



Dr. George Soleas
President and CEO of the LCBO
100 Queens Quay East – 9th floor
Toronto, Ontario
M5E 0C7

Dear Dr. Soleas,

Watching what's happening in Ukraine is absolutely heartbreaking. Families are scrambling for safety, young men and women are being forced to take up arms to defend their country from a dangerous invader, and many are grabbing what they can to flee the country.

I am proud to stand in support of an independent Ukraine. I was pleased to see all parties speak forcefully, with one voice, in the Legislature on Thursday to firmly oppose Russia's blatant violations of international law. The world needs to help in every way that it can.

It is in that spirit that I write to ask the LCBO, as a provincially owned Crown corporation, to reflect Ontario's support for an independent Ukraine by halting all commerce with Russia until their troops are withdrawn.

The LCBO is one of the largest purchasers of alcohol in the world. Imported spirits, including Russian vodka brands, are among your most popular products. I urge you to remove all Russian made products from your shelves until this Russian aggression ends.

The federal government has issued sanctions. Canadian businesses are cutting ties with Russian companies. It's time for Ontario to stand up to Russia and do more. We all need to do what we can on behalf of our Ukrainian community and all Ontarians who value international law, democracy and a rules-based democratic order.

Ontario and the LCBO can't say it's truly standing with Ukraine while continuing to be Putin's customer.

I urge you to move swiftly on this and am available to assist in any way that I can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Del Duca".

Steven Del Duca
Leader
Ontario Liberal Party

CC:

Doug Ford, Premier
Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce
Ukrainian Canadian Council