



# CITY OF QUESNEL NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

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**Community Policing Manager to provide guidance in Ukraine**

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**QUESNEL, B.C.** – The City of Quesnel’s Community Policing Manager, Gerry Baragar, will travel to Ukraine this spring to help that country with its efforts to promote meaningful youth justice interventions, youth support and to decrease the population in its orphanages.

Given his extensive background in restorative youth justice and previous experience working in Ukraine, Baragar has been asked to return.

“Mr. Baragar has shown repeatedly that his level of expertise in community policing is extremely valuable in our community,” said Community Safety and Justice Committee Chair Coun. Sushil Thapar. “I applaud Mr. Baragar’s efforts and wish him the best.”

“This shows the calibre of employee we have taking care of our restorative justice, youth issues and many other community policing initiatives in Quesnel,” said RCMP Staff Sgt. Keith Hildebrand. “I know Mr. Baragar will add a great deal to this project in Ukraine and I look forward to hearing about his experiences.”

Prior to being employed with the City of Quesnel, Baragar was the National Restorative Justice Coordinator for the RCMP, where he was responsible for developing policy and procedures to promote youth justice initiatives in Canada.

He traveled to Ukraine in 2005 to provide training in restorative practices, and to consult on youth justice reform. Since that time, the country has established 10 youth justice centres in that country, utilizing the concepts, processes and philosophies they adopted as a result of Baragar’s work. The focus of these centres is to promote meaningful youth justice interventions, designed to promote youth support and to decrease the population in orphanages.

Baragar will return to Ukraine from May 17 to May 27. A group involved in the initial training is returning to Kiev to provide learning opportunities for others and Baragar has been invited to monitor the presentations, mentor the presenters and provide advanced training for them.

The initiative is co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Centre for Common Ground and the Canadian International Development Agency.

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This release is available at [www.city.quesnel.bc.ca](http://www.city.quesnel.bc.ca).

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