

## About the FoC Network

Written by Kathryn

Thursday, 30 September 2010 14:27 - Last Updated Saturday, 11 June 2022 20:52

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When the Canadian embassy suggested the Canadian community of Thessaloniki, Greece, band together in 2001, a small, but dynamic, group of Canadians and friends of Canada formed an informal network. Originally, we were composed of alumni from Canadian universities, but we then embraced an open-door policy.

In late 2011, incoming Canadian Ambassador to Greece, Robert Peck, and Maria Pantazi-Peck immediately suggested Athens follow the successful Thessaloniki model, and we extended the network to Athens. Successive ambassadors and embassy staff have been extremely supportive of this means of outreach to the local community.

Our informal Friends of Canada network facilitates the exchange of camaraderie and Canadian-related information between Canadians and friends of Canada from all nations (who live in Greece). We have a 'pay as you go' philosophy, and no monies are collected in any form.

Well-known Canadian Greek writer, Kathryn Lukey-Coutsocostas, is the founding and acting FoC coordinator.

### **Athens activities include:**

- Canada Nights
- New Year 'Vasilopita' Cutting
- Informal Canada Day Celebration
- Friends of Canada Networks (\*below): Welfare Network & Réseau Franco-Canadien/Franco-Canadian Network

### **Thessaloniki activities include:**

- Canada Nights
- New Year 'Vasilopita' Cutting
- Canadian table at the annual ethnic Food-for-Good Festival hosted by the Women from Five Continents in Plaz Aretsou (proceeds go to charity)

**\*ATHENS NETWORKS: - WELFARE NETWORK (in collaboration with the Salvation**

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### Army)

Anytime, day or night, if you turn on your TV set you will hear about “The Crisis”. Actually, this is not just a crisis but rather “The Crisis”. And, while facing a crisis due to a natural disaster is hard enough to cope with, a manmade crisis like this requires even more sensitivity.

The full extent of the present crisis is difficult to estimate. You shouldn't be surprised if the person who passes by you today on the street, or the person sitting next to you at one of Friends of Canada meetings, is one who has been touched.

If you feel you can join our group – which operates in conjunction with the Salvation Army - we would be glad to share ways of helping with you. We'll also keep you informed about the progress we are making. No matter how small your offer – from your time as a volunteer, to a bag of dry food goods or Christmas treats - it can make a huge difference to someone's life.

We are looking forward to working with you.

Facilitator: Pauline Jenkins Boussiakos

### - RESEAU FRANCO-CANADIEN/FRANCO-CANADIAN NETWORK

Parce que le Canada se définit comme une nation bilingue et multiculturelle, que le français et l'anglais sont, à statut égal, ses deux langues officielles, les Canadiens et les ami(e)s du Canada du monde entier seront les bienvenu(e)s sur notre réseau francophone d'Athènes.

Si vous cherchez des informations en français sur la vie quotidienne en Grèce, nous essaierons de répondre à vos demandes.

Si vous souhaitez proposer des activités bénévoles, nous en discuterons avec vous.

Nous essaierons d'organiser des cafés rencontres chez nos membres mais aussi, selon les demandes, des événements sociaux, culturels ou autres ...

N'hésitez pas à nous faire part de vos suggestions.

Et donc, si vous souhaitez participer à notre vie associative en français, merci de venir nous rejoindre ici.

Animatrice : Marie-Thérèse Rolland

*Canada is defined as a bilingual and multicultural nation, with French and English being, equally, its two official languages. As such, Canadians and friends of Canada from all nations are welcome to join this Athenian francophone network.*

*We are here to answer questions that French-speakers may have about resources, like French-language schools, plus we hope to provide coffee meetings for our members, cultural or social events and more....*

*We also welcome your suggestions. Join us!*

*Facilitator: Marie-Thérèse Rolland*

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### PRESS LINKS:

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 46, Autumn 2020, p 18, <https://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin46.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 45, Spring 2020, pp 9 - 10, <https://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin45.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 44, Autumn 2019, pp 10,

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<https://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin44.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 43, Spring 2019, pp 11-12, <https://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin43.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 42, Autumn 2018, pp 11 - 12, <https://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin42.pdf>

--Liberal, Art News, July 18 2018, at end of article, <https://artnews.liberal.gr/arthro/192515/synteyxeis/2018/H-trilogia-peri-psuchis-tis-lilas-koufopoulou.html>

--Keadas - Greek Canadian Perspectives, July 17 2018, <http://www.keadas.ca/2018/07/canada-day-celebrated-in-greece-photos.html>

--Tornos News.gr, July 13 2018, <http://www.tornosnews.gr/en/tourism-businesses/markets/31957-canada-day-celebrated-on-july-9th-in-athens-greece.html?print>

--Avenue Post, Canada.GreekReporter.com, July 12 2018, <http://avenuepost.com/ca/greekreporter/>

--Greek Reporter Canada, July 12 2018, <http://canada.greekreporter.com/2018/07/12/canada-day-celebrated-in-greece-photos/>

--Greek Reporter Canada, June 15, 2018, <http://canada.greekreporter.com/2018/06/15/canadians-were-a-hit-at-food-for-good-festival-in-kalamaria-thessaloniki-photos/>

--Tornos News, June 06, 2018, <http://www.tornosnews.gr/en/tourism-businesses/gastronomy/31637-food-for-good-festival-big-hit-in-kalamaria-thessaloniki.html>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 41, Spring 2018, pp 9 - 10, <https://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin41.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 40, Autumn 2017, pp 11, <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin40.pdf>

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--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 39, Spring 2017, pp 10-11, <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin39.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 38, Autumn 2016, pp 8-9, <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin38.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 37, Spring 2016, pp 9-10, <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin37.pdf>

--TV100, 'Parte Thesi' show on Food-for-Good Festival, IWOG, [https://www.facebook.com/pg/CanadainGreece/videos/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/CanadainGreece/videos/?ref=page_internal)

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 36, Autumn 2015, pp 7-8, <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin36.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 35, Spring 2015, pp 11-12, <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin35.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 34, Autumn 2014, pp 5-6, <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin34.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 33, Spring 2014, pp 6-7, <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin33.pdf>

--The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 35, Spring 2015, pp 11-12, <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin35.pdf>

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- The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 32, Autumn 2013, pp 8-9, <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin32.pdf>
- XpatAthens.com, June 15, 2013 <http://xpatathens.com/news/27330>
- Kathimerini, June 7, 2013 (and several other online Greek news sources carried a link to one of our website pages - the news went viral, crashing our website) [http://www.kathimerini.gr/4dci/w/articles/kathremote\\_1\\_05/06/2013\\_502628](http://www.kathimerini.gr/4dci/w/articles/kathremote_1_05/06/2013_502628)
- The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 31, Spring 2013, pp 7-8 <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin31.pdf>
- The Canadian Institute in Greece, Bulletin 30, Autumn 2012, pp 5-6 <http://www.cig-icg.gr/sites/default/files/docs/Bulletin30.pdf>