"I do not think it is accidental that many second generation Estonians from Vancouver came to help us rebuild our country immediately after Estonia regained its independence, " said President Ilves. President Toomas Hendrik Ilves and Mrs. Evelin Ilves met with more than a hundred local Estonians on Saturday in the Estonian House in Vancouver, Canada. The Head of State thanked them for keeping the Estonian language and culture alive and for their contribution in restoring Estonia's freedom and nation.

"I do not think it is accidental that many second generation Estonians from Vancouver came to help us rebuild our country immediately after Estonia regained its independence, a time when everything was still uncertain," said the President of the Republic.

"It seems that from this distance targets looks clearer," added the Head of State, in mentioning the names of Mr. Ardo Hansson, one of the architects of economic reform, the current Ambassador of Estonia to Germany, Mr. Märt Laanemäe, and Mr. Toivo Klaar, the Head of the European Commission Representation in Estonia, among those who have helped rebuilt Estonia.

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