



February 14, 2011

The Honourable James Moore, MP
Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Re: Canadian Museum for Human Rights

Dear Minister:

Our organization, the Ukrainian Women's Organization of Canada Edmonton branch, was established in 1932 and this year we are proud to be celebrating the 120th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada. Canadians of Ukrainian descent have made a substantial contribution to Canada and its development, including approximately 10,000 who served during WW I and about 40,000 (percentage wise one of the highest if not the highest of all ethnic groups in Canada) who served in WW II.

As engaged members of the political and social process in Canada, our organization took part in the survey and roundtable discussions held across Canada pertaining to the proposed content of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg. We are somewhat taken aback by the Content Advisory Report in that it hardly mentions the Canadian Internment Operations from 1914-1918, which adversely affected Ukrainians and other Europeans nor the Holodomor (famine genocide) perpetrated by Stalin and the Soviet regime which annihilated millions of Ukrainians in 1932-33. We request that a permanent and distinct exhibit of Canada's First Internment Operations (which came as a result of the first use of the War Measures Act) and of the Holodomor be included in the Museum.

We believe that a museum funded by Canadian taxpayers must be inclusive, presenting a uniquely Canadian perspective to human rights abuses here in Canada and throughout the world.

Respectfully,

Tamara Vorotilenko
President

Mary Ann Dutka
Secretary

cc: The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister
Hon. Jason Kenney, MP, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism
Michael Ignatieff, MP, Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada and Official Opposition
Jack Layton, MP, Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada
Gilles Duceppe, MP, Leader of the Bloc Quebecois
Peter Goldring, MP, Edmonton East
Paul Grod, National President, Ukrainian Canadian Congress
Daria Luciw, President, Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Edmonton Branch
Taras Pidzamecky, National President, Ukrainian National Federation of Canada