

Historical Train of Ukrainian Pioneers will arrive in Toronto on Tuesday June 28th at 13:05, Train #51, from Ottawa. Passengers will be greeted by members of the Ukrainian Community in Toronto in the main hall of Union Station, just south of the Information Desk. Greeting will take no more than 20 minutes.

To celebrate the 120th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada the **Embassy of Ukraine in Canada** is launching the project of the **Historical Train of Ukrainian Pioneers**.

This Project will:

- include participants who will trace the same path that Ukrainian pioneers took at the end of the 19th and early 20th centuries
- start in Halifax and finish in the Canadian Prairies, just as the pioneers travelled;
- present the Ukrainian culture in selected Canadian cities;
- culturally unite the Ukrainian communities in different Canadian provinces;
- attract media and public attention and focus on how the Ukrainian community contributed in the development of Canada;
- celebrate the 120th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada.

The Project is planned to be launched on Wednesday, June 23, 2011 at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 in Halifax. The following day, participants will board the train with the following itinerary: Halifax – Montreal – Ottawa – Toronto – Winnipeg – Saskatoon – Edmonton.

Intended participants on the Train:

- federal and provincial/territorial politicians;
- leaders of the Ukrainian community in Canada;
- Canadian and Ukrainian media;
- representatives of the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada;
- Ukrainian and Canadian artists, performers, musicians etc.

The participants will be given the option to travel any segment of the itinerary, i.e. from Halifax to Ottawa or from Toronto to Winnipeg etc.

The passengers of the Train are encouraged to wear **authentic Ukrainian costumes** and take the things the first Ukrainian pioneers took on their journey to the New World, i.e. *Shevchenko's Kobzar, Ukrainian icons, grains* etc.

The passengers on this train will have stopovers from between 1 and 3 days in each of the selected cities. They will be able to take part in the planned cultural events, organized in cooperation with the local Ukrainian communities.

The Golden Sponsor of the event is VIA Rail. The sponsors are Borden Ladner Gervais, Canada Inns and others.

To know more about the project please visit:

<http://www.ukremb.ca/canada/en/publication/content/52264.htm>

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The Train of Ukrainian Pioneers, a venture undertaken by the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada, will be travelling with a replica of a typical accessory by here by many Ukrainian immigrants over the past 120 years – a trunk. By the time this trunk reaches the train's final destination in Edmonton on July 8th, the organizers of the train project hope to have it contain donated documents and artifacts that will represent a cross-section of the personal immigration experiences of the Ukrainians who started coming to Canada in

1891. The Embassy is putting out a call to people living in the places where the Pioneer Train will stop to donate memorabilia from the trips to Canada taken by their ancestors, from the smallest of shipping receipts, telegrams, passports, diaries, to larger items like kitchenware, hand-tools, clothing, small furnishings, and other items

“While there are numerous collections in the museums of Canada that tell what happened to the Ukrainian immigrants after they came to Canada, information that speaks of the journey from the towns and villages of present-day Ukraine to this country is harder to find. Our Train hopes to contribute to this lesser-developed aspect of Ukrainian-Canadian history by collecting it along the way and filling our symbolic trunk, which in Ukraine was called a skrynina or kufer. After we complete our journey in a few weeks, this new collection of Canadian history will be donated to a professional museum”, said Dr. Ihor Ostash, Canada’s Ukrainian Ambassador to Ukraine.

The Historical Train of Ukrainian Pioneers will leave Halifax on June 24th, and will retrace the rail journey taken by many Ukrainians. It will have several-day stopovers in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, and Edmonton.