

# UKRAINIAN IMMIGRATION TO CANADA:

FROM POST  
INDEPENDENCE  
TO POST WAR

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

21 & 22 April 2023  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Canada



## Round Table

5:30PM, April 22, 2023

## Doing the Work - Community Responses in Canada to the Russian War in Ukraine

The renewed full-scale attack of the Russian Federation on Ukraine on 24 February 2022 unleashed unprecedented migratory flows from Ukraine. Nearly a quarter of the population have left Ukraine for safety (with an unknown number of returns), while almost 10 million more have been internally displaced. Already tens of thousands of Ukrainians have arrived in Canada as our borders opened to those fleeing. Yet, the unprecedented Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) and the unknowns of its Ukrainian issues' long-term residency status has only underlined the importance of comprehending the history of Canada's Ukrainian migration and settlement trends. From the very beginning, local Canadian communities have organized in impressive and sometimes novel ways to support and accommodate incoming Ukrainians. From well-established organizations to spontaneous, 'pop-up' style networks, both Ukrainian Canadians and those without any particular ties to Ukraine have been instrumental in welcoming displaced Ukrainians into Canada and addressing the needs of this population.

With a special focus on 'the local' and grassroots organization, this round table will feature individuals from communities across Alberta who have led initiatives intended to assist displaced Ukrainians. Participants will discuss their experiences in engaging with and galvanizing their communities, the intricacies and challenges of settlement, and the short and longer-term impacts of Russia's war on Ukraine.

### Participants

*Orysia Boychuk, President, Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Alberta Provincial Council*

*Sarosh Rizvi, Executive Director of National Sector Engagement & Co-Chair for Operation Ukrainian Safe Haven (OUSH), AMSSA*

*Natalia Toroshenko, Chair, Vegreville Stands With Ukraine Committee*

*Mykhailo Pereverza, Founder, Project Sunflower*

*Deb van Haaften, Settlement Manager, Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Alberta Provincial Council*

**Moderator:** *Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen - Chair of the Conference Organizing Committee; Director, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies*