

## WHY LEARN A LANGUAGE?

As our world becomes increasingly connected and interdependent, it has become necessary for students to learn the skills to effectively communicate with others around the world.

Learning a language benefits students in the following ways:

### **Academic and Intellectual Achievement**

- Students have higher test scores in reading, language and mathematics
- Students score higher in both verbal and non-verbal intelligence
- Students are better in divergent thinking tasks and in memory ability and attention span

### **Post-Secondary Admission**

- Language courses may be used to meet the Alberta High School Diploma requirements. Up to 25 credits of the 100 credits required for a high school diploma can be earned in one or more second language
- A 30-level language course is accepted for university entrance and is a requirement for some faculties and programs. It may also help students meet the requirements for the Rutherford scholarship
- Students can continue to study Ukrainian in some post-secondary institutions

### **Enhanced First Language Skills**

- Students' first language skills are strengthened in areas of reading, vocabulary development, grammar and communication skills

### **Cultural Understanding**

- Students display enhanced cultural sensitivity, gain cross-cultural skills, and are better able to adapt to varying cultural contexts

### **Greater Career Opportunities**

- There is a growing need for qualified speakers of languages other than English in areas of science, technology, medicine and global commerce

## EDUCATOR SUPPORT

Alberta school authorities benefit from the expertise and assistance of a Special Language Advisor for Ukrainian Language and Culture through an agreement between **Alberta Education** and the **Department of Education and Science of Lviv Oblast State Administration**.

The Ukrainian language advisor:

- Leads professional development sessions with Ukrainian language teachers
- Helps to develop and maintain strong relationships with Alberta schools that offer Ukrainian language and culture programs
- Provides support for partnership projects between Alberta schools that offer the Ukrainian program and secondary schools in the Lviv region

For more information, please contact the Ukrainian Language Advisor at: [www.education.alberta.ca/ukrainian](http://www.education.alberta.ca/ukrainian)



For more information about International Education in Alberta Education, please visit: [www.intled.alberta.ca](http://www.intled.alberta.ca)

Phone: 780-427-2035

# Learn Ukrainian



January 2018

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Ukrainian language and culture education has been a part of Alberta schools since 1902
- The first provincial curriculum for Ukrainian as a second language in Alberta schools was introduced in 1956
- According to the 2011 census, more than 29,500 Albertans reported Ukrainian to be their mother tongue
- Alberta and Lviv became sister provinces in 2005
- In celebration of 125 years of Ukrainian immigration to Canada, 2016–2017 was declared ‘Alberta’s Year of the Ukrainian Canadian’
- Passed in 2016, the Ukrainian–Canadian Heritage Act designates Sept. 7 as Ukrainian–Canadian Heritage Day

## PROGRAMS OF STUDY

In Alberta, Ukrainian language programming includes:

- Bilingual programs, where in addition to Language Arts (Kindergarten to Grade 12), Ukrainian is used for instruction in other subjects up to a total of 50% of the school day, and
- Language and Culture courses, where Ukrainian is studied to develop communication skills, intercultural and strategic competence and an appreciation of Ukrainian culture

For more information on programs of study for international languages, visit [www.education.alberta.ca/programs-of-study](http://www.education.alberta.ca/programs-of-study).

## WHERE CAN YOU LEARN UKRAINIAN?

A number of school authorities offer Ukrainian language and culture programming. Contact your local school authority for more information, at [www.education.alberta.ca/alberta-education/school-authority-index](http://www.education.alberta.ca/alberta-education/school-authority-index)

## STUDENT, EDUCATOR, AND SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

### Funding

Various scholarships and bursaries are available.

[www.studentaid.alberta.ca](http://www.studentaid.alberta.ca)

### School Partnerships

School twinnings or partnerships between Alberta schools and schools abroad bring an international experience into the classroom and enable students to interact with others from around the world.

[www.education.alberta.ca/international-education/school-partnerships](http://www.education.alberta.ca/international-education/school-partnerships)

## LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY EXAMS

### Ukrainian Language Exam for International Students

- is developed by Ivan Franko National University of Lviv in collaboration with University of Alberta
- Measures proficiency of students who graduate from Ukrainian Bilingual Programs in Grades 11 – 12
- Assesses oral and written competencies
- Provides students with international credentials throughout the course of their studies
- Is administered by the Ukrainian Language Education Centre (ULEC) and Alberta Education’s Ukrainian Language Advisor at the University of Alberta

For more information, contact ULEC at [ulec@ualberta.ca](mailto:ulec@ualberta.ca).

## PROGRAM RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

The **Alberta Distance Learning Centre (ADLC)** offers Ukrainian Language and Culture 10–20–30 programming for students seeking high school credits.

[www.adlc.ca/second\\_languages/ukrainian](http://www.adlc.ca/second_languages/ukrainian)

The **Alberta Foundation for Ukrainian Education Society** supports Ukrainian language education by providing grant funding for projects related to the development of Ukrainian language and culture.

[www.afues.ca](http://www.afues.ca)

The **National Ukrainian Education Council** serves as a bridge between the various Ukrainian Language Schools across Canada by enabling the sharing of resources and information between the schools.

[www.ucc.ca/programs/committees/national-school-council](http://www.ucc.ca/programs/committees/national-school-council)

Housed at the University of Alberta, the **Ukrainian Language Education Centre (ULEC)** promotes the development of Ukrainian language education programs from pre-school to post-secondary.

<https://sites.ualberta.ca/ULEC>