



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

November 17, 2014

Bruce Ralston, MLA  
Surrey Whalley  
Room 201, Legislative Assembly  
Victoria, BC V3T 2X3

Dear Mr. Ralston:

Thank you for your letter of November 4, 2014.

All British Columbians understand and are concerned about what is currently happening in the Ukraine and the difficulties that so many Ukrainians are experiencing. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are directly and indirectly impacted, and we all support international efforts to restore peace in that region.

Past wrongs such as the Holodomor atrocities are tragic and disturbing. I was pleased the Federal Government enacted legislation relating to the Holodomor through the 2008 passage of *An Act to establish a Ukrainian Famine and Genocide ("Holodomor") Memorial Day* and to recognize the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-33 as an act of genocide.

Every year, on the fourth Saturday in November, Ukrainians worldwide commemorate the anniversary of the Great Famine of 1932-33. It is a time for the whole world to reflect on what happened and find ways to ensure such atrocities never happen again. We must all continue to hope that through international collaboration, all people, families and communities around the world can enjoy a life of peace and harmony.

Although we fully support the intent of the proposed Act, as a government we do not believe it is necessary duplicate the work of the federal government in this regard.

As a province, we value our friendship with the Ukraine and have been pleased as a province to provide support to the community during difficult times. We look forward to continuing that support as we work together to build a safer world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christy Clark', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Christy Clark  
Premier