans have served and sacrificed as members of the Canadian Armed Forces to defend the rights and liberties of Canadians and have paid the ultimate price for our freedom; and

Whereas, 2025 marks the 49th anniversary of both the Ukrainian bilingual education program in Alberta and the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies; and

Whereas, 2025 marks the 39th Anniversary of both the Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts and the Alberta Ukrainian Dance Association; and

Whereas, Ukrainian-Albertans have assisted in the creation and the promotion of multiculturalism in Canada and in Alberta.

NOW, THEREFORE, that I, Amy Cherniwchan, Mayor of the Town of Smoky Lake, Alberta, do hereby designate September 7, 2025, as Ukrainian-Canadian Heritage Day.

Original Signed

Amy Cherniwchan
Mayor