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# Bank for Ukrainian Montrealers and refugees gets artistic boost

**Mike Cohen**

Montrealers continue to step up for Ukraine and local artist Kevin Jenne is no exception. Last May he contacted Earl Pinchuk and Gary Blair from the Art for Healing Foundation, which over the past two decades has installed over 13,500 works of art in 90 healthcare institutions across Canada and even in Paris, France.

Jenne was so upset about the Russian-triggered war that he created a painting, along with some text, that he hoped would inspire Ukrainians and anyone for that matter. While Pinchuk was able to find a Ukrainian long term care facility that would house the painting, some well connected Ukrainian Montrealers stepped in and recommended a venue more accessible to the public. That turned out to be the Caisse Desjardins Ukrainienne de Montréal in Rosemont. The branch manager and tellers are all of Ukrainian descent and speak Ukrainian. This is the bank where Ukrainian refugees have been going to open their first Canadian bank account. "The perfect spot," agreed Pinchuk. The painting was installed last week, a few days before the 23rd annual Montreal Ukrainian Festival at Parc Maisonneuve. As for Jenne, he explains that his "Painting of Peace" has a message that hope is possible during difficult times.

**Bank GM Yourko Kulycky, Kevin Jenne and Earl Pinchuk stand by the painting.**