

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.
Ukraine. Authorization for emergency travel.
Now in addition to this,
Ukrainians can come in under other programs including ones
related
to family reunification and the nuances of the immigration
process
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.

This video transcript has been machine-generated, so it may not be accurate. It is for personal use only. Reproduction or use without written permission is prohibited. If you have a correction or for permission inquiries, please contact [\[email protected\]](#).