



The Hon Daniel Andrews MP

Premier of Victoria

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Mr Stefan Romaniw OAM
Co-Chair
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Dear Mr Romaniw

On behalf of the Victorian Government, I would like to convey my best wishes to Ukraine and Ukrainians on the 31st anniversary of Ukraine's independence. I regret I was unavailable to attend the dinner with the Ambassador on 24 August 2022 to commemorate the occasion but trust the event – at which the Victorian Government was represented by Deputy Speaker Natalie Suleyman – was a success.

It is a sad coincidence that the anniversary of Ukraine's independence also marks six months since the start of Russia's brutal invasion. Victorians are horrified by the continuing loss of life and destruction, even as we admire the determination of Ukrainians to rebuild.

I am pleased to advise the Victorian Government will donate A\$500,000 to the Ukraine Crisis Appeal. As per your letter of 22 August 2022, we understand this donation will be used to support humanitarian efforts, including the rebuilding of critical infrastructure under the United24 Rebuild Program initiated by President Zelensky.

The donation will complement the Victorian Government's ongoing assistance to the local Ukrainian community. As we discussed in April this year, this includes understanding and addressing the evolving needs of Victorian Ukrainians, and our support for the Association of Ukrainians in Victoria.

As Deputy Premier Allan noted when she met Ambassador Myroshnychenko in July 2022, the Victorian Government continues to condemn Russia's overt aggression, and to stand in solidarity with Ukraine and its people.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Daniel Andrews MP
Premier

Cc Tim Pallas MP, Treasurer
The Hon Ros Spence MP, Minister for Multicultural Affairs
The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP, Deputy Speaker

20 / 09 / 2022