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

WHEREAS the Ukrainian Famine and Genocide of 1932-33, known as the Holodomor, was deliberately planned and executed by the Soviet regime under Joseph Stalin to systematically destroy the Ukrainian people's aspirations for a free and independent Ukraine, and subsequently caused the death of millions of Ukrainians in 1932 and 1933;

WHEREAS that forced collectivization by the Soviet regime under Joseph Stalin also caused the death of millions of other ethnic minorities within the former Soviet Union;

WHEREAS 2007-08 marks the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine and Genocide of 1932-33;

WHEREAS on November 26, 1998, the President of Ukraine issued a Presidential Decree establishing that the fourth Saturday in November be recognized as a National Day of Remembrance for the victims of this mass atrocity;

WHEREAS on June 19, 2003, the Senate of Canada unanimously adopted a motion calling on the Government of Canada to recognize the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-33 as an act of genocide;

WHEREAS on November 28, 2006, Ukraine's Parliament voted to recognize the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-33 as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people;

WHEREAS the parliaments of Argentina, Austria, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Lithuania,
Poland and the United States of America and
the nations of Australia and Canada have recog-
nized the forced Ukrainian Famine of
1932-33 as a genocide against the Ukrainian
people;

WHEREAS the fourth Saturday in Novem-
ber has been recognized by Ukrainian commu-
nities throughout the world as a day to remem-
ber the victims of the Ukrainian Famine and
Genocide of 1932-33 and to promote the funda-
mental freedoms of a democratic society;

WHEREAS it is recognized that information
about the Ukrainian Famine and Genocide of
1932-33 was suppressed, distorted or destroyed
by Soviet authorities;

WHEREAS it is only now that truthful and
accurate information is emerging from the for-
mer Soviet Union about the Ukrainian Famine
and Genocide of 1932-33;

WHEREAS many survivors of the Ukrainian
Famine and Genocide of 1932-33 have immi-
grated to Canada and have made a positive con-
tribution to Canadian society;

WHEREAS Canada, as a party to the Con-
vention on the Prevention and Punishment of
the Crime of Genocide of December 9, 1948,
condemns all genocides;

AND WHEREAS Canadians cherish democ-
rracy, defend human rights, and value the diver-
sity and multicultural nature of Canadian soci-
ety;

NOW, THEREFORE, Her Majesty, by and
with the advice and consent of the Senate and
House of Commons of Canada, enacts as fol-
lows:

SHORT TITLE

1. This Act may be cited as the Ukrainian
Famine and Genocide ("Holodomor") Memori-
al Day Act.

TITRE ABRÉGÉ

1. Loi sur le Jour commémoratif de la fa-
mine et du génocide ukrainiens ("Holodo-
mor").
Jour commémoratif de la famine et du génocide ukrainiens ("Holodomor") — 26 novembre 2013

UKRAINIAN FAMINE AND GENOCIDE ("HOLODOMOR") MEMORIAL DAY

2. Throughout Canada, in each and every year, the fourth Saturday in November shall be known as "Ukrainian Famine and Genocide ("Holodomor") Memorial Day".

3. For greater certainty, Ukrainian Famine and Genocide ("Holodomor") Memorial Day is not a legal holiday or a non-judicial day.

JOUR COMMÉMORATIF DE LA FAMINE ET DU GÉNOCIDE UKRAINIENS ("L'HOLODOMOR")

2. Le quatrième samedi de novembre est, dans tout le Canada, dénommé comme le Jour commémoratif de la famine et du génocide ukrainiens ("L'Holodomor").

3. Il est entendu que le Jour commémoratif de la famine et du génocide ukrainiens ("L'Holodomor") n'est pas une fête légale ni un jour non juridique.