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McDOUGALL ANNOUNCES CANADIAN OBSERVERS FOR UKRAINIAN REFERENDUM

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced that Canada is sending an all-party delegation of parliamentarians to monitor the referendum on independence and presidential elections in Ukraine on December 1.

"I am pleased to accept the invitation from the Ukrainian parliament to send Canadian observers," Mrs McDougall said. "Canada hopes that these important votes will proceed in a democratic and peaceful manner, and I look forward to hearing from the three Members of Parliament upon their return."

The delegation will include Conservative MP, Patrick Boyer; Liberal MP, Rey Pagtakhan; and New Democratic MP, Ross Harvey.

As part of Canada's continuing commitment to democracy through the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), Canada is also sending a fourth observer, Patrick Ledgerwood, Chief Electoral Officer for Alberta, in response to an invitation made by the CSCE's Office of Free Elections.

- 30 -

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