

Webinar

ULI Toronto: Real Estate Industry Support for Ukrainian Crisis

Date: April 01, 2022

00:00:11 --> 00:00:15: Good afternoon and thank you all for joining this special
 00:00:15 --> 00:00:19: Joint Industry Association webinar to inform you our
 constituents of
 00:00:19 --> 00:00:22: the efforts are underway in this 5th week of the
 00:00:22 --> 00:00:22: global
 00:00:23 --> 00:00:25: crisis that is the war in Ukraine.
 00:00:25 --> 00:00:29: We'll leave for another few seconds for people to enter
 00:00:29 --> 00:00:30: the zoom session.
 00:00:30 --> 00:00:33: I just give it a couple.
 00:00:33 --> 00:00:35: I'll give it a 10 seconds or so.
 00:00:41 --> 00:00:44: Well, we'll start now. My name is Mark Kindrachuk and
 00:00:44 --> 00:00:47: I'm a member of the ULI Toronto Governance Committee
 and
 00:00:47 --> 00:00:49: president of Intermarket Properties.
 00:00:49 --> 00:00:52: I want to thank you again for taking the time
 00:00:52 --> 00:00:55: to join us this afternoon for a special information session
 00:00:55 --> 00:00:59: to inform members of the planning real estate development
 industry
 00:00:59 --> 00:01:02: about the efforts that are being led by the Canadian
 00:01:02 --> 00:01:03: Ukrainian community.
 00:01:03 --> 00:01:06: Local governments. Indeed, members of our broader.
 00:01:06 --> 00:01:11: Industry support the fast expanding relief efforts related to
 the
 00:01:11 --> 00:01:15: Ukrainian crisis here in Toronto region and across Canada.
 00:01:15 --> 00:01:18: As background, this is a really important thing.
 00:01:18 --> 00:01:20: Very important initiative for me.
 00:01:20 --> 00:01:24: You know. My grandparents left villages outside leave in
 Ukraine
 00:01:24 --> 00:01:27: in the early 1900s and settled in Saskatchewan.
 00:01:27 --> 00:01:29: We still have relatives there,

00:01:29 --> 00:01:31: my mother, my aunt, my brothers.
00:01:31 --> 00:01:35: Ten of us went to Ukraine about 10 years ago
00:01:35 --> 00:01:39: to visit our villages and we're in constant contact with
00:01:39 --> 00:01:42: them now continually and it's hard,
00:01:42 --> 00:01:45: you know, listening to what they're going through so.
00:01:45 --> 00:01:48: Here's an opportunity frankly for us in Canada.
00:01:48 --> 00:01:51: You know, a lot of people are feeling helpless to
00:01:51 --> 00:01:53: try and assist in the efforts.
00:01:53 --> 00:01:55: You can't do it over there obviously,
00:01:55 --> 00:01:58: but here in Canada. And I really applaud Richard and
00:01:58 --> 00:01:59: Alex.
00:01:59 --> 00:02:02: You know, for their initiative on this on this really
00:02:02 --> 00:02:06: important subject and hopefully the real estate development
industry can
00:02:06 --> 00:02:09: pull together and do things here at home that can
00:02:09 --> 00:02:11: assist the refugees coming over.
00:02:11 --> 00:02:13: We have a lot to cover today with many speakers
00:02:14 --> 00:02:15: that will provide you with an update.
00:02:15 --> 00:02:17: Picture on the clean relief effort,
00:02:17 --> 00:02:20: and most importantly, how we can support the effort.
00:02:20 --> 00:02:23: It is my pleasure now to introduce Michael Brooks,
00:02:23 --> 00:02:26: President and CEO, CEO of Real PAC,
00:02:26 --> 00:02:30: who has graciously agreed to chair today's program,
00:02:30 --> 00:02:30: Michael.
00:02:32 --> 00:02:36: Thanks mark. Welcome everybody. I'd like to begin our
meeting
00:02:36 --> 00:02:38: by recognizing the First Nations,
00:02:38 --> 00:02:40: matey and Inuit peoples, of Canada,
00:02:40 --> 00:02:44: as traditional stewards and caretakers of the land.
00:02:44 --> 00:02:47: We acknowledge that the offices of most of the organizations
00:02:47 --> 00:02:51: who have come together to organize today's meeting are
covered
00:02:51 --> 00:02:52: by Treaty 13,
00:02:52 --> 00:02:54: signed with the Mississaugas of the credit,
00:02:54 --> 00:02:58: it is located on traditional territory of the initial Albeg
00:02:58 --> 00:02:58: Chippewa.
00:02:58 --> 00:03:01: I don't know Shawnee and Wendat peoples and is now
00:03:01 --> 00:03:03: home to many diverse First Nations,
00:03:03 --> 00:03:07: Inuit and meeting people as part of an intricate nationhood
00:03:07 --> 00:03:10: that reaches across Turtle Island.
00:03:10 --> 00:03:12: At this time of truth and reconciliation,
00:03:12 --> 00:03:15: we welcome the opportunity to work together to build new
00:03:15 --> 00:03:17: understandings and new relationships.

00:03:17 --> 00:03:18: Ask for guidance and all we do,
00:03:18 --> 00:03:22: and commit to creating a just and inclusive society.
00:03:22 --> 00:03:25: And of course, as Richard reminded me,
00:03:25 --> 00:03:27: it's a very special day today.
00:03:27 --> 00:03:30: Given the Pope's apology. All right,
00:03:30 --> 00:03:34: I'm pleased to introduce the participating organizations.
00:03:34 --> 00:03:36: Obviously you can read them on the screen.
00:03:36 --> 00:03:38: I'm going to read them out anyway.
00:03:38 --> 00:03:42: Boma Toronto. NAIOP Greater Toronto chapter.
00:03:42 --> 00:03:45: Toronto crew Canadian urban institute.
00:03:45 --> 00:03:48: Ontario Professional Planners institute. Toronto region.
00:03:48 --> 00:03:50: Board of trade. Real PAC.
00:03:50 --> 00:03:54: Firpo fair rental policy organization and you align Toronto,
00:03:54 --> 00:03:56: of course, and I wanted to again,
00:03:56 --> 00:04:00: thank Richard Joy and Alex and the UI team.
00:04:00 --> 00:04:03: For pulling this group altogether,
00:04:03 --> 00:04:06: and as to what Mark said,
00:04:06 --> 00:04:12: why these organizations? We're all bridges to real estate.
00:04:12 --> 00:04:15: We're all bridges to homes.
00:04:15 --> 00:04:17: We're all bridges to jobs.
00:04:17 --> 00:04:21: We already have real estate moving.
00:04:21 --> 00:04:25: In service of this cause office space warehouse space and
00:04:25 --> 00:04:27: more recently apartments,
00:04:27 --> 00:04:29: we'll hear more about that today,
00:04:29 --> 00:04:32: and I think the jobs piece is yet to come.
00:04:32 --> 00:04:35: There's certainly much that we can do.
00:04:35 --> 00:04:39: Just think about how much Poland is doing.
00:04:39 --> 00:04:42: So an overview of today's program.
00:04:42 --> 00:04:44: We're going to have an update on the Canadian relief
00:04:44 --> 00:04:46: effort from the Ukrainian Canadian Council.
00:04:46 --> 00:04:49: We're going to hear from the City of Toronto.
00:04:49 --> 00:04:53: Read their response. The Mayor Tory's office and the city's
00:04:54 --> 00:04:55: newcomers office.
00:04:55 --> 00:04:59: We're going to hear from a couple of industry representatives
00:04:59 --> 00:05:00: specifically Capri,
00:05:00 --> 00:05:04: Airbnb. And then we're going to have a Q&A session
00:05:04 --> 00:05:05: at the end.
00:05:05 --> 00:05:07: I would say to folks that as we go through
00:05:07 --> 00:05:08: this,
00:05:08 --> 00:05:09: you could post your questions.
00:05:09 --> 00:05:12: In the chat and I'll try to screen those on
00:05:12 --> 00:05:12: the fly.

00:05:12 --> 00:05:15: Or you can raise your hand at the end using
00:05:15 --> 00:05:18: the raise hand button and we'll have a good discussion,
00:05:18 --> 00:05:22: hopefully then. All right, so I'm pleased.
00:05:22 --> 00:05:27: Now to introduce Elena Belat from the Ukrainian Canadian
Congress
00:05:27 --> 00:05:28: and Nadia.
00:05:28 --> 00:05:32: Gary Luke, managing director of the League of Ukrainian
Canadians
00:05:32 --> 00:05:32: and I.
00:05:32 --> 00:05:34: Before I turn it over to them,
00:05:34 --> 00:05:36: I also wanted to acknowledge the attendance sub McMillan,
00:05:36 --> 00:05:40: a coalition machinko who is the executive director of the
00:05:40 --> 00:05:43: Canadian Ukrainian Immigrant Aid Society.
00:05:43 --> 00:05:48: I'm not even pronounce the acronym CULIAS and Debbie
Douglas
00:05:48 --> 00:05:51: of the Interior Council of Agencies serving.
00:05:51 --> 00:05:53: Immigrants welcome to both of you.
00:05:53 --> 00:05:56: So Elena, I think you are starting over to you.
00:05:57 --> 00:06:04: Thank you, yes. I'm the culture of UC's.
00:06:04 --> 00:06:09: That's the Ukrainian Canadian Congress displaced Persons
settlement committee.
00:06:09 --> 00:06:13: I'm here on either Michael Chuck's behalf.
00:06:13 --> 00:06:15: He'll be joining us later.
00:06:15 --> 00:06:18: He's the CEO of the UC,
00:06:18 --> 00:06:20: and as I said, he'll be joining us later.
00:06:20 --> 00:06:27: So we're working on this displaced persons refugee issue on
00:06:27 --> 00:06:29: a number of fronts.
00:06:29 --> 00:06:32: It's quite a comprehensive. Effort that we've undertaken,
00:06:32 --> 00:06:38: which is UC's. Which is something that you C is
00:06:38 --> 00:06:40: familiar with doing.
00:06:40 --> 00:06:45: And we're working with our provincial UCC branches with the
00:06:45 --> 00:06:48: federal government bodies,
00:06:48 --> 00:06:51: local government partners, and of course corporate partners.
00:06:51 --> 00:06:54: On this issue. There are many aspects to it.
00:06:54 --> 00:06:56: One could talk about this for a very long time,
00:06:56 --> 00:07:00: but in a nutshell, there are the lobbying aspects of
00:07:00 --> 00:07:00: it.
00:07:00 --> 00:07:06: The the fundraising aspects of the development of policy and
00:07:06 --> 00:07:11: action plans to deal with with the resettlement issue.
00:07:11 --> 00:07:15: There are many committees that were part of with many
00:07:15 --> 00:07:17: acronyms to memorize,
00:07:17 --> 00:07:20: so just really quickly for people that may not be
00:07:20 --> 00:07:22: familiar as familiar with the UC.

00:07:22 --> 00:07:26: So the UC, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress is the voice
00:07:26 --> 00:07:29: of Canada's Ukrainian community.
00:07:29 --> 00:07:32: The Congress brings together under one umbrella all the
00:07:32 --> 00:07:36: national,
00:07:36 --> 00:07:38: provincial and local Ukrainian Canadian organizations,
00:07:38 --> 00:07:41: together with its member organizations.
00:07:41 --> 00:07:45: The UC has been leading coordinating.
00:07:45 --> 00:07:49: And representing the interests of one of Canada's largest
00:07:49 --> 00:07:52: ethnic
00:07:52 --> 00:07:55: communities 1.4 and soon to be attitude since 1940 and
00:07:55 --> 00:07:58: has been instrumental in shaping Canada.
00:07:58 --> 00:08:01: Social, economic and political landscape.
00:08:01 --> 00:08:05: So I mentioned that we're part of a number of
00:08:05 --> 00:08:06: committees and outreach programs.
00:08:06 --> 00:08:12: The UC has established a working group on displaced
00:08:12 --> 00:08:17: persons
00:08:17 --> 00:08:20: and refugees.
00:08:20 --> 00:08:24: It's an internal group. We had an extensive meeting
00:08:24 --> 00:08:29: yesterday
00:08:29 --> 00:08:30: and it's incredible how the UC branches are working in
00:08:30 --> 00:08:35: their own particular environments,
00:08:35 --> 00:08:37: and the UC is also the Ukrainian cross sectoral collaboration
00:08:37 --> 00:08:39: governance table convened by the federal government as the
00:08:40 --> 00:08:40: voice
00:08:40 --> 00:08:43: of the community.
00:08:43 --> 00:08:47: So. Again, moving along quickly.
00:08:47 --> 00:08:52: Who is coming to Canada?
00:08:52 --> 00:08:57: We wanted to give a little bit of background and
00:08:57 --> 00:09:00: others unsure.
00:09:00 --> 00:09:01: We'll fill in here. And again,
00:09:01 --> 00:09:05: people may know this. People may not so very quickly
00:09:05 --> 00:09:10: about 400 million Ukrainians have been displaced by the war.
00:09:10 --> 00:09:13: Offers of visas have been.
00:09:13 --> 00:09:14: Offers of visas have been coming from around the world
00:09:14 --> 00:09:20: from different governments,
00:09:20 --> 00:09:25: so Canada has put in place a temporary expedited 3
00:09:25 --> 00:09:27: year visitor visa program under the program title of Canada.
00:09:27 --> 00:09:29: Ukraine. Authorization for emergency travel.
00:09:29 --> 00:09:31: Now in addition to this,
00:09:31 --> 00:09:33: Ukrainians can come in under other programs including ones
00:09:33 --> 00:09:35: related
00:09:35 --> 00:09:37: to family reunification and the nuances of the immigration
00:09:37 --> 00:09:39: process
00:09:39 --> 00:09:41: as a whole topic onto itself.

00:09:27 --> 00:09:33: So it's suffice to say that the visitor visa category.
00:09:33 --> 00:09:35: If if we spend a bit more time looking at
00:09:35 --> 00:09:37: that particular category,
00:09:37 --> 00:09:41: which I believe is the important one now in terms
00:09:41 --> 00:09:43: of who will be coming in.
00:09:43 --> 00:09:47: Is not one that treats Ukrainians part of this visa
00:09:47 --> 00:09:49: program as refugees.
00:09:49 --> 00:09:53: And more comments about that later.
00:09:53 --> 00:09:57: So not being a refugee,
00:09:57 --> 00:10:02: one is not afforded the same services and support extended
00:10:02 --> 00:10:06: to refugee claimants by the Government of Canada.
00:10:06 --> 00:10:11: Umm? In terms of who's actually coming,
00:10:11 --> 00:10:14: we have a very good sense that it will be
00:10:14 --> 00:10:16: primarily women and children.
00:10:16 --> 00:10:22: Maybe accompanied by their elderly parents will have
students.
00:10:22 --> 00:10:27: Young men under the the age of 18 because men
00:10:27 --> 00:10:32: 18 to 60 have been asked to stay in the
00:10:32 --> 00:10:36: country and aid in the the efforts.
00:10:36 --> 00:10:39: We anticipate the people will be coming over.
00:10:39 --> 00:10:42: It varying degrees of trauma.
00:10:42 --> 00:10:45: There'll be a lot of vulnerable people coming.
00:10:45 --> 00:10:49: There are no organized airlifts in place at this point,
00:10:49 --> 00:10:51: so it'll be coming in and dribs and drabs,
00:10:51 --> 00:10:54: so to speak. We know that there are about 80,000
00:10:54 --> 00:10:56: applicants right now.
00:10:56 --> 00:11:01: About 9000 approvals. People are already coming in under
the
00:11:01 --> 00:11:03: various visa streams,
00:11:03 --> 00:11:06: and we think that this will really come start coming
00:11:06 --> 00:11:10: into play in terms of numbers of arrivals in the
00:11:10 --> 00:11:10: next.
00:11:10 --> 00:11:15: Three months. So for the purposes of this webinar,
00:11:15 --> 00:11:18: we've identified 5 areas of need.
00:11:21 --> 00:11:25: Housing, commercial and industrial spaces.
00:11:25 --> 00:11:29: Development of community infrastructure. Employment,
00:11:29 --> 00:11:33: training and jobs. Other donations and industry Canada.
00:11:33 --> 00:11:38: So we've tried to relate this to to our audience.
00:11:38 --> 00:11:42: Let me just move along to housing and I'm sorry
00:11:42 --> 00:11:44: from speaking quickly.
00:11:44 --> 00:11:50: So housing we're still lobbying the various levels of
government
00:11:50 --> 00:11:52: on a number of fronts,

00:11:52 --> 00:11:57: really. The ideal scenario, I think for us would would
00:11:57 --> 00:12:03: be to see incoming Ukrainians receiving temporary income
support.
00:12:03 --> 00:12:05: And or shelter allowance? I mean,
00:12:05 --> 00:12:09: we've been lobbying incessantly on that front.
00:12:09 --> 00:12:10: Whether we'll be heard or not,
00:12:10 --> 00:12:12: we don't know, but we can't stay still.
00:12:12 --> 00:12:16: So we're moving forward to identify both existing and
upcoming
00:12:17 --> 00:12:20: gaps to the delivery of what really the focus I
00:12:20 --> 00:12:22: believe of this webinar is,
00:12:22 --> 00:12:25: and that is around the housing issue both in the
00:12:26 --> 00:12:28: short term and the long term.
00:12:28 --> 00:12:30: So the landscape is changing daily,
00:12:30 --> 00:12:33: and we're hopeful that there will be additional.
00:12:33 --> 00:12:38: Government supports. And we also hope to continue working
with
00:12:39 --> 00:12:44: the private housing sector and encouraging you to step up
00:12:44 --> 00:12:45: to the plate.
00:12:45 --> 00:12:46: And many of you already have.
00:12:46 --> 00:12:49: And for that we thank you.
00:12:49 --> 00:12:53: So it's a bit of a chaotic kind of.
00:12:53 --> 00:12:56: Situation right now, but we're wading through it and I
00:12:56 --> 00:13:00: think more more certainty will will come our way.
00:13:02 --> 00:13:07: There is a lot to share on on individual housing
00:13:07 --> 00:13:07: topics,
00:13:07 --> 00:13:10: but we don't have time to do that right now.
00:13:10 --> 00:13:14: I would just like to comment that.
00:13:14 --> 00:13:16: All the Ukrainians that are coming in,
00:13:16 --> 00:13:18: whether they have any funds or not,
00:13:18 --> 00:13:23: are going to require some support in terms of shelter
00:13:23 --> 00:13:23: housing,
00:13:23 --> 00:13:28: so anticipating that we're doing our best as a community
00:13:28 --> 00:13:32: based organization as are others that are part of the
00:13:32 --> 00:13:34: overall process.
00:13:34 --> 00:13:38: Looking at options in terms of partnering with with institutions
00:13:38 --> 00:13:39: with.
00:13:41 --> 00:13:45: Universities, just as an example,
00:13:45 --> 00:13:50: with looking at placing people into private homes,
00:13:50 --> 00:13:55: calling this shared housing, a process that.
00:13:55 --> 00:14:00: Hopefully we'll be mediated across the country by settlement
houses.
00:14:00 --> 00:14:03: In the case of the GTA,

00:14:03 --> 00:14:06: a settlement house has come forward to to undertake this
00:14:07 --> 00:14:07: process.
00:14:07 --> 00:14:11: We've provided a list and there are many lists out
00:14:11 --> 00:14:15: there of people willing to donate space.
00:14:15 --> 00:14:19: And they will engage in the vetting process and the
00:14:19 --> 00:14:23: matching process and follow up process to get people into
00:14:23 --> 00:14:24: these homes.
00:14:24 --> 00:14:26: This is just one example,
00:14:26 --> 00:14:30: because in terms of short term and long term,
00:14:30 --> 00:14:35: the short term I, I think from our perspective,
00:14:35 --> 00:14:42: involves transitional housing. And rather than emergency
housing,
00:14:42 --> 00:14:48: which we're hoping that our local partners will will be
00:14:48 --> 00:14:48: leading.
00:14:48 --> 00:14:53: OK, so. We we hope for the continued support of
00:14:53 --> 00:14:56: the the housing industry.
00:14:58 --> 00:15:00: In the form of rent,
00:15:00 --> 00:15:06: forgiveness or rent assistance we we understand that the
housing
00:15:06 --> 00:15:11: rental market in the GTA has its particular challenges and
00:15:11 --> 00:15:16: that it may not be reflective of availability of housing
00:15:17 --> 00:15:20: of whatever sort across the rest of the country.
00:15:20 --> 00:15:25: There are many secondary issues that play into successfully
housing
00:15:25 --> 00:15:27: people that are coming in,
00:15:27 --> 00:15:29: one of them being where.
00:15:29 --> 00:15:32: Are there greater opportunities nationally?
00:15:32 --> 00:15:37: And because a lot of you are nationally based,
00:15:37 --> 00:15:41: I believe that we'll be able to to work together
00:15:41 --> 00:15:45: with you to find really a national solution while still
00:15:45 --> 00:15:49: being aware of of local context opportunities.
00:15:49 --> 00:15:53: And I believe that we have a number of next
00:15:53 --> 00:15:57: steps that we like to to comment on,
00:15:57 --> 00:16:01: but I think that I'll leave that for error.
00:16:01 --> 00:16:06: When he joins us, which hopefully will be shortly.
00:16:06 --> 00:16:08: I turned this over to Nadia.
00:16:09 --> 00:16:13: Yes, olano. Thank you so much for providing an overview
00:16:13 --> 00:16:17: based on the numbers that the government is providing.
00:16:17 --> 00:16:21: As of March 27, we have 91 /
00:16:21 --> 00:16:29: 91,000 of applications received 14,500 applications approved
and so far
00:16:29 --> 00:16:35: we have 3400 Ukrainians that have arrived in Canada by
00:16:35 --> 00:16:40: land and 8300 that have arrived in Canada by.

00:16:40 --> 00:16:44: Here, so these are already arrivals that you know are
00:16:44 --> 00:16:50: either seeking accommodation or have family and friends
that they
00:16:50 --> 00:16:52: that they have found.
00:16:52 --> 00:16:56: Space to to live with.
00:16:56 --> 00:16:57: Olana has covered the housing portion.
00:16:57 --> 00:17:01: However, I would like to actually approach the other aspect
00:17:01 --> 00:17:01: of it,
00:17:01 --> 00:17:06: which is industrial spaces. Commercial spaces as well as
development
00:17:06 --> 00:17:11: of infrastructure because with the incoming Ukrainians there
will be
00:17:11 --> 00:17:13: several other challenges.
00:17:13 --> 00:17:17: One of the asks for industrial and commercial is warehousing
00:17:18 --> 00:17:18: space.
00:17:18 --> 00:17:21: I know that in Toronto there is a lot of
00:17:22 --> 00:17:27: efforts in setting up storefronts for the refugees to come
00:17:27 --> 00:17:29: in and take their packages.
00:17:29 --> 00:17:33: Assistance packages that are being provided and donated.
00:17:33 --> 00:17:37: That is something that is not only happening in the
00:17:37 --> 00:17:39: GTA but also across Canada.
00:17:39 --> 00:17:43: So that is one of the requirements for commercial space.
00:17:43 --> 00:17:47: That is, set up to actually have refugees come into
00:17:47 --> 00:17:50: the space to pick their packages up,
00:17:50 --> 00:17:52: not just a sorting facility.
00:17:52 --> 00:17:56: The other ASK is community infrastructure or the
development of
00:17:56 --> 00:17:58: the Community infrastructure.
00:17:58 --> 00:18:01: A lot of these mothers and children that are coming
00:18:01 --> 00:18:02: in.
00:18:02 --> 00:18:05: Are asking for programming for summer programming.
00:18:05 --> 00:18:09: There are Ukrainian organizations, youth organizations that
have various camps
00:18:10 --> 00:18:13: across Canada and would like to assist with summer
programming.
00:18:13 --> 00:18:19: However, need some assistance when it comes to
infrastructure and
00:18:19 --> 00:18:21: making sure that they could.
00:18:21 --> 00:18:24: House more I could speak to.
00:18:24 --> 00:18:27: The efforts in the GTA but.
00:18:27 --> 00:18:32: There there are many other camps across Canada.
00:18:32 --> 00:18:36: In regards to those portions that there is more work
00:18:36 --> 00:18:39: and more challenges coming our way,

00:18:39 --> 00:18:43: but those are also opportunities in helping out by the
00:18:43 --> 00:18:44: real estate industry.
00:18:48 --> 00:18:50: Michael, that that is all that I have to say.
00:18:50 --> 00:18:52: I'm keeping it very brief because I know we only
00:18:52 --> 00:18:53: have an hour.
00:18:54 --> 00:18:57: Terrific, thanks Nadia, that's great and we do have a
00:18:57 --> 00:19:01: question already in this in the chat from Simon Simon
00:19:01 --> 00:19:04: I'll hold off until we get to the Q&A session
00:19:04 --> 00:19:06: to to deal with your question.
00:19:06 --> 00:19:09: So at this time, maybe we can.
00:19:11 --> 00:19:14: Move on to and I'm pleased to introduce and I
00:19:14 --> 00:19:19: think it's Lubomir Cyberspy of Maria aid and the Lubomir.
00:19:19 --> 00:19:21: Are you able to speak briefly to there?
00:19:21 --> 00:19:24: You are welcome. Thank you.
00:19:24 --> 00:19:25: Welcome to speak. On behalf of that.
00:19:25 --> 00:19:29: And I must say, I Googled Maria aid and I
00:19:29 --> 00:19:29: was.
00:19:29 --> 00:19:31: I saw it was the.
00:19:31 --> 00:19:33: Biggest plane in the world.
00:19:33 --> 00:19:35: The one that was bombed early in the campaign,
00:19:35 --> 00:19:36: and that's what it's named for.
00:19:38 --> 00:19:41: It is indeed we were inspired by Maria because Maria
00:19:41 --> 00:19:42: has.
00:19:42 --> 00:19:46: The plane was brought humanitarian and military assistance
all over
00:19:46 --> 00:19:48: the world to those that need it.
00:19:48 --> 00:19:52: And the volunteers in this organization are inspired by that
00:19:52 --> 00:19:55: because they participated in project UNIFIER,
00:19:55 --> 00:19:59: which is what the project under which Canadian armed
forces
00:19:59 --> 00:20:03: provided training to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.
00:20:03 --> 00:20:05: So I'll just try to keep it very short on
00:20:05 --> 00:20:08: the 1st slide you can see what our mission is.
00:20:08 --> 00:20:12: Essentially, we want to deliver tactical and reconnaissance
gear.
00:20:12 --> 00:20:14: Those are drones. Those are night vision goggles.
00:20:14 --> 00:20:18: Things of that nature to the Ukrainian special forces so
00:20:18 --> 00:20:22: that they can target and destroy Russian artillery behind
enemy
00:20:22 --> 00:20:22: lines.
00:20:22 --> 00:20:25: The second line of our mission is to deliver battlefield
00:20:26 --> 00:20:29: gear so that Ukrainian armed forces can survive more in
00:20:29 --> 00:20:34: the battlefield environment and therefore have more

confidence when they
00:20:34 --> 00:20:36: fight. The reason we're presenting to you today is that
00:20:37 --> 00:20:39: some of you may have contact with people who want
00:20:39 --> 00:20:42: to make their money really work at the front lines,
00:20:42 --> 00:20:45: and we're offering the ability to do that without any
00:20:45 --> 00:20:46: overhead.
00:20:46 --> 00:20:47: Let's go to the next slide.
00:20:49 --> 00:20:52: The reason for our mission is that we want to
00:20:52 --> 00:20:56: destroy that Russian artillery behind enemy lines because we
think
00:20:56 --> 00:21:00: that's going to save lives by diminishing their ability to
00:21:00 --> 00:21:05: bomb cities. We think that will stop any further humanitarian
00:21:05 --> 00:21:08: crisis that is a potential.
00:21:08 --> 00:21:11: If the Russian artillery continues to make advances and
continue
00:21:11 --> 00:21:12: to do its awful work,
00:21:12 --> 00:21:16: and we think that that way we can repel the
00:21:16 --> 00:21:19: Russian invasion and in effect leads to winning the war.
00:21:20 --> 00:21:21: Now who needs this? Well,
00:21:21 --> 00:21:23: of course the people of Ukrainian,
00:21:23 --> 00:21:25: the people that are living in those cities that are
00:21:25 --> 00:21:25: being bombed.
00:21:25 --> 00:21:28: They need the solution. But also we think that by
00:21:28 --> 00:21:31: winning the war as we all know on this call
00:21:31 --> 00:21:35: that will restore or at least restore partially the international
00:21:35 --> 00:21:39: relations which will create the conditions to you know re
00:21:39 --> 00:21:43: restart economic and business activity the way we all want
00:21:43 --> 00:21:43: it to be.
00:21:43 --> 00:21:47: Uh, your question may be why media a next slide.
00:21:50 --> 00:21:51: Next slide there we go.
00:21:51 --> 00:21:54: So wine media we are all volunteers.
00:21:54 --> 00:21:56: In fact, only two of us are Ukrainian.
00:21:56 --> 00:21:58: Everyone else is non Ukrainian.
00:21:58 --> 00:22:01: They are either veterans or active in the Canadian Armed
00:22:01 --> 00:22:02: Forces.
00:22:02 --> 00:22:04: So we have absolutely no overhead.
00:22:04 --> 00:22:08: Every dollar that's donated to us will buy gear and
00:22:08 --> 00:22:10: pay for shipping.
00:22:10 --> 00:22:14: We have the experience in amongst the volunteers in military
00:22:14 --> 00:22:15: matters,
00:22:15 --> 00:22:20: medical emergency response as well as experts who know
procurement
00:22:20 --> 00:22:21: and logistics.

00:22:21 --> 00:22:25: And our procurement experts have established relationship because as you

00:22:25 --> 00:22:27: may or may not know,

00:22:27 --> 00:22:30: people that sell this kind of tactical equipment and reconnaissance

00:22:30 --> 00:22:33: don't just sell to everyone they sell to people they

00:22:33 --> 00:22:34: know.

00:22:34 --> 00:22:37: So luckily the folks that are that are volunteers have

00:22:37 --> 00:22:40: established relationships with you.

00:22:40 --> 00:22:41: Know those kinds of suppliers,

00:22:41 --> 00:22:43: they trust them, the suppliers trust our guys so we

00:22:44 --> 00:22:46: can get this here and we can get it delivered

00:22:46 --> 00:22:47: to the front lines.

00:22:47 --> 00:22:50: And we also have established relationships with special forces in

00:22:50 --> 00:22:51: Ukraine.

00:22:51 --> 00:22:53: So when we send something,

00:22:53 --> 00:22:55: it is gonna get into their heads.

00:22:55 --> 00:22:59: The reason these volunteers are so committed even though they

00:22:59 --> 00:23:02: have no Ukrainian family or or family in Ukraine is

00:23:02 --> 00:23:05: that all of them were involved in project unifier,

00:23:05 --> 00:23:08: which is what the Canadian Armed Forces did to train

00:23:08 --> 00:23:09: Ukrainian soldiers.

00:23:09 --> 00:23:10: So they know the people over there.

00:23:10 --> 00:23:13: They know the officers and they feel for them,

00:23:13 --> 00:23:15: and so they really want to do their thing to

00:23:15 --> 00:23:15: help.

00:23:15 --> 00:23:18: So if you're looking to do to to,

00:23:18 --> 00:23:20: you know, donate your money,

00:23:20 --> 00:23:22: make a difference on the frontline.

00:23:22 --> 00:23:24: There's no overhead or, you know someone that does.

00:23:24 --> 00:23:27: We are more than happy to to provide you that

00:23:27 --> 00:23:27: service.

00:23:31 --> 00:23:35: Terrific, well well done. Lubomir and kudos to you and

00:23:35 --> 00:23:39: your volunteer team for taking this on.

00:23:39 --> 00:23:41: I'm sure it's very. It is very,

00:23:41 --> 00:23:44: very important and useful. All right?

00:23:45 --> 00:23:48: I'm going to be jumping onto a team meeting on

00:23:48 --> 00:23:50: zoom so I won't be able to be here for

00:23:50 --> 00:23:50: the Q&A.

00:23:50 --> 00:23:53: But please, if there are questions if someone can forward

00:23:53 --> 00:23:53: them to me,

00:23:53 --> 00:23:55: we are more than happy to answer them.

00:23:56 --> 00:23:57: Perfect, yes, we will do that.

00:23:57 --> 00:24:00: Thanks so much. Thank you.

00:24:00 --> 00:24:05: All right, pivoting now we're going to now go to

00:24:05 --> 00:24:06: Bureau dodich,

00:24:06 --> 00:24:10: the city's newcomer office, who's going to speak to us

00:24:10 --> 00:24:13: about the city's efforts in this respect and admire.

00:24:13 --> 00:24:16: I'm not sure whether you have any official message from

00:24:16 --> 00:24:19: the mayor's office or whether just OK,

00:24:19 --> 00:24:21: the newcomer, the newcomer, into this,

00:24:21 --> 00:24:24: what? What are you seeing and what can you do?

00:24:25 --> 00:24:30: Much I first would like to mention that.

00:24:30 --> 00:24:34: The newcomer office is parking the city of Toronto and

00:24:34 --> 00:24:37: I'm working very closely with the mayor's office in.

00:24:38 --> 00:24:42: In general, on matters related to refugees,

00:24:42 --> 00:24:45: refugee issues, and immigration issues.

00:24:45 --> 00:24:48: But in the last while.

00:24:48 --> 00:24:51: Since last summer, in fact,

00:24:51 --> 00:24:55: even more closely, as far as it's the resettlement of

00:24:55 --> 00:24:58: Afghan refugees is concerned.

00:24:58 --> 00:25:03: And now the these this latest national effort to welcome

00:25:03 --> 00:25:05: Ukrainian arrivals.

00:25:05 --> 00:25:09: The reason is published program that the City Council

00:25:09 --> 00:25:13: approved

00:25:09 --> 00:25:13: a few years ago when Syrian refugees were arriving.

00:25:13 --> 00:25:16: The program is called Refugee Resettlement program,

00:25:16 --> 00:25:19: and there is a response structure.

00:25:19 --> 00:25:21: That's part of that program.

00:25:21 --> 00:25:25: That response structure has been activated last summer and

00:25:26 --> 00:25:30: now

00:25:26 --> 00:25:30: we added a couple of tables to facilitate coordination of

00:25:30 --> 00:25:32: the efforts in Toronto.

00:25:32 --> 00:25:35: And I know that some of the the people that

00:25:35 --> 00:25:39: are part of the conversation today are part of the

00:25:39 --> 00:25:41: one of these tables,

00:25:41 --> 00:25:45: so they may be familiar with what I'm sharing.

00:25:45 --> 00:25:49: That one table is called the Interagency Task force.

00:25:49 --> 00:25:56: For Ukrainian resettlement, there is an internal table

00:25:56 --> 00:25:58: interdivisional table

00:25:56 --> 00:25:58: and my colleagues at the city,

00:25:58 --> 00:26:04: and I are intensively working to establish.

00:26:04 --> 00:26:07: Where the city can can assist.

00:26:07 --> 00:26:12: What are the gaps? We are also very intensively working

00:26:12 --> 00:26:18: inter governmentally to influence decisions of the other two orders

00:26:18 --> 00:26:19: of government,

00:26:19 --> 00:26:23: and as you have seen there are changes,

00:26:23 --> 00:26:27: frequent changes and we are.

00:26:27 --> 00:26:34: Continuing to to talk to the provincial and federal government

00:26:34 --> 00:26:35: to provide.

00:26:35 --> 00:26:41: Our opinion about about the the situation the the,

00:26:41 --> 00:26:43: the supports that are in place.

00:26:43 --> 00:26:44: I can tell you, for example,

00:26:44 --> 00:26:51: that my colleagues in Toronto employment and social services who.

00:26:51 --> 00:26:55: Deliver in employment supports and Ontario work works which is

00:26:56 --> 00:27:00: social assistance regularly to people that have refugee status or

00:27:00 --> 00:27:02: The Who are refugee claimants,

00:27:02 --> 00:27:05: are on standby in case the policy changes.

00:27:05 --> 00:27:11: In case this temporary status changes.

00:27:11 --> 00:27:16: We I'm also very happy to share that Toronto Police

00:27:16 --> 00:27:24: Service has offered a simplified approach to the volunteer sector

00:27:24 --> 00:27:31: screening check and through the newcomer office they will be

00:27:31 --> 00:27:34: fast tracking, literally within days.

00:27:35 --> 00:27:40: Hundreds of these applications that relate to.

00:27:40 --> 00:27:43: Offers of donations of housing.

00:27:43 --> 00:27:45: There will be no forms that will need to be

00:27:45 --> 00:27:46: filled.

00:27:46 --> 00:27:50: There's the minimum information that will be required and there

00:27:50 --> 00:27:54: will be no fees and that's something that is phenomenal

00:27:54 --> 00:27:55: and is unprecedented,

00:27:55 --> 00:28:01: and I hope other police services across Canada follow the

00:28:01 --> 00:28:04: the lead of Toronto police service.

00:28:04 --> 00:28:07: There. There is a lot on the go,

00:28:07 --> 00:28:09: a lot happening we have.

00:28:09 --> 00:28:14: In fact, been meeting very frequently with the federal and

00:28:14 --> 00:28:20: provincial governments since a year ago in anticipation of the

00:28:20 --> 00:28:24: an increase in arrivals of refugee claimants.

00:28:24 --> 00:28:26: Once the border is reopened,

00:28:26 --> 00:28:32: and because we know what resources are available locally and

00:28:33 --> 00:28:35: they are not sufficient.

00:28:35 --> 00:28:39: So we have been concerned about many of the issues
00:28:39 --> 00:28:43: that are raised today for a number of months now
00:28:43 --> 00:28:44: and.
00:28:44 --> 00:28:50: Are continuing to to have internal and external conversations
to
00:28:50 --> 00:28:52: try and address.
00:28:52 --> 00:28:56: I also just wanted to mention the the the number
00:28:56 --> 00:29:00: of Ukrainians that arrive to Canada that Nadia shared is
00:29:00 --> 00:29:04: from the January 1st and and that number includes all
00:29:04 --> 00:29:09: of the different statuses, permanent resident status,
00:29:09 --> 00:29:15: etcetera. I I think it's an important point because most
00:29:15 --> 00:29:21: of those that arrive so far do have some resources
00:29:21 --> 00:29:21: and.
00:29:21 --> 00:29:24: May have been able to to get support,
00:29:24 --> 00:29:29: but those that will start arriving even today will require
00:29:29 --> 00:29:33: a significant amount of support and they are coming on
00:29:33 --> 00:29:38: this temporary status so your efforts are very much needed
00:29:38 --> 00:29:42: and I will look forward to hearing more details.
00:29:45 --> 00:29:49: Thanks Vera, while I've got you let me ask you
00:29:49 --> 00:29:52: a question and that is maybe there's two questions.
00:29:52 --> 00:29:57: I think that Nadia mentioned 11,700 have arrived in Canada.
00:29:57 --> 00:29:59: You said it. Perhaps that's from January.
00:29:59 --> 00:30:03: The first. Do you have a feel for how many
00:30:03 --> 00:30:05: of those are settling in the GTA?
00:30:05 --> 00:30:07: Or we just don't know that number?
00:30:09 --> 00:30:11: We don't have official numbers,
00:30:11 --> 00:30:13: but I did hear that the the number the the
00:30:13 --> 00:30:15: percentage is 80 percent,
00:30:17 --> 00:30:20: 8080. I think Alina said that flights were landing in
00:30:20 --> 00:30:22: Toronto almost exclusively,
00:30:22 --> 00:30:26: so that would explain that second question is you mentioned
00:30:26 --> 00:30:30: jobs and and obviously one of one of the opportunities
00:30:30 --> 00:30:34: here is to skills match people who are coming in
00:30:34 --> 00:30:37: with demand for labor in our industry,
00:30:37 --> 00:30:41: including construction. And property management and
security and all that
00:30:41 --> 00:30:42: kind of thing.
00:30:42 --> 00:30:46: How do how does our industry access that data?
00:30:46 --> 00:30:49: And that portal? Where should they go?
00:30:50 --> 00:30:54: Well, I should. I should have mentioned that in Toronto
00:30:54 --> 00:30:58: there there are hundreds of Community agencies that are
proved
00:30:58 --> 00:31:03: that are funded by the federal government to provide

settlement

00:31:03 --> 00:31:09: services and. One aspect of these services related to employment

00:31:09 --> 00:31:14: and there's there are a couple of very large agencies

00:31:14 --> 00:31:19: that are specialized in jobs related to newcomers in principle,

00:31:19 --> 00:31:23: and perhaps Debbie can can also comment about that,

00:31:23 --> 00:31:32: but for Afghan resettlement. Ohh I now.

00:31:32 --> 00:31:34: Cannot remember which agency but what.

00:31:34 --> 00:31:40: What happens in situations like these generally is the federal

00:31:40 --> 00:31:41: government.

00:31:41 --> 00:31:46: The funds a lead agency related to employment to to

00:31:46 --> 00:31:52: work with both employment and employers and newcomers to match

00:31:52 --> 00:31:53: to match them,

00:31:53 --> 00:31:57: and I'm hoping that that will happen this time around.

00:31:57 --> 00:31:59: I don't know that if you have heard anything

00:32:00 --> 00:32:03: absolutely and thank you Vera as as I believe Nadia

00:32:03 --> 00:32:08: talked about in Viera as well that the federal government

00:32:08 --> 00:32:11: has decided to make federally funded settlements.

00:32:11 --> 00:32:14: Services accessible and available to arrive in Ukraine.

00:32:14 --> 00:32:19: Although they coming in under temporary process,

00:32:19 --> 00:32:22: we have a number of organizations here in Ontario that

00:32:22 --> 00:32:26: are employment agencies that are well connected to employers.

00:32:26 --> 00:32:29: They are paying attention and they are already there.

00:32:29 --> 00:32:33: A number of employers who have indicated that they will

00:32:33 --> 00:32:37: want to hire the one piece that haven't been mentioned yet by my colleagues.

00:32:37 --> 00:32:38: This at the federal government has set up.

00:32:38 --> 00:32:42: A portal for those wanting to offer jobs to offer

00:32:42 --> 00:32:48: donations,

00:32:48 --> 00:32:49: and they will go through that one place they for

00:32:49 --> 00:32:52: employers having jobs and they will be directed to the

00:32:52 --> 00:32:55: Canada Job Bank so their jobs can be posted there.

00:32:55 --> 00:32:58: Agencies then can work with clients to direct them there,

00:32:58 --> 00:33:02: but our agencies here in Ontario have a long track

00:33:02 --> 00:33:05: record and a very successful in working with employers in

00:33:05 --> 00:33:08: finding folks with the right skill sets that that we

00:33:09 --> 00:33:12: require. Michael, I have to leave so I'm going to

00:33:12 --> 00:33:14: add one more piece that my colleagues have mentioned the

00:33:14 --> 00:33:17: wrong issues of health and health access.

00:33:17 --> 00:33:19: If there is one thing that all of you and

00:33:19 --> 00:33:23: your colleagues can do is to really.

00:33:23 --> 00:33:25:

00:33:25 --> 00:33:31: Advocate with our provincial government to ensure immediate access to

00:33:31 --> 00:33:32: OHIP services.

00:33:32 --> 00:33:36: As people arrive temporarily, those who will come in later on.

00:33:36 --> 00:33:36: on.

00:33:36 --> 00:33:39: The family unification will come in as permanent residence.

00:33:39 --> 00:33:41: They will have access to OHIP.

00:33:41 --> 00:33:43: We know they won't have to wait the three months

00:33:43 --> 00:33:45: as the program has indicated,

00:33:45 --> 00:33:48: but certainly we need access to a web services for

00:33:48 --> 00:33:49: those who are coming in.

00:33:49 --> 00:33:53: As for under the three year temporary visa as well.

00:33:53 --> 00:33:54: Thank you for hosting this.

00:33:54 --> 00:33:57: There are a number of folks working on this file.

00:33:57 --> 00:34:00: As you can imagine, very many moving parts and so

00:34:00 --> 00:34:02: every industry I think has a role to play in

00:34:02 --> 00:34:03: this.

00:34:03 --> 00:34:05: Unfortunately I do have to drop off for another meeting.

00:34:06 --> 00:34:08: OK, well thank you, Debbie and Vera.

00:34:08 --> 00:34:12: Thank you and I think that we'll maybe circle back

00:34:12 --> 00:34:15: with the both of you after and try to get

00:34:15 --> 00:34:16: those links.

00:34:16 --> 00:34:18: And maybe I can task Caroline if you're on the

00:34:18 --> 00:34:20: line to see if you could follow up and see

00:34:21 --> 00:34:22: if we can get those links on the.

00:34:22 --> 00:34:24: On the real PAC Ukraine web page,

00:34:24 --> 00:34:26: at least it's a start and there may be others

00:34:26 --> 00:34:27: who have web pages going as well.

00:34:27 --> 00:34:31: All right. So with that we thought it'd be interesting

00:34:31 --> 00:34:34: to profile some industry leadership so far,

00:34:34 --> 00:34:37: and I'm I'll start off on.

00:34:37 --> 00:34:38: I'm pleased to introduce Mark Kenny,

00:34:38 --> 00:34:40: who's the President and CEO of Capri,

00:34:40 --> 00:34:44: who will talk about their starting initiative both on their

00:34:44 --> 00:34:47: own and with a collective of some of the other

00:34:47 --> 00:34:51: apartment REITs and non Reed providers mark over to you

00:34:51 --> 00:34:51: and welcome.

00:34:52 --> 00:34:58: Good afternoon, Michael. Yeah, I'm going to highlight a couple

00:34:58 --> 00:34:59: of.

00:34:59 --> 00:35:03: Initiatives that the industry is trying to bring forward to

00:35:03 --> 00:35:04: be helpful.

00:35:04 --> 00:35:08: Not just Kapri, but our peers in the past have
00:35:08 --> 00:35:12: always responded to refugee claims and the Ukraine
situation.

00:35:12 --> 00:35:16: We don't have refugees, but we have people settling really
00:35:16 --> 00:35:20: on very short notice but with different status as I
00:35:20 --> 00:35:21: think was mentioned.

00:35:21 --> 00:35:24: The first initiative, the Capri motor took was there were
00:35:24 --> 00:35:25: some sick children.

00:35:25 --> 00:35:29: That were being treated critical care in the Ukraine when
00:35:29 --> 00:35:31: the conflict broke out.

00:35:31 --> 00:35:36: And Sick Kids Hospital had agreed to take on those
00:35:37 --> 00:35:39: kids and treat them.

00:35:39 --> 00:35:45: Capri responded by fully furnishing linens.
00:35:45 --> 00:35:52: Tableware, furnishings, groceries and clothing for ten families
and 10
00:35:52 --> 00:35:53: apartments.

00:35:53 --> 00:35:57: The only thing I would like to highlight here is
00:35:57 --> 00:36:00: that we have incredible low inventory as an industry of
00:36:00 --> 00:36:03: apartment rental in the City of Toronto.
00:36:03 --> 00:36:08: So even finding the 10 units was not easy.
00:36:08 --> 00:36:09: This isn't just something for Calgary,
00:36:09 --> 00:36:11: this is all of our peers in the industry right
00:36:11 --> 00:36:11: now.

00:36:11 --> 00:36:14: There's clearly a major supply issue,
00:36:14 --> 00:36:17: which is very much being discussed now,
00:36:17 --> 00:36:20: but we're happy to get those ten families settled and
00:36:20 --> 00:36:25: what we're doing is essentially allowing really with no
paperwork.

00:36:25 --> 00:36:28: With the the help of Megan's Hug and sick kids
00:36:28 --> 00:36:31: who are directing the families to us,
00:36:31 --> 00:36:36: providing these accommodations for six months rent free,
00:36:36 --> 00:36:42: including cable including. Any Wi-Fi needs in the apartments,
00:36:42 --> 00:36:45: and we're taking the credit risk.

00:36:45 --> 00:36:46: Not that we're that's even really on our minds,
00:36:46 --> 00:36:49: but it gives highlight to the fact that it's hard
00:36:49 --> 00:36:52: to settle people when there is a documentation.
00:36:52 --> 00:36:53: Capri can make that decision,
00:36:53 --> 00:36:58: but these families will have difficulty finding accommodations
period,
00:36:58 --> 00:37:01: especially in the numbers we're talking about.

00:37:01 --> 00:37:05: 2nd initiative. Was really done with a group of industry
00:37:05 --> 00:37:05: peers.
00:37:05 --> 00:37:08: Only in them off here.

00:37:08 --> 00:37:15: CAPREIT Hazyview Investments Boardwalk REIT
homestead Interrent REIT Minto REIT
00:37:15 --> 00:37:16: and Starlight.
00:37:16 --> 00:37:22: Collectively, we pledged 400 apartments across the country
with a
00:37:22 --> 00:37:26: variety of landing incentives in the case of Capri.
00:37:26 --> 00:37:32: We're doing rent forgiveness and damage deposit waiving
with no
00:37:32 --> 00:37:37: paperwork requirements for 100 apartments and.
00:37:37 --> 00:37:44: We're doing that in coordination with the UC Canadian
creating
00:37:44 --> 00:37:46: Canadian Congress,
00:37:46 --> 00:37:51: and it's it's. We're proud of the initiative.
00:37:51 --> 00:37:54: It it is still very quite difficult to have people
00:37:54 --> 00:37:57: channeled and funneled through the system.
00:37:57 --> 00:38:01: But we are anxiously holding units on the ready to
00:38:01 --> 00:38:03: help people get settled.
00:38:03 --> 00:38:06: We talked about jobs there for a second and I
00:38:06 --> 00:38:10: I think that with the employment situation in the country,
00:38:10 --> 00:38:14: a lot of employers are stepping forward wanting to offer
00:38:14 --> 00:38:15: opportunities.
00:38:15 --> 00:38:17: Capri and our peers are doing exactly that.
00:38:17 --> 00:38:22: Also, it's our hope that we can find housing solutions
00:38:22 --> 00:38:27: as well as potential employment solution for people that are
00:38:27 --> 00:38:28: settling.
00:38:28 --> 00:38:29: Just the other thing I wanted to know,
00:38:29 --> 00:38:33: and it's more on the topic of Canadian charity.
00:38:33 --> 00:38:35: It didn't take long for us to partner up with
00:38:36 --> 00:38:37: the likes of Sleep Country,
00:38:37 --> 00:38:41: Sheraton Hotels, Marriott Hotels, Canada.
00:38:41 --> 00:38:47: Rogers Wise, and Carmen Metering services and legal firms.
00:38:47 --> 00:38:52: Cohen Highley was the partner to step up and offer
00:38:52 --> 00:38:56: whatever they could in terms of donations.
00:38:56 --> 00:38:59: And I know amongst our staff,
00:38:59 --> 00:39:03: it's it's incredibly been well received and our residents are
00:39:03 --> 00:39:06: very appreciative that we're stepping up.
00:39:06 --> 00:39:08: So it's a call to action,
00:39:08 --> 00:39:10: not so much. A cap free speech,
00:39:10 --> 00:39:13: but it's just a call to action to other landlords
00:39:13 --> 00:39:17: of what a positive experience this has been in a
00:39:17 --> 00:39:17: very,
00:39:17 --> 00:39:20: very set of sad circumstances and.
00:39:20 --> 00:39:23: You know the the challenge is going to be a

00:39:23 --> 00:39:27: big one is my final bit because the the extreme
00:39:27 --> 00:39:32: housing shortage that we have in this country really from
00:39:32 --> 00:39:34: coast to coast. And I guess I'll leave it at
00:39:34 --> 00:39:34: that,
00:39:34 --> 00:39:36: Michael. These are just some of the things of private
00:39:36 --> 00:39:37: sector has been doing.
00:39:38 --> 00:39:42: Terrific on yeah, Mark, thanks for your leadership in this
00:39:42 --> 00:39:42: space.
00:39:42 --> 00:39:45: So you've set a high bar and we have to
00:39:45 --> 00:39:46: get that message out.
00:39:46 --> 00:39:50: As you said to all of the other apartment landlords
00:39:50 --> 00:39:52: coast to coast Nathan,
00:39:53 --> 00:39:56: maybe I can turn to you and and let's hear
00:39:56 --> 00:39:58: about Airbnbs's initiatives.
00:39:58 --> 00:40:01: The only thing I've heard about that is people renting
00:40:01 --> 00:40:04: Airbnbs and not intending to show up in Ukraine.
00:40:04 --> 00:40:06: But tell us what you're seeing.
00:40:06 --> 00:40:06: Yeah,
00:40:06 --> 00:40:09: that was an interesting grassroots initiative.
00:40:09 --> 00:40:11: That we didn't. We didn't really plan on,
00:40:11 --> 00:40:14: but was an interesting way of connecting.
00:40:14 --> 00:40:17: You know, people who just wanted to do something good
00:40:17 --> 00:40:21: with individuals on the ground and and in Ukraine Airbnb
00:40:21 --> 00:40:25: works closely with the charity that we set up about
00:40:25 --> 00:40:27: a year ago called Air bnb.org,
00:40:27 --> 00:40:31: which is housed over 50,000 refugees and asylum seekers
00:40:31 --> 00:40:32: around the world.
00:40:32 --> 00:40:36: Over the last couple of years when the Afghan crisis
00:40:36 --> 00:40:38: happened last year as well,
00:40:38 --> 00:40:41: we committed to housing. 20,000 Afghans who were who
00:40:41 --> 00:40:43: were
00:40:41 --> 00:40:43: seeking homes around the world.
00:40:43 --> 00:40:47: We've actually provided housing to just over 20,000 of them
00:40:47 --> 00:40:47: now,
00:40:47 --> 00:40:49: and when, obviously when this Ukraine crisis happened and
00:40:50 --> 00:40:51: our
00:40:50 --> 00:40:51: hearts go out to everyone,
00:40:51 --> 00:40:55: especially those more personally connected to it.
00:40:55 --> 00:40:59: We committed to 100,000 houses since we're currently
00:40:59 --> 00:41:01: working with
00:40:59 --> 00:41:01: the International Organization for Migration,
00:41:01 --> 00:41:06: primarily in Europe. To make our listings that are available

00:41:06 --> 00:41:11: on the platform available to individuals who are seeking housing

00:41:11 --> 00:41:12: at the moment,

00:41:12 --> 00:41:15: primarily in Europe, Canadians have been stepping up quite a

00:41:15 --> 00:41:16: lot to offer housing,

00:41:16 --> 00:41:18: and so you know, we have traditional partners.

00:41:18 --> 00:41:20: We've worked with. Who are,

00:41:20 --> 00:41:23: you know, refugee settlement agencies from across the country,

00:41:23 --> 00:41:26: Calgary Catholic Immigration Services being the primary.

00:41:26 --> 00:41:29: One that we worked with on the Afghan issue but

00:41:29 --> 00:41:30: spoke to the UCC.

00:41:30 --> 00:41:33: Actually this morning a couple folks from the Toronto office

00:41:33 --> 00:41:35: who reached out and we will look to see what

00:41:36 --> 00:41:37: we can do to to unlock those.

00:41:37 --> 00:41:39: Those free available listings. The difference,

00:41:39 --> 00:41:41: I think for us is these,

00:41:41 --> 00:41:42: are, you know, just individuals,

00:41:42 --> 00:41:45: either with space in their home or extra space,

00:41:45 --> 00:41:47: or an accessory dwelling unit of some kind that they

00:41:47 --> 00:41:50: can make available for some period of time for these

00:41:50 --> 00:41:52: individuals and people are really stepping up to want to

00:41:52 --> 00:41:55: want to help in in whatever way possible.

00:41:55 --> 00:41:56: So we'll continue to work with.

00:41:56 --> 00:41:58: With the TV UCC and the federal government,

00:41:58 --> 00:42:02: does the need continues to grow and do what we

00:42:02 --> 00:42:04: can to support those folks?

00:42:05 --> 00:42:07: That's a great great story and I had no idea

00:42:07 --> 00:42:09: that that you've been so active in that space for

00:42:09 --> 00:42:10: so long.

00:42:10 --> 00:42:13: Nathan, that's kudos to you guys.

00:42:13 --> 00:42:18: Well done, we've got. Some questions,

00:42:19 --> 00:42:23: and maybe I'll just turn to a couple of those

00:42:23 --> 00:42:24: and.

00:42:26 --> 00:42:29: Maybe it's. No one question has already been answered.

00:42:31 --> 00:42:33: Yeah, this is A and Nadia.

00:42:33 --> 00:42:35: Maybe I can turn to you on the questions about

00:42:35 --> 00:42:38: vetting and matching displaced individual and the longer term housing

00:42:39 --> 00:42:39: solutions.

00:42:39 --> 00:42:42: And I think that you made the point that you

00:42:42 --> 00:42:44: were looking for places that were near.

00:42:44 --> 00:42:47: If I can call them a Ukrainian culture shock buffer,
00:42:47 --> 00:42:49: zone stairs, a Ukrainian English school,
00:42:49 --> 00:42:52: there's an established Ukrainian community there,
00:42:52 --> 00:42:56: etcetera etcetera. Have you thought through it,
00:42:56 --> 00:42:59: but more about those specific areas and where they are?
00:43:00 --> 00:43:03: I have been thinking about the the specific areas where
00:43:03 --> 00:43:07: the Ukrainian community is already settled and that could be
00:43:07 --> 00:43:10: a good social buffer as you've said for the incoming
00:43:10 --> 00:43:14: Ukrainians. However, the criteria is not yet developed for the
00:43:14 --> 00:43:16: long term housing.
00:43:16 --> 00:43:18: We're still working on that,
00:43:18 --> 00:43:22: and obviously we will be looking towards the settlement
agencies
00:43:22 --> 00:43:24: for further assistance as well.
00:43:26 --> 00:43:30: Terrific yeah, that's great. I also see in the in
00:43:30 --> 00:43:34: the question the Q&A chat box that the jobs for
00:43:34 --> 00:43:38: Ukraine Job bank sites are posted twice,
00:43:38 --> 00:43:42: so those of you 97 of you to start if
00:43:42 --> 00:43:44: you could access that,
00:43:44 --> 00:43:46: that would be terrific Nadia.
00:43:46 --> 00:43:49: One thing that I'm not sure is in the job
00:43:49 --> 00:43:49: bank,
00:43:49 --> 00:43:53: but what's your assessment of the English language school?
00:43:53 --> 00:43:56: Sorry, English language proficiency of those people.
00:43:56 --> 00:43:58: Coming from Ukraine.
00:43:59 --> 00:44:03: Michael, that is a very difficult question to answer.
00:44:03 --> 00:44:06: I don't know what the English language proficiency is,
00:44:06 --> 00:44:12: however there will be a language classes that will be
00:44:12 --> 00:44:13: offered.
00:44:13 --> 00:44:15: I'm not, I'm not sure.
00:44:15 --> 00:44:18: Maybe that's something to look into.
00:44:18 --> 00:44:20: Again, I see Mark is raising his hand.
00:44:21 --> 00:44:25: Piece to this my brothers and I are working in
00:44:25 --> 00:44:25: Vancouver.
00:44:25 --> 00:44:28: He lives in Vancouver and I sent an article out
00:44:28 --> 00:44:29: to Michael and Alex the other day.
00:44:29 --> 00:44:33: They brought their community group is good article CBC.
00:44:33 --> 00:44:38: They brought six families to their their neighborhood in
Vancouver
00:44:38 --> 00:44:42: and my brothers having a 32 year old single mother
00:44:42 --> 00:44:46: and a 7 year old daughter and right behind them
00:44:46 --> 00:44:51: in the. Carriage house, there's another woman that's 25
years

00:44:51 --> 00:44:54: old that's in heightened tech in Kiev,
00:44:54 --> 00:44:56: and so the mother and they talked to him on
00:44:56 --> 00:44:59: the phone the other day from Portugal because they're
waiting
00:44:59 --> 00:45:02: in Portugal to a flight for next week that she
00:45:02 --> 00:45:05: can speak OK and she can probably get by and
00:45:05 --> 00:45:09: they're just trying to check into English as a second
00:45:09 --> 00:45:11: language ESL for her.
00:45:11 --> 00:45:15: The daughter of the seven year old knows the alphabet
00:45:15 --> 00:45:15: in English.
00:45:15 --> 00:45:17: So she knows the alphabet,
00:45:17 --> 00:45:21: so they were working with the different schools in Vancouver
00:45:22 --> 00:45:26: to get a separate English second language course for the
00:45:26 --> 00:45:28: kids that will be there.
00:45:28 --> 00:45:30: So one of the things that I think is going
00:45:30 --> 00:45:33: to be very powerful if there is a ways that
00:45:33 --> 00:45:36: we can extrapolate what's happening here in the GTA and
00:45:36 --> 00:45:39: housing or whatever, or even the things that they're doing
00:45:39 --> 00:45:42: and then use it across the country because they're looking
00:45:42 --> 00:45:44: into already the schools.
00:45:44 --> 00:45:50: The frankly, the women's teaching and job and digital
training.
00:45:50 --> 00:45:52: So there's a lot of those initiatives happening and they'll
00:45:52 --> 00:45:53: land next week actually,
00:45:53 --> 00:45:56: so they're really moving quickly on this.
00:45:56 --> 00:45:58: But even in the housing point that.
00:45:58 --> 00:46:00: Uh, you know Michael and Mark brought up.
00:46:00 --> 00:46:02: I saw a note from Tara,
00:46:02 --> 00:46:04: who's from the region of Waterloo.
00:46:04 --> 00:46:07: A lot of these housing rates and companies are across
00:46:07 --> 00:46:10: the country and if we can figure out a way
00:46:10 --> 00:46:13: to at least set up a template up or the
00:46:13 --> 00:46:16: start of it and then extrapolate across the country can
00:46:16 --> 00:46:19: help because the GTA is probably one of the more
00:46:19 --> 00:46:22: complex real estate markets and we did this like I
00:46:22 --> 00:46:24: said that Richard, about four or five years ago for
00:46:24 --> 00:46:25: other nonprofits.
00:46:25 --> 00:46:27: We figured out a way with architects,
00:46:27 --> 00:46:32: developers, contractors. Owners to come together and then
extrapolate across
00:46:32 --> 00:46:35: the country to try and forget the scale.
00:46:35 --> 00:46:37: It's like a tech technology company.
00:46:37 --> 00:46:41: You need to scale, especially with these kind of numbers.

00:46:41 --> 00:46:44: So that's just a little background there was already doing
00:46:44 --> 00:46:45: work and ESL for kids,
00:46:45 --> 00:46:49: digital training and the scale of magnitude of their English
00:46:49 --> 00:46:50: is,
00:46:50 --> 00:46:54: frankly, alphabet for the kids and a working knowledge for
00:46:54 --> 00:46:55: a mother.
00:46:55 --> 00:46:57: So I just kind of background and seems I guess,
00:46:57 --> 00:46:59: consistent with the six families that they're dealing with right
00:46:59 --> 00:47:06: now. Yeah, that's mark. That's great work by the way,
00:47:06 --> 00:47:08: from it's supporting that family.
00:47:08 --> 00:47:11: We also in our neighborhood have found out that we're
00:47:11 --> 00:47:15: supporting a family and it literally going around door to
00:47:15 --> 00:47:15: door.
00:47:15 --> 00:47:18: Who can buy a Walmart card gift card?
00:47:18 --> 00:47:20: Who can buy Bay gift card?
00:47:20 --> 00:47:22: They need clothes. They need food.
00:47:22 --> 00:47:25: They need everything for apartments.
00:47:25 --> 00:47:27: They need furniture. They're not shopping on,
00:47:27 --> 00:47:30: Wayfair to see. You know it's it's.
00:47:30 --> 00:47:32: It's got to be done so the needs are.
00:47:32 --> 00:47:36: Are great one of the questions that came up earlier
00:47:36 --> 00:47:39: Nadia and and while I've got you on the screen,
00:47:39 --> 00:47:43: maybe you can start, although maybe we have to introduce
00:47:43 --> 00:47:47: echart to to to answer this one as well as
00:47:47 --> 00:47:48: I think Elena mentioned,
00:47:49 --> 00:47:52: we've got 4,000,000 displaced people.
00:47:52 --> 00:47:56: 4,000,000 displaced people out of the Ukraine going to the
00:47:56 --> 00:47:57: abutting countries.
00:47:57 --> 00:48:03: We've got 91,000 applications sent into Canada.
00:48:03 --> 00:48:11: So far 14,500 approved, and by my calculations 11,700
arrived.
00:48:14 --> 00:48:16: How many more do you think that we could expect
00:48:16 --> 00:48:18: like over the next three months?
00:48:18 --> 00:48:20: Are we gonna get 80%
00:48:20 --> 00:48:27: of that 91,000 so 70,000 people coming to the GTA?
00:48:27 --> 00:48:29: Looking for a place to sleep every night?
00:48:30 --> 00:48:34: Michael, the statistics that I provided were as of March
00:48:34 --> 00:48:35: 27th.
00:48:35 --> 00:48:38: I believe that you know several days have gone by
00:48:39 --> 00:48:43: and those numbers are a lot higher today because more
00:48:43 --> 00:48:45: applicants are coming through.
00:48:45 --> 00:48:49: But I would suspect that you know 70,000 is not

00:48:49 --> 00:48:53: a far off digit of incoming Ukrainians to Canada.
00:48:54 --> 00:48:58: And that's probably that's probably I'm going to guess 3
00:48:58 --> 00:49:01: average of three people per household coming in.
00:49:01 --> 00:49:07: That's, you know, 25,000 units of accommodation.
00:49:07 --> 00:49:09: We need to find very quickly.
00:49:11 --> 00:49:13: And maybe it's timely, because now you're on screen.
00:49:13 --> 00:49:15: He hard to welcome you.
00:49:15 --> 00:49:18: Thank you. Yeah, so I'm pleased to introduce you or
00:49:18 --> 00:49:22: Michael Cheshin who is the CEO and Executive director of
00:49:22 --> 00:49:24: the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and.
00:49:24 --> 00:49:27: Maybe you've got some comments on those questions that I
00:49:27 --> 00:49:28: was drilling Nadia on,
00:49:28 --> 00:49:30: but welcome anyway. Well,
00:49:30 --> 00:49:32: thank you for allowing me to pop in late.
00:49:32 --> 00:49:34: I was just some Parliament hill here meeting with the
00:49:34 --> 00:49:36: delegation of Ukrainian MP's women MP's.
00:49:36 --> 00:49:40: I think you'll see them in the media today and
00:49:40 --> 00:49:40: tomorrow.
00:49:40 --> 00:49:43: Just a reminder that we are all helping Ukraine win
00:49:43 --> 00:49:46: the war which will avert a massive humanitarian crisis and
00:49:46 --> 00:49:49: I think that speaks to your question Michael about we
00:49:49 --> 00:49:51: don't know what we don't know yet.
00:49:51 --> 00:49:54: People are people are sitting and hoping that they will
00:49:54 --> 00:49:55: be able to return home.
00:49:55 --> 00:49:57: But we do know that many people don't have a
00:49:57 --> 00:49:58: home to return to.
00:49:58 --> 00:50:00: If you've seen the the the way that cities of
00:50:00 --> 00:50:00: Car Cube,
00:50:00 --> 00:50:03: which is a city of 1.5 million or Mariupol or
00:50:03 --> 00:50:05: even key of the capital which is the city of
00:50:05 --> 00:50:06: 4,000,000,
00:50:06 --> 00:50:08: there's a lot of destruction of residential properties.
00:50:08 --> 00:50:11: Although the Russians are not targeting Russian,
00:50:11 --> 00:50:13: you know civilian infrastructure you you can just.
00:50:13 --> 00:50:15: It's everything you see right?
00:50:15 --> 00:50:16: Apartment buildings are being destroyed,
00:50:16 --> 00:50:18: houses are being destroyed, so even for those who do
00:50:18 --> 00:50:20: have a chance to go home,
00:50:20 --> 00:50:22: if there is a peace settlement or or some kind
00:50:22 --> 00:50:23: of end to the war,
00:50:23 --> 00:50:25: there is going to be a long.
00:50:25 --> 00:50:28: Regrouping process so we don't know but we know that

00:50:28 --> 00:50:32: I think we are all safely assuming thousands of people
00:50:32 --> 00:50:36: will be coming to Canada for a temporary temporary stay
00:50:36 --> 00:50:38: and you know, as we've seen with some of the
00:50:38 --> 00:50:40: provincial governments initiatives,
00:50:40 --> 00:50:43: there is. There's a family reunification stream.
00:50:43 --> 00:50:46: There is some attempt to have people decide to look
00:50:46 --> 00:50:50: at coming to Canada as permanent residents to transition
from
00:50:50 --> 00:50:54: the temporary to permanent residence for family reasons or
for
00:50:54 --> 00:50:57: employment reasons as well. So I think it is definitely
00:50:57 --> 00:51:00: safe to say that even even under the best case
00:51:00 --> 00:51:02: scenario where the war ends and people can go home,
00:51:02 --> 00:51:05: we will still have thousands of people needing refuge here
00:51:05 --> 00:51:06: temporarily.
00:51:08 --> 00:51:12: Yeah, and I'm thinking back to Mark's comment about
capacity.
00:51:12 --> 00:51:15: We already have a tight market in the GTA.
00:51:15 --> 00:51:19: As you know, it's probably a tight market in Vancouver
00:51:19 --> 00:51:21: and many other cities and.
00:51:21 --> 00:51:22: And you're thinking about, OK,
00:51:22 --> 00:51:28: how do we accommodate that volume of people together with
00:51:28 --> 00:51:30: the whatever it was?
00:51:30 --> 00:51:35: \$400,000 of planned immigrants to Canada that the
government that
00:51:35 --> 00:51:37: was against training the system.
00:51:37 --> 00:51:41: So we're add. I don't know my my rough math,
00:51:41 --> 00:51:44: 70,000 people in the next 60 to 90 days we're
00:51:44 --> 00:51:48: almost at half a million total new people coming to
00:51:48 --> 00:51:51: this country looking for a place to.
00:51:51 --> 00:51:52: Live.
00:51:53 --> 00:51:56: I mean, I would say that we don't what I've
00:51:56 --> 00:51:56: heard,
00:51:56 --> 00:51:59: and you know this is sort of everything is speculative.
00:51:59 --> 00:52:01: We don't have hard data.
00:52:01 --> 00:52:03: I think that people who are currently,
00:52:03 --> 00:52:05: you know, the four million in Europe,
00:52:05 --> 00:52:07: the 10 million out of their homes in Ukraine.
00:52:07 --> 00:52:09: They are looking for options.
00:52:09 --> 00:52:11: They're looking to plan for their future.
00:52:11 --> 00:52:13: I don't. I don't believe 100%
00:52:13 --> 00:52:16: of those who have applied will come to Canada.
00:52:16 --> 00:52:18: We know 100% of them who applied,

00:52:18 --> 00:52:20: will not have a successful application.

00:52:20 --> 00:52:23: First of all, unfortunately, and we know that people are

00:52:23 --> 00:52:24: making.

00:52:24 --> 00:52:26: Uh, are are reaching out to sort of figure out

00:52:26 --> 00:52:27: what their options are going to be,

00:52:27 --> 00:52:30: because right now they've been living day to day and

00:52:30 --> 00:52:32: so Canada is one of those options and and we

00:52:32 --> 00:52:34: have a really strong community here,

00:52:34 --> 00:52:36: which is a beacon, you know,

00:52:36 --> 00:52:38: to pull them in because they do have friends and

00:52:38 --> 00:52:39: family.

00:52:39 --> 00:52:42: They do know of the community here,

00:52:42 --> 00:52:45: what what, what one thing we're trying to do is

00:52:45 --> 00:52:46: work with other.

00:52:46 --> 00:52:49: I would say smaller or we're going to regional centers

00:52:49 --> 00:52:50: so we know that St.

00:52:50 --> 00:52:54: Catherines, Oshawa, Saskatoon and Winnipeg.

00:52:54 --> 00:52:56: Are super well organized. We just had a 2 hour

00:52:56 --> 00:53:00: meeting last night with all of our community branches and

00:53:00 --> 00:53:00: organizations.

00:53:00 --> 00:53:03: Part of our job is going to be to coordinate

00:53:03 --> 00:53:04: with the settlement agencies,

00:53:04 --> 00:53:07: redistributing people in Canada, so I don't.

00:53:07 --> 00:53:09: I think it will be very difficult and the pressure

00:53:09 --> 00:53:11: will be the most on the GTA,

00:53:11 --> 00:53:14: but I think part of that pressure will be alleviated

00:53:14 --> 00:53:17: if we can work together with the the government sectors,

00:53:17 --> 00:53:21: the provincial governments that want to redistribute people

00:53:21 --> 00:53:24: out to other smaller markets where there might be more availability.

00:53:24 --> 00:53:26: Where there might be a better quality of life,

00:53:26 --> 00:53:29: affordability, equation and what? That's what we're seeing.

00:53:29 --> 00:53:32: We're seeing our branches are getting direct messages from

00:53:32 --> 00:53:34: people in Europe asking what is the rent in Winnipeg?

00:53:34 --> 00:53:35: What is the rent in Vancouver?

00:53:35 --> 00:53:37: What do I get? What kind of jobs are available

00:53:37 --> 00:53:38: through the Jobs Bank?

00:53:38 --> 00:53:42: So we encourage we encourage proactive postings as jobs,

00:53:42 --> 00:53:45: bank people are making decisions on where to end up

00:53:45 --> 00:53:47: based on what they see in the Jobs Bank and

00:53:47 --> 00:53:50: where they can try to calculate their rate of survival.

00:53:50 --> 00:53:54: Because really, as we've heard if they can.
00:53:54 --> 00:53:56: Come to Canada on this visa program.
00:53:56 --> 00:53:59: They will not likely have very many funds if anything
00:53:59 --> 00:53:59: left.
00:53:59 --> 00:54:01: If they are able to get here,
00:54:01 --> 00:54:03: it will be expending all of their savings and funds
00:54:03 --> 00:54:05: to get here and then.
00:54:05 --> 00:54:08: As you said Michael they will have they are arriving
00:54:08 --> 00:54:09: already with nothing,
00:54:09 --> 00:54:13: no savings, no cash, no resources.
00:54:13 --> 00:54:16: So we are we're an advocacy organization for these folks
00:54:16 --> 00:54:17: for the community.
00:54:17 --> 00:54:20: We are advocating to the government to have a better
00:54:20 --> 00:54:21: plan generally,
00:54:21 --> 00:54:25: which involves perhaps airlifting people to specific cities.
00:54:25 --> 00:54:26: As you said, you know an airlift would.
00:54:26 --> 00:54:29: We would know in a manageable way that you know
00:54:29 --> 00:54:32: 300 families are coming to Edmonton or Calgary or
Saskatoon.
00:54:32 --> 00:54:35: We would know who these families are,
00:54:35 --> 00:54:36: how many kids they have?
00:54:36 --> 00:54:40: That looks more like a traditional refugee program which
allows
00:54:40 --> 00:54:41: all of us to plan,
00:54:41 --> 00:54:44: which is the basic absence of knowledge right now.
00:54:44 --> 00:54:46: Is that we can't plan in great detail,
00:54:46 --> 00:54:50: so we are pushing that with the Minister with the
00:54:50 --> 00:54:51: department.
00:54:51 --> 00:54:52: We have not heard no,
00:54:52 --> 00:54:54: but we've not heard. Yes,
00:54:54 --> 00:54:55: that's what I would say.
00:54:55 --> 00:54:57: I did want to say that we are.
00:54:57 --> 00:55:01: We are overwhelmed by the the support that you are,
00:55:01 --> 00:55:03: that you're association that your Members,
00:55:03 --> 00:55:07: individually collectively as companies have had by by the
support
00:55:07 --> 00:55:08: of all Canadians.
00:55:08 --> 00:55:11: We have never had this number of incoming messages and
00:55:11 --> 00:55:14: incoming offers and so really when I say we're we're
00:55:14 --> 00:55:17: we're we're not going to let anything pass without sort
00:55:17 --> 00:55:19: of a fully exploring every option,
00:55:19 --> 00:55:21: every offer, and we're trying to do our best to
00:55:21 --> 00:55:23: figure out how to make use of.

00:55:23 --> 00:55:27: All the goodwill because there will be more people coming
00:55:27 --> 00:55:31: than we can handle in in residential apartments,
00:55:31 --> 00:55:34: people will need to be staying with shared accommodation.
00:55:34 --> 00:55:35: We're looking at, you know,
00:55:35 --> 00:55:38: institutional accommodations, et cetera. So we're going to do
everything
00:55:38 --> 00:55:40: we can to work with you and with our settlement
00:55:40 --> 00:55:43: partners and our communities across Canada to figure it out.
00:55:43 --> 00:55:45: It's a very scary prospect,
00:55:45 --> 00:55:47: but we we believe that it's the right.
00:55:47 --> 00:55:49: It's obviously the right thing to do in this conflict
00:55:49 --> 00:55:49: as well.
00:55:49 --> 00:55:50: To help those in need.
00:55:52 --> 00:55:56: Absolutely, and and all of the associations who have come
00:55:56 --> 00:55:59: together for this particular webinar.
00:55:59 --> 00:56:03: Obviously you're engaged in this and will be the bridge
00:56:04 --> 00:56:08: we want to be a bridge between these people and
00:56:08 --> 00:56:11: their real estate and jobs and needs and.
00:56:11 --> 00:56:12: That's that'll be a big challenge.
00:56:12 --> 00:56:14: One of the things you mentioned,
00:56:14 --> 00:56:15: the five small cities very quickly,
00:56:15 --> 00:56:17: and I couldn't write them down fast enough.
00:56:17 --> 00:56:20: But you know that's helpful data for us as well,
00:56:20 --> 00:56:21: because we can reach out.
00:56:21 --> 00:56:24: Maybe there is a landlord association and some of those
00:56:24 --> 00:56:26: smaller cities and communities that we can reach out to
00:56:26 --> 00:56:27: and say,
00:56:27 --> 00:56:30: hey, did you know you're pretty well organized locally and
00:56:30 --> 00:56:33: you know if you've got any vacancies you should connect
00:56:33 --> 00:56:34: with X or Y?
00:56:34 --> 00:56:37: That would be also useful for for us to know.
00:56:37 --> 00:56:40: As you say, people are smart enough to screen this
00:56:40 --> 00:56:42: in advance from wherever they are in the.
00:56:42 --> 00:56:45: In Europe, before jumping over here to Canada,
00:56:45 --> 00:56:45: yeah
00:56:45 --> 00:56:48: not everybody but but those those who are really kind
00:56:48 --> 00:56:49: of calculating what what,
00:56:49 --> 00:56:51: what their next three years will look like are making
00:56:52 --> 00:56:53: those kind of inquiries all over the place.
00:56:53 --> 00:56:55: And I and we will.
00:56:55 --> 00:56:57: We will be happy to send a list out to
00:56:57 --> 00:56:58: Richard and the association.

00:56:58 --> 00:57:01: It's the the reason we had a 2 hour meeting
00:57:01 --> 00:57:03: is we actually have 23 branches across Canada.
00:57:03 --> 00:57:07: They're all having these really active community groups
working with
00:57:07 --> 00:57:08: their city councils,
00:57:08 --> 00:57:11: working with their settlement agencies trying to find solutions.
00:57:11 --> 00:57:12: And we're all in the same.
00:57:12 --> 00:57:14: Sort of saying when are people coming and who's coming
00:57:14 --> 00:57:15: we we don't know.
00:57:15 --> 00:57:16: We know when they call us,
00:57:16 --> 00:57:18: you know, because they're stuck at the airport.
00:57:18 --> 00:57:21: So we are. We are also advocating to the government
00:57:21 --> 00:57:23: and we encourage you to to say that this system
00:57:23 --> 00:57:25: could be a lot better and it could be a
00:57:25 --> 00:57:29: lot we shouldn't be spending all of our time spinning
00:57:29 --> 00:57:29: wheels,
00:57:29 --> 00:57:31: you know, waiting for the mysterious people to show up
00:57:32 --> 00:57:32: at the airport.
00:57:32 --> 00:57:35: We we could be more proactive in this and we
00:57:35 --> 00:57:38: will continue to sort of make that point as well.
00:57:38 --> 00:57:40: I will say just the two things I was asked.
00:57:40 --> 00:57:42: I know Nadja and Elena did a presentation.
00:57:42 --> 00:57:46: So unemployment jobs, of course the Jobs bank is essential.
00:57:46 --> 00:57:49: Industry Canada is going to have this corporate portal.
00:57:49 --> 00:57:51: It's not up yet, but we've seen the back end
00:57:51 --> 00:57:53: and it should Michael to your point.
00:57:53 --> 00:57:58: It should capture both the jobs and the goods and
00:57:58 --> 00:58:03: the there is there is a section there about accommodation
00:58:03 --> 00:58:07: and housing and so it's not perfect or clean.
00:58:07 --> 00:58:10: It's sort of out of the box sales force.
00:58:10 --> 00:58:11: A piece that they put up.
00:58:11 --> 00:58:14: We're happy to keep. Talking to the companies and the
00:58:14 --> 00:58:17: association about the discussions we've had,
00:58:17 --> 00:58:20: we don't wanna send people over to another robotic form
00:58:20 --> 00:58:22: and we want to hear feedback.
00:58:22 --> 00:58:25: If that form is not helpful to you,
00:58:25 --> 00:58:29: because, again, industry Canada is going to scrambling with
the
00:58:29 --> 00:58:32: volume of offers they've had to sort it out as
00:58:32 --> 00:58:32: well.
00:58:32 --> 00:58:34: My the last thing I was supposed to say after
00:58:34 --> 00:58:35: other than thank you,

00:58:35 --> 00:58:37: thank you I well I don't know if we did
00:58:37 --> 00:58:37: not.
00:58:37 --> 00:58:40: Did you teach them Ukrainian word for thank you no.
00:58:40 --> 00:58:42: OK so the Ukrainian word for thank you is jacquou.
00:58:42 --> 00:58:44: I'll write it in the chat and that's what we're
00:58:44 --> 00:58:44: sort of doing.
00:58:44 --> 00:58:46: Our Ukrainian lesson as of the week,
00:58:46 --> 00:58:48: because we're all becoming. We're all becoming a little bit
00:58:48 --> 00:58:49: more Ukrainian here this week.
00:58:49 --> 00:58:50: So I'm gonna write it out.
00:58:50 --> 00:58:52: Yaku and so that is.
00:58:52 --> 00:58:54: That's what I wanted to convey on behalf of our
00:58:54 --> 00:58:55: our Members,
00:58:55 --> 00:58:58: our branches, our community, the the result has been very
00:58:58 --> 00:58:59: positive,
00:58:59 --> 00:59:02: every interaction with with housing companies with your
sector.
00:59:02 --> 00:59:06: Individually and as a group has been extremely positive and
00:59:06 --> 00:59:10: extremely proactive and leads us to have hopeful days in
00:59:10 --> 00:59:12: the midst of of what is a terrible.
00:59:12 --> 00:59:15: A terrible news story, a terrible experience that we're hearing
00:59:15 --> 00:59:17: every day about the tragedy.
00:59:17 --> 00:59:19: We are going to keep working with you to stay
00:59:19 --> 00:59:21: in touch as the program gets better.
00:59:21 --> 00:59:24: We believe that it can get better.
00:59:24 --> 00:59:26: We are going to stay in touch with you on
00:59:26 --> 00:59:27: assessing as you said,
00:59:27 --> 00:59:30: Michael, where you know where and when and where and
00:59:30 --> 00:59:32: how the need can be met.
00:59:32 --> 00:59:34: We have enormous strength at the local level.
00:59:34 --> 00:59:36: Both with the the companies that are working the local
00:59:37 --> 00:59:39: level with the communities at the local level.
00:59:39 --> 00:59:41: Our role here nationally is really gonna be to to
00:59:42 --> 00:59:45: direct people to the local powerful teams who will be
00:59:45 --> 00:59:46: solving problems.
00:59:46 --> 00:59:48: You know on a on a basis,
00:59:48 --> 00:59:49: day by day, hour by hour,
00:59:49 --> 00:59:53: and are already. I think doing that and so both
00:59:53 --> 00:59:55: myself and Nadia and Olana.
00:59:55 --> 00:59:59: Nadia primarily has been working with your association and
your
00:59:59 --> 01:00:02: folks but Olana and I have a role as well.
01:00:02 --> 01:00:05: We're trying to coordinate the whole the whole.

01:00:05 --> 01:00:08: There's been so many metaphors about you know air building

01:00:08 --> 01:00:10: an airplane while we're flying it,

01:00:10 --> 01:00:13: et cetera. So the the the perfect process is being

01:00:13 --> 01:00:16: developed in the midst of the process happening.

01:00:16 --> 01:00:19: We're trying to keep up to the news and keep

01:00:19 --> 01:00:22: up to the demands of of those who come and

01:00:22 --> 01:00:25: demands in the positive sense of what they're telling us

01:00:25 --> 01:00:27: they need. And you know,

01:00:27 --> 01:00:29: we we are dealing with a population that is war

01:00:30 --> 01:00:30: traumatized,

01:00:30 --> 01:00:31: which is what we're, of course,

01:00:31 --> 01:00:34: telling the government as well that this is not just.

01:00:34 --> 01:00:36: This is not. Just to step off the airplane and

01:00:36 --> 01:00:38: I'll find myself a job next week in a population.

01:00:38 --> 01:00:40: This is gonna be people who you know had their

01:00:40 --> 01:00:41: homes destroyed.

01:00:41 --> 01:00:43: Violence has happened in front of them in the front

01:00:43 --> 01:00:46: of their children and they're gonna need psychosocial supports.

01:00:46 --> 01:00:48: And so that's that's part of it as well.

01:00:48 --> 01:00:50: So I think if there's any other questions,

01:00:50 --> 01:00:54: I'm happy to. Say more about UC or the efforts

01:00:55 --> 01:00:57: of of our communities,

01:00:57 --> 01:00:59: but I am very hopeful that with the goodwill of

01:01:00 --> 01:01:02: of the folks in this call and the goodwill of

01:01:02 --> 01:01:05: our Community and in fact I mean all Canadians,

01:01:05 --> 01:01:08: we will. We will do the best we can to

01:01:08 --> 01:01:11: welcome these people here and and offer them a safe

01:01:11 --> 01:01:11: a safe refuge.

01:01:12 --> 01:01:16: Terrific well done dakyu to you.

01:01:16 --> 01:01:18: Your if I pronounce that correctly

01:01:18 --> 01:01:20: you actually got my name perfectly.

01:01:20 --> 01:01:22: If you seen me in the media,

01:01:22 --> 01:01:24: my name is pronounced differently every interview.

01:01:24 --> 01:01:27: Every person has differently, but you you got it perfectly

01:01:27 --> 01:01:27: down.

01:01:28 --> 01:01:31: OK, well, that's good. Anyhow I'm getting the high sign

01:01:31 --> 01:01:33: from the organizers here,

01:01:33 --> 01:01:36: where we're an overtime, but it's such a worthy cause

01:01:36 --> 01:01:37: I don't mind.

01:01:37 --> 01:01:40: We really appreciate you, you horn and all of your

01:01:40 --> 01:01:43: colleagues making yourselves available.
01:01:43 --> 01:01:45: We've got more work to do collectively,
01:01:45 --> 01:01:49: but speaking on behalf of the private sector,
01:01:49 --> 01:01:52: there's a lot of goodwill and we'll keep on working
01:01:52 --> 01:01:52: it.
01:01:52 --> 01:01:55: Thanks again. And goodbye. All of you who logged in
01:01:55 --> 01:01:55: today.
01:01:55 --> 01:01:59: Appreciate your time more to do as you've heard.
01:01:59 --> 01:02:00: Let's all get engaged.
01:02:02 --> 01:02:05: Thank you, that's that'll be next week's word.
01:02:05 --> 01:02:08: No, that's next week's word.
01:02:08 --> 01:02:10: If I.

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