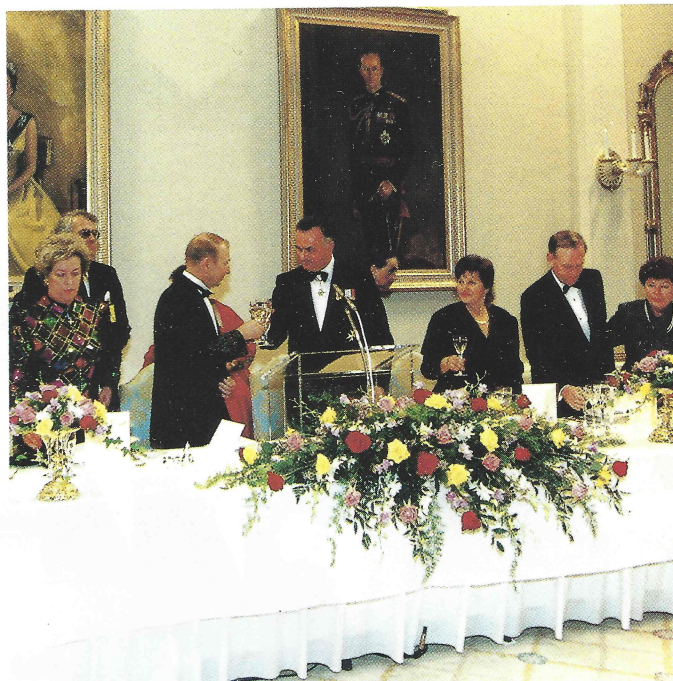
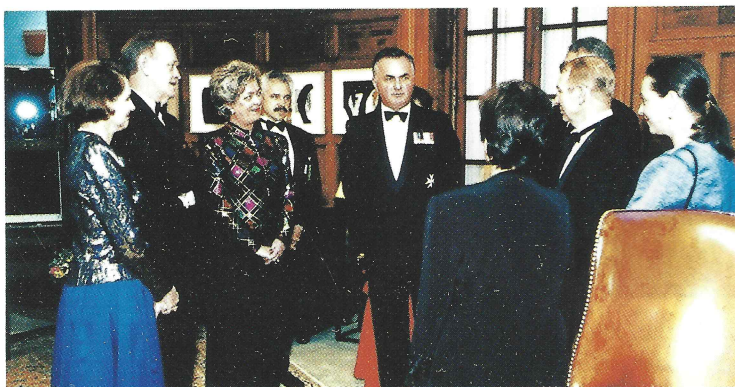


*"A reliable and benevolent partnership is worth its weight in gold. But I am certain that there is not enough precious metal in all the state treasuries to properly value the importance of unselfish friendships and support between peoples and countries...in this case, Ukraine and Canada.*

*Actually, we need not take extraordinary efforts to discover a kinship between our countries. You, Excellency, have relatives in Ukraine and I, too, have names-sakes in Canada. It is not only the Canadian prairies that are similar to the Ukrainian steppes, but the people who work them also have much in common...*

*As of today, the relationship between our countries serves as the model of a real democratic partnership required for the 21st century. And if in some instances, we have not yet achieved it, we intend to use our present visit to Canada for a further consolidation of this partnership and overall rapprochement between our countries."*

*President Kuchma*



ALL PHOTOS: J.M. CARISSE, PMO

*Formal State Dinner in the Ballroom of Rideau Hall*

