FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Town of Lamont, Lamont County and Surrounding Municipalities Raise Ukraine's Flag in Support

March 7, 2022 – LAMONT, AB: On Friday, Lamont County, the Town of Lamont and surrounding municipalities of Andrew, Bruderheim, Chipman and Mundare partnered together to raise Ukraine's flag in a ceremony held jointly at the Lamont County and Town of Lamont administration buildings.

The Town of Lamont and Lamont County, the *Cradle of Ukrainian Settlement in Canada*, are honoured to support an end to the Russian-Ukraine war. Municipalities east of Edmonton have a high Ukrainian settlement and population, including the Lamont region, where original settlers came from Ukraine to Canada; it is part of the reason Lamont County is twinned with the Perehinske Community Village of Nebyliv, Ukraine (Ivano-Frankivsk region).

Former premier Ed Stelmach was in attendance, brought greetings from Vegreville-Fort Saskatchewan MLA Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk, and provided closing remarks and prayer. "Seeing Ukraine's brave resistance in the face of evil has been inspiring," said Armstrong-Homeniuk.

A fact concurred by Lamont County Reeve.

"It's really been inspiring the Town (of Lamont) and (Lamont) the County coming together for one cause—to raise Ukraine's flag in the community, in our municipal district," said former premier Stelmach. "And everyone who has shown up and given their support—this means a lot for those watching from Ukraine. Events like this have really boosted their morale and gives everyone that little bit of extra strength. I admire and thank everyone involved that took part."

Lamont County Reeve plans to bring forward a call for additional support for humanitarian aid to Ukraine at the next council meeting; and the community has already come together with donations raised at the event of over $2,100 in cash and medical supplies; with the Government of Alberta recently committing over $10 million in support for humanitarian aid and military equipment.

"Contrary to previous wars, this is being brought into our living rooms," said Reeve David Diduck. "We can see first-hand the devastation and destruction that is being inflicted by Russia on Ukraine and its people. The result is a humanitarian crisis the world has not seen."

During these challenging times, these municipalities hope for a swift end to the conflict.

"We raised the flag of the people of Ukraine—two horizontal bands of blue and yellow representing the wide blue skies and golden wheat fields of Ukraine. We do this in their honor," said Town of Lamont Reeve Kirk Perrin. "Lamont shares a very special relationship with Ukraine, and we honour the victims of this senseless and tragic war."

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A link to the livestream is posted on the Town of Lamont Facebook page, and photos from the event are available on Lamont County and the Town of Lamont's social media (https://www.facebook.com/LamontCounty/posts/256876036636286).

#StandWithUkraine

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[Photos Attached – enclosure]

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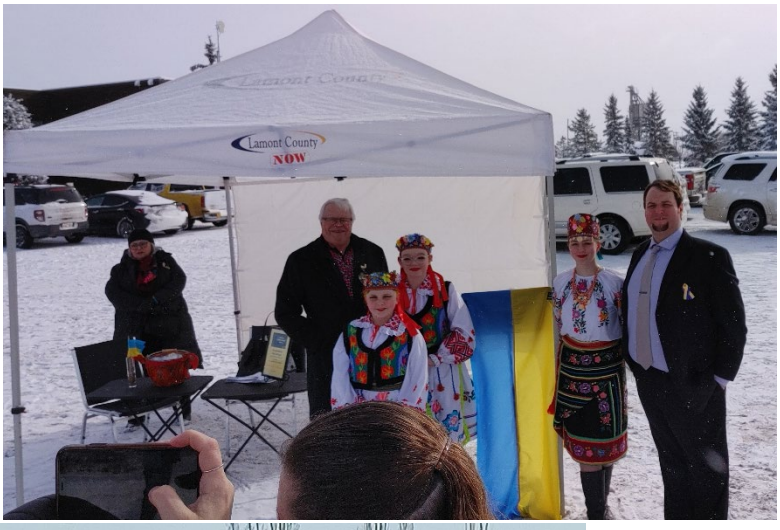

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