



Statement on Ukraine delivered in the Ontario Legislature on Thursday, February 23, 2023

I stand today to recognize that it's been one-year since the horrific Russian invasion of Ukraine.

As a nation, we must continue to support Ukrainians as they struggle for peace, freedom, and democracy.

They have shown the world, incredible bravery and resilience, as they face unimaginable challenges...

I stand today to honour them... and the thousands of people who have lost their lives and loved ones, to this selfish act of terrorism.

In my community of Oakville North-Burlington, I've heard so many tragic stories from displaced Ukrainian families....

I stand today for them, for the pain they've had to endure, and yet, remain humbled, by the remarkable resilience and strength of the human spirit.

At a Christmas celebration with the families at St. Volodymyr's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Father Jaroslav told me, that Ontario has provided, a sense of community and safety, that was desperately needed, amidst the horrors of the war in Ukraine.

I am proud of the work we have done, by welcoming refugees and providing them with healthcare, emergency housing, education and other assistance like mental health supports.

We will not waver in our commitment to the people of Ukraine.

We will continue to provide them with the support they need to rebuild their lives.

We stand with Ukraine.

And let us never forget, that the freedom and dignity of every human being, is a fundamental right that must be protected at all costs.

Slava Ukraini!