

SUPPORT TO UKRAINIANS

WEEKLY UPDATE #4

Monday 25 April 2022

#	TOPIC	DETAILS
1	Patience	<p>As you will see in item #8, many government programs have been announced to help support Ukrainians coming to Canada. However, their timely implementation is proving to be a challenge. Notwithstanding the fact that 54,000 Ukrainians have been approved to come to Canada under the Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET), the travel logistics are still being worked out.</p> <p>This gives us time to build our volunteer base, develop our focus areas and raise funds so we are ready to welcome the Ukrainian family(ies) when they arrive.</p>
2	Survey	<p>Since last week's update, an additional 6 individuals/couples have indicated an interest in supporting this initiative; the total is now 38 individuals/couples. As a result, the focus area breakdown is now as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Fundraising: 82. Employment: 03. Housing: 24. Welcoming: 175. Transportation: 126. Health: 47. Schooling: 18. Social/recreation: 89. Orientation: 810. Financial: 1311. General support: 912. In-kind donations: 14

3	South Shuswap Scoop	An article on our initiative has been written by Jerre Paquette, a freelance writer for the Scoop. It will be published in the 6 May edition.
4	United Way	I had discussions with the United Way (Southern Interior) on Wed 20 Apr and the United Way (Vancouver) on 22 Fri Apr. The allocation of accommodations to arriving Ukrainians is a joint effort between the United Way and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. Once a match is made, they connect with third party service providers. Those providers are the organizations I have already been in contact with (such as the Shuswap Immigrant Services Society in Salmon Arm and the Refugees and Friends Together in Kamloops).
5	Furniture	Thank you to Dave Munro, Gord Shea, Graham and Rose Collin for helping move the furniture donated by Dave and Chris Munro to Graham and Rose's house for temporary storage. A second family has offered to donate furniture. I will have more information at the end of Apr.
6	GoFundMe	\$1,010. raised to date; an increase of \$300. since last week. https://gofund.me/2bcbd1f9
7	Publicity	To promote our Support to Ukrainians initiative, Brenda Dalzell organised a live music event at Bruhn Crossing in Sicamous on Sat 16 Apr. The afternoon of country-blues music featured the Chicken-Like Birds.
8	Flights	More than 54,000 Ukrainians have already been approved to come to Canada for three years while they decide on their next steps. While the government has announced several measures to support Ukrainians who wish to come to Canada, including income support and short hotel stays for newcomers, many of those programs have not rolled out yet. Meanwhile, the government is working on providing chartered flights for Ukrainians who have been approved to come to Canada, but the logistics are difficult because people who have fled Ukraine have spread far and wide in the meantime.

		<p>Canadians can now give cash or Aeroplan points to help bring Ukrainians fleeing the war with Russia to safety in Canada. The goal is to pay for flights to bring at least 10,000 Ukrainians and their families approved for travel to Canada. This is on top of targeted chartered flights to bring Ukrainians to Canada. For more details:</p> <p>https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/canada-launches-aeroplan-fund-to-bring-ukrainians-to-canada-1.5869004</p> <p>https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/2022/04/new-partnership-to-help-ukrainians-come-to-canada.html</p>
9	Fairfield Marriott Hotels	<p>Reference: https://www.castanet.net/news/Vernon/366155/Fairfield-by-Marriott-hotels-in-Vernon-and-Salmon-Arm-will-take-in-Ukrainian-refugees#366155</p> <p>The Vernon and Salmon Arm locations are committed to provide interim accommodations and support for the immediate needs of the refugees, including hiring up to 10 Ukrainians. I e-mailed the general manager to describe the status of our initiative and to discuss how we could make use of the services they are offering. Awaiting a reply.</p>