



Canadian Polish Congress President – Wladyslaw Lizon joined Prime Minister Stephen Harper on recent visit to Poland

April 7, 2008

On April 4th and 5th, 2008 Prime Minister Stephen Harper paid a visit to Poland after attending the recent NATO leader's summit in Bucharest.

Accompanying the Prime Minister on this trip as an official member of his delegation was Wladyslaw Lizon, President of the Canadian Polish Congress

"It was an honour to be invited to join the Prime Minister's official delegation to Poland", stated Mr. Lizon. "With the recent announcement of Canada lifting visa requirements on Polish nationals visiting Canada this was an opportune time for both government's to meet and discuss bilateral relations."

While in Poland Mr. Lizon attended two significant ceremonies: The first was the signing of A Social Security Agreement between Canada and Poland. This agreement once enacted will bring benefits to thousands of Polish-Canadians, by coordinating pension benefits between Canada and Poland. Mr. Lizon also accompanied Prime Minister Harper on a tour of the Nazi-German death camps at Auschwitz and Birkenau.

"Canada and Poland share fundamental values of human rights, the rule of law and democracy. Our two countries are experiencing unprecedented levels of co-operation which is leading to mutual benefit. Canada's lifting of the visa requirement and Poland's increased commitment to the NATO lead mission in Afghanistan are just two examples of such co-operation. On behalf of Canadians of Polish heritage I would like to commend Prime Minister Harper on bringing Canada's relationship with Poland to a new level," concluded Mr. Lizon.

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Press Release - Poland: http://www.mpips.gov.pl/index.php?gid=5&news_id=1068

Press Release - Poland: http://www.nauka.gov.pl/mn/index.jsp?place=Lead09&news_cat_id=13&news_id=6424&layout=6&page=text