

Kyiv Mayor Newsletter

June 2018

CHANGE STARTS WITH KYIV

Vitali Klitschko is the first Ukrainian elected to the International Boxing Hall of Fame

The mayor of Kyiv, ex-heavyweight world champion Vitali Klitschko became the first boxer from Ukraine who was elected to the International Boxing Hall of Fame in the modern boxer category. Both Klitschko brothers attended the Induction Ceremony which took place in the village of Canastota, NY.



"I could call it a fairy-tale, that I have never dared dream of. Now I belong among the greatest legends - Muhammad Ali, Joe Frazier, Mike Tyson and others. There are millions of boxers in the world, thousands of world champions, and to belong among the legends feels awesome!" pointed out Klitschko. "You must fight for your dream, work tirelessly and never stop. And then anything is possible," said Vitali Klitschko at the ceremony. He also told his favourite story: when he was a teen, he promised his friends to take away the world title from Mike Tyson someday. Nobody had believed him, of course. But when he was 18, he won the title. Mike Tyson, who was also present to watch the Induction Ceremony, listened to the story intently and with interest.

Also Vitali Klitschko said thank you to his brother, who is always there for him and made the trip to Canastota to witness Vitali's crowning moment. "Together we twice as strong. We both did a lot for the world boxing and did it together," stated Vitali Klitschko. He also emphasized the importance of recognizing and honouring the achievements of Ukraine by the International Hall and Museum of Boxing Fame.



Prior to the Induction Ceremony Klitschko took part in the annual and iconic tradition of inducted boxing champions fist casting and cast a mold of his fist. Then he attended the Museum of Boxing Fame and was astonished to see there the historic boxing ring from Madison Square Garden in New York - the same ring where Muhammad Ali and many more boxing legends fought. Among their names he discovered his own as well as his brother's. "My brother Wladimir and I feel very honoured to have performed in the same ring with the greatest boxers - the legends we looked up to. I didn't expect it to be here," pointed out Klitschko.

One of the Induction Weekend's most anticipated events is the Parade of Champions prior to the start of the official Induction Ceremony. Thousands of boxing fans from all over come out to watch the Parade and wave to the boxing celebrities passing by in convertibles.

Other boxers in the Class of 2018 elected in the same category are Mexican four-division world champion Erik Morales and light middleweight champion Ronald "Winky" Wright. Among other inductees are broadcasters Jim Gray and Steve Albert in the observer category and German promoter Klaus-Peter Kohl in the nonparticipant category.



Elected posthumously are Sid Terris, a top rated American lightweight boxing contender, ring announcer Johnny Addie and promoter Lorraine Chargin who will become only the second woman to gain induction to the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

To celebrate Class of 2018 during Induction Ceremony an impressive list of boxing legends attended the festivities including Mike Tyson, Wladimir Klitschko, Riddick Bowe, Miguel Cotto, Marco Antonio Barrera, Kelly Pavlik, Antonio Tarver, Sergio Martinez, Leon and Michael Spinks, Gerry Cooney, Christy Martin,

Jarrett Hurd and many more.

International Hall of Fame is boxing's hall of fame and museum which honours the achievements of boxers, promoters and those who have made significant contribution to the development and promotion of boxing.

Kyiv UEFA Champions League Final ambassador, a top football player and the current Ukrainian national

Klitschko in Washington: The World Bank confirmed its interest in further cooperation with Kyiv and implementation of transport infrastructure projects

During the meeting of the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko and the vice-president of the World Bank Cyril Muller in Washington, the World Bank confirmed its interest in further implementation of transport infrastructure, public transport logistics and energy-saving projects in Kyiv. "We have already racked up some joint achievements and look forward to further cooperation. The city is in need of significant renovation of its transport infrastructure and looks to implement brand-new public transportation projects as well as public private partnerships," pointed out Klitschko.



Cyril Muller emphasized that the World Bank has a positive experiences in working with Kyiv and is committed to further investment programmes. At present the World Bank experts prepare guidelines on the city public transportation logistics, in particular bus scheduling and routing. In 3 months they will present their recommendations to Kyiv. Also the World Bank is interested in establishing a public private partnership to enable new modern hospital construction. The city has already mobilized the support of International Financial Corporation and work on this

project has already been kicked off.

In Washington Klitschko had meetings with US politicians, in particular director of the Office of Eastern European Affairs at US Department of State Jorgan Andrews, Congress members David Price and Peter Roskam as well as experts of the German Marshall Fund of the United States. "During our meetings we talked of the current processes in Ukraine. We discussed issues we need to concentrate our efforts on to progress our transformation," pointed out Klitschko. "And I always emphasize our need in further support. It is way too difficult for Ukraine to move forward having no backing of all those allies that want our country be democratic and highly developed European nation. Another challenge that we face today and which actually hampers our progress is massive corruption. It is very crucial for Ukraine to fight it, and I hope Verkhovna Rada will soon adopt the Law on the Anticorruption Court which is highly expected by all our partners," stressed Vitali Klitschko.



Among other discussed issues was the need to tighten sanctions against Russia. "We fully comprehend: the effectiveness of the sanctions is determined by the unity of as many countries as possible," said Klitschko.

On the occasion of Children's Day Klitschko honoured the most gifted kids from Kyiv and addressed the International Forum on Child Friendly Municipalities

On the occasion of Children's Day 75 students of Kyiv children's arts schools received personal awards for exceptional achievement. The awards were presented by the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko in the annual traditional ceremony. The personal award for exceptional achievement was introduced in 1998 and is awarded by the mayor of Kyiv every year to recognise children for their abilities and achievements in arts. This year the winners were selected out of 130 applicants.



"I feel certain that every participant is worthy of the award. However, the jury has selected 75 winners who represented Ukraine at international competitions in the USA, France, Italy and Hungary. Every year we increase the number of nominees and the award amount. Now it is UAH 1000 - not much, but I hope it will motivate the winners for new achievements," pointed out Klitschko. "Our main task is to retain the young talents so that they are able to develop and utilise their skills here, in Ukraine. They will make our country strong, prosperous and talented!" Klitschko told to the journalists. The mayor of Kyiv thanked

the children and their parents and wished them success and new achievements.

At the International Forum on Child and Youth Friendly Municipalities the mayor of Kyiv, chairman of the Association of Ukrainian Cities Vitali Klitschko announced that investing in our children is investing in our future. Supportive environment, love and quality child care are essential to how children succeed in their lifetimes. Equally important are quality education and appropriate healthcare. That is why Kyiv dedicates more than a third of its spending to children education - over UAH 14 billion. "The future of both Kyiv and Ukraine depends on the quality of children's education," stressed the mayor and added that "children often generate ideas worthy of adult attention."

Klitschko pointed out that over the last 3 years Kyiv opened 17 new pre-schools. And 3 years ago there were almost 15 thousand children in kindergarten waiting lists. Currently the city kindergartens have 4 thousand kids in a waiting line. "One of my mayoral missions is that the long waiting lines should be a thing of the past in the next 3 years," stressed Klitschko.

The city is committed to make the city transport kids-friendly and one of the priorities here is to create a bicycle network also suitable for children to ride. "We want to build safe and convenient bike routes," said the mayor.

According to Klitschko, Kyiv authorities reflect on children's physical development: there are plenty of children sports clubs and sports schools. One of special concerns is that the kids with disabilities can access free medical care and rehabilitation. Thus, recently a special rehabilitation and sanitarium pediatric unit was unveiled in Pushcha-Voditsa to meet the special needs of sanitarium care of disabled children. "We are dedicated to making our children the best investment and we do everything possible to focus on the opportunities we have to invest in them," emphasized Vitali Klitschko.

Kyiv Emergency Medical Service fleet receives massive boost



At the official launch Vitali Klitschko handed over 24 brand-new ambulance cars and a specially equipped van for vaccines and medications delivery to Kyiv's Emergency Medical Service. This brand-new fleet, fitted with the latest life-support and intensive care equipment, is worth a total of UAH 50 million. "These ambulances meet EMS standards of Europe. They are built for both crew and occupant comfort and safety and fitted with state of the art medical equipment, equal those of Europe," emphasized Klitschko. "I am delighted that the city acquired these new, most needed vehicles. By every year we strive to expand the ambulance fleet," remarked the mayor.

According to Klitschko, during the last 2 years the city invested about 40 million hryvnas annually into Kyiv Emergency Medical Service. In 2016 Kyiv launched 100 vehicles followed by 15 ambulances fitted with the most up-to-date equipment in 2017. Also Kyiv repaired and renovated the Center for Emergency and Disaster Medicine at a cost of UAH 5 million.

At the ceremony Vitali Klitschko congratulated the city healthcare staff on their professional holiday and presented mayor's awards recognizing their achievements. "Your daily work is vitally important. You save lives and health of people. The quality and timeliness of health care depends on your high professional knowledge and good working conditions. And our objective is to improve the standards of medical care available both for patients and medical staff. We do our utmost for the city healthcare quality improvement," announced Klitschko.

According to the mayor, in 2018 the city healthcare funding will increase by UAH 600 thousand and reach almost 9 million hryvnas. The funding will go towards hospital repair, acquiring new modern equipment and ambulances as well as monthly salary supplement to Kyiv's medical personnel.

Klitschko calls for urgent constitution amendments on decentralization inevitability



Addressing the XIV Ukrainian Municipal Forum, the mayor of Kyiv, chairman of the Association of Ukrainian Cities (AUC) Vitali Klitschko emphasized the need for urgent amendments of the Constitution to make the course of decentralization and its achievements irreversible. He called on President Petro Poroshenko to facilitate consideration and adoption of a draft Law on Land Administration and Spatial Planning of Ukraine. "It is expected to lay the groundwork for full reform implementation. Another hot topic is the Act on Employees in Local Self-Government Units, sponsored by the AUC and pending in the Parliament. The Act will enable the local governments to promote employment in local governance structures and recruit the most qualified employees. While the Act on Employment in the State Service came into force 2 years ago, the postponed adoption of a new progressive local government law looks unreasonable," stressed Klitschko.

This year the Municipal Forum tackles issues of local democracy and involvement of citizens in decision-making and governance in their local area. According to Klitschko, both Kyiv and Ukraine network efficiently with foreign partners to adopt the best international experience. In particular, Norwegian experts, who also participated in the Forum, have unique expertise in communities consolidation.

Currently, as Klitschko remarked, Ukraine is also experiencing such processes but they should be accelerated. "Our cities and Kyiv among them have almost 20-years' experience adopting and adhering to the municipal charters. Now there is a need to reinforce their value in legal regulation of local democracies. Thus, currently the Parliament's Committee on Local Government together with the AUC drafts a corresponding bill and its urgent approval is most expected," stressed Klitschko.

Over the past few years local governments have already introduced such tools as e-petitions and participatory budgeting. For instance, this year Kyiv allocates UAH 150 million to fund Participatory Budget project. Other projects which were launched last year are now fast-forwarding as well.



"We continue to leverage the best experience of the developed democracies which we partner. And I would like to emphasize that plenty of our findings are relevant for other municipalities; and I hope to see them following the Kyiv lead," announced the AUC chairman.

According to Klitschko, designing an efficient tool to utilize the central budget resources earmarked for local governments, which will also generate some extra-revenue, is among the core challenges for local communities nowadays. Also he called on the local governments to focus on economic development and growth of communities. "The accomplished fiscal decentralization enables the local authorities to accumulate additional financial resources and benefit from tax redistribution. But this positive trend may fade due to the lack of local economic growth," pointed out Klitschko.

He then underlined the urgent need to implement efficient programs of budget management and practical and strategic planning. "Every such strategy must be customized to fit community's needs and prospects. Plenty of local governments lack the relevant experience and seek expertise and support. Another new tool adopted by communities is place branding- increasing the brand awareness of the community," noted Klitschko.

The AUC chairman also emphasized the significance of greater autonomy of local communities in raising local revenues via local taxes and levies administration that will result in greater financial independence of local governments from national transfers. According to Klitschko, the AUC drafted the Municipal Fiscal Register to be incorporated into the Register of Proprietary Rights to Real Property, to inventory welfare beneficiaries, streamline local budget revenue and spending. "We hope the Government will back the bill," said Vitali Klitschko.

Blue Flags have been awarded to the Kyiv's beaches



This year 7 Kyiv's beaches have been recognized internationally for meeting important international quality beach standards.

During the inspection of city beaches Vitali Klitschko announced that this year the city plans to reopen 13 municipal beaches and 17 recreation water zones so that all visitors and Kyivans will have a great time in summer. "Today, for instance, Venice and Molodizhnyi beaches set the highest standard for the city's safe and comfort beach leisure. These beaches have all modern facilities - public showers and toilets, dressing rooms, lighting and seating areas as well as sports facilities. We offer new, much more comfortable beach resting options," remarked Klitschko.

This year Verbnyi, Galera and Chortoriy beaches have upgraded their facilities. A special emphasis is placed on beach safety: 150 lifeguards supervise aquatic safety on 25 lifeguard surveillance towers. All lifeguards regularly attend training classes and hone their skills. According to Klitschko, Kyiv's beaches are accessible for wheelchair users and people with disabilities. Dytyachiy, Zolotiy and Puscha-Voditsa beaches offer amphibious wheelchairs and the lifeguards there are made aware of the special needs of such people.

Klitschko stressed that currently Kyiv has 7 Blue Flag beaches. Last year Dytyachiy, Zolotiy and Puscha Voditsa beaches received the prestigious Blue Flag status. This year Blue Flags have been awarded to 4 more beaches - Venice, Molodizhnyi, Galera, and Veselka. "Now the Blue flag waves high on Venice beach. It bestows a mark of quality and indicates that the beach meets the strict international standards for water quality, safety, environmental management and facilities. But we are particularly proud that Kyiv is the only Ukraine's city to certify its beaches under the Blue Flag programme," emphasized the mayor during the beach inspection.

Kyiv joined the World Road Association

Deputy Secretary General Robin Sébille presented the World Road Association certificate of Kyiv municipality membership to the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko.

"I am pleased to announce that from now on Kyiv is admitted to membership in the World Road Association as a regional authority," marked the mayor at the official ceremony. "Now Kyiv moves one step closer to the global network of knowledge pertaining the safe, up-to-date and comfortable road infrastructure. Moreover, Kyiv is the first European capital which is recognized by the Association as a Regional Authority. And we will use all benefits of knowledge-sharing which the WRA offers to its members to pursue Kyiv road reconstruction," he stressed.

Klitschko emphasized that road renovation is one of priorities for Kyiv authorities. Over the last 4 years the city has fixed over 667 km of highways and passages or almost 40% of total city roadways. "Over the last 2 years the city has fixed 500 km of roads and we are committed to change road conditions dramatically in the nearest future," underlined Klitschko and added that Kyiv plans to rehabilitate over 300 km roads this year.



At the meeting the municipal authorities and the representatives of the World Road Association focused on a range of issues of driving comfort and road safety. Also Klitschko assured that Kyiv will be a dedicated Association member. "We agreed to prepare a check-list of concerns and challenges for the next year and the World Road Association will assist," stressed Klitschko.

In turn, the representatives of the WRA welcomed Kyiv's membership. "It is my pleasure to hand over a Membership Certificate as we acknowledge a very strong commitment of Kyiv Municipality

to roads and road infrastructure renovation," said Deputy Secretary General Robin Sébille. He also explained that a particular hope of the WRA rests on cooperation with Kyiv. "Ukraine demonstrates its interest in cooperation with the Association and has already become its active member. We welcome a renewed interest from both the Infrastructure Minister and the Municipality. We view as very important to have big cities in the Association. And we are delighted that Kyiv joined the Association," remarked Robin Sébille. It was agreed that Kyiv would host the next international seminar of the WRA in late October.

The World Road Association is a non-profit association established in 1908 to promote international cooperation on issues related to roads and road transportation. The Association now boasts 121 government members worldwide, including Austria, Belgium, Canada, Japan, China, France, Germany, and the United States. Ukraine joined the Association in 1995. In addition to national governments, the WRA includes regional authorities, collective and individual members. Thus, Ukraine's capital joined the Association. The mission of the WRA is to foster and facilitate global discussion, development and sharing of road-related knowledge, to promote international cooperation on issues related to roads and road transport.

Klitschko to cut the ribbon on the newly reconstructed Vidradniy Park and the first portion of Peremoha park

Vitali Klitschko cut the ribbon to officially open the reconstructed Vidradniy Park. It was originally built almost 50 years ago and last underwent significant renovation over a decade ago.



"Last year we launched a massive restoration of public parks to make them comfortable and enjoyable recreation zones. Natalka park sets a gold standard for the capital city's parks. And we will not slow down the pace of park reconstruction. Recently, as part of Kyiv Day celebrations, we unveiled the refurbished Volodymyrska Hirka park," remarked the mayor.

Refurbished Vidradniy Park has a green maze, newly paved walking paths, new comfortable park benches, a mini-football

pitch, a playground and a unique bicycle route which is also suitable for skateboarding and roller skating.

Vitali Klitschko also unveiled the first portion of Peremoha park which recently has undergone some significant transformations. This park is the major recreation hub for Dnieprovskiy municipal district community. It was built on 65 hectares of pine woodland over 50 years ago and the last renovation took place 10 years ago.

The reconstructed 7 hectares of Peremoha park now incorporate new walking paths and seating areas, a playground, exercise area, 2 multifunctional football/basketball/volleyball courts, a new irrigation system and environmental-friendly parking lots.



"The park features a tiny Japanese garden with traditional plants and an arched bridge. Not far from it there is also a sod sofa which I hope will become a favourite photo zone for visitors," remarked Klitschko.

Further extensive renovation works in other city parks are well on course. "Kyiv is city of parks and we work hard to make them up-to-date, comfortable and safe green recreation urban areas," said Klitschko.

Run for Little Hearts



The mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko took part in the 26th charitable "Chestnut Run" in aid of cardiology care for children. "I am happy that more and more Kyivans join charitable sports events. This year the run saw a record number of sporting and healthy lifestyle supporters – over 15 thousand in total," he said. "As mayor and an athlete I like that Kyiv residents become healthier and more physically active," added Klitschko.

He underlined that the Chestnut Run is a fundraising event. Proceeds benefit the Centre of children's cardiology and cardiac surgery. "This year the Chestnut Run raised UAH 2 million which went to fund the purchase of cardiac care equipment and helped save more than one life," stressed Klitschko.

Besides, as Vitali Klitschko emphasized, the Chestnut Run brings together both professional athletes and running amateurs of all ages as well as disabled people. "I am proud of Kyiv's sporting image and that every year the city hosts many sports events, including international competitions," pointed out Klitschko and assured that the city authorities make everything possible to attract major sports events.

The Chestnut Run is the largest charitable annual race event in Ukraine since 1993. Money raised by charity runners every year supports the Centre of children's cardiology and cardiac surgery and since 2002 participants have raised almost half a million dollars to purchase cardiology equipment and supplies.