

Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association

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MEDIA RELEASE

MINISTER ANNOUNCES "KONOWAL PRIZE"

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Canada's Minister of National Defence, the Honourable **DAVID M. COLLENETTE**, announced the establishment of an annual **KONOWAL PRIZE**, named to honour First World War Ukrainian-Canadian **VICTORIA CROSS** recipient, Filip Konowal, yesterday, in Toronto.

In August 1917, Konowal, a Ukrainian-born immigrant, distinguished himself during the Battle for Hill 70, near Lens, France. Yesterday, on the 69th anniversary of that date, members of *Branch 360 of The Royal Canadian Legion*, celebrating their own 50th anniversary, confirmed that **\$25,000** will be made available annually to support Ukrainian officer cadets attending Canada's only military university, the **ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF CANADA**, in Kingston, or to help finance graduate-level research and writing at any Canadian university in the areas of Ukrainian and Ukrainian-Canadian military history. It is anticipated that the first award will be made in the fall of 1997.

Speaking on the occasion of the unveiling of a second trilingual historical plaque honouring Konowal, the Minister of National Defence observed, "I am very pleased to announce that we soon hope to have in place the "Konowal Prize." This will be an annual scholarship for one or two Ukrainian military college students to come to Canada for a year to study Canada, the Canadian system of government, and the relationship between the military and civilian authorities...at a military college in Canada. We anticipate the program will start in the fall of 1997. This branch is very generously contributing towards the scholarship. This Konowal Prize will make sure that Mr. Konowal's legacy is well remembered and honoured. You can take great pride in this initiative."

The Ukrainian Canadian community will be unveiling a third commemorative plaque in New Westminster, British Columbia, in the spring of 1997 and a monument to Konowal in his birthplace, Kudkiv, Ukraine, later that year.

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