



## **Press Release**

### **Available for Immediate Release**

#### **Lamont County Twinning Ceremony with the Village of Nebyliv Ukraine**

Please join us online on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am to witness this momentous historic event by logging on to <https://fb.me/e/j2a5CLq5i>.

On September 7, 2021. Canada's Ukrainian Canadian community will be embarking on a two-year celebration of the 130th anniversary of its immigration and settlement.

To commemorate the bravery, sacrifice, and contribution that Ukrainians have made in Canada, Lamont County has embarked on a twinning initiative with the Village of Nebyliv, the Village from which early settlers came, triggering the first of five waves of Ukrainian immigration.

To officially mark this momentous event, Lamont County is hosting a virtual signing ceremony with Ukrainian officials on the morning of September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The Perehinske Community Village Council, which includes the Village of Nebyliv, and Lamont County, the core of the Edna-Star colony, are signing a Memorandum of Understanding of Cooperation, on the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Wasyl Eleniak and Ivan Pylypow.

In acknowledgement of its role in the origin of the Ukrainian-Canadian community, Lamont County in Alberta declared itself to be the "Cradle of Ukrainian Settlement in Canada" in 2018.

On September 7, 1891, two fellow villagers from Nebyliv in present-day Western Ukraine, Ivan Pylypow and Wasyl Eleniak, disembarked from the SS Oregon at Quebec City. They travelled westward to investigate the possibility of acquiring the "Free Lands" being offered by the Dominion of Canada to potential settlers. Pylypow and Eleniak's findings led to the beginning of a mass migration of Ukrainians to Canada.

For further information on this exciting and historic initiative, please contact Sara Rindero at 780-895-2233 ext. 217 or [sara.r@lamontcounty.ca](mailto:sara.r@lamontcounty.ca) between the hours of 8:30am and 4:00pm (mountain daylight time).

