

His Eminence Metropolitan Yurij Kalistchuk
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
9 St. John's Avenue
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June 2, 2012

Your Eminence,

I was encouraged by your suggestion in your most recent letter to the faithful in suggesting that it would be beneficial for all members of the UOCC to become familiar with the governing documents of our Church.

As per your suggestion, I have been reading through various documents, in particular, the Articles of Agreement, (as published in Visnyk June 2000) in which, point 11 states that (our union with the Ecumenical Patriarch) "does not restrict in any way at all subsequent fraternal contacts and communication between the Ukrainian Greek-Orthodox Church of Canada and other Orthodox communities and/or sister churches". With the issuance of your letter dated April 19, 2012, stating that His Holiness Patriarch Filaret could not be welcomed, this point of the agreement has been clearly broken by His Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, as well as, yourself and the UOCC.

Furthermore, the title of Bishop of Toronto has come into question – as per point 5 in the agreement, we are entitled to retain this title: Bishop of Toronto and Eastern Eparchy, despite whatever changes the Ecumenical Patriarchate has made internally. As point 1 states, "The Ukrainian Greek-Orthodox Church of Canada, accepting the canonical authority of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, continues to maintain its present distinct internal structure and organization".

The faithful expect the UOCC and Your Eminence to stand up for our rights and what has been agreed upon. If the Articles of Agreement have changed or have been revised, then we should be advised. If this is the case, then we request a copy of the revised documents. Furthermore, if these are not the actual points of agreement signed between the UOCC and the Ecumenical Patriarchate, then we expect to see the signed copy to review.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours in Christ,

cc Father Victor Lakusta, Chancellor, UOCC

