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PERIODIC SEMESTRÂL DE FEDERAZION  
AL SERVIZI DAI FOGOLÂRS DAL CANADA



# LA CISILUTE

Atualitât • Culture • Storie • Tradizions • Informazions



***L'architettura tradizionale di Andreis***





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UNITING FRIULIANS ACROSS CANADA

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## PUBLICÂT A CURE DE FEDERATION DAI FOGOLÂRS DAL CANADA

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Un esempio di architettura tradizionale ad Andreis, un paesino delle Prealpi Carniche in provincia di Pordenone.

## Cislute Supporters - Grazie di Cûr

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REGIONE AUTONOMA  
FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA



*Un grazie particolare alla Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia e all'Ente Friuli nel Mondo per il loro continuo supporto.*



## Giuseppe Toso, Presidente della Federazione dei Fogolârs del Canada

Dear Friends,

The Annual General Meeting of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada was held in early May at the Famée Furlane Toronto. It was an excellent meeting and delegates shared ideas about preserving our history and involving the younger generation. Our financial situation is improving after the difficult pandemic years and donations to "La Cislute" increased in 2022. We are grateful for the financial support of individuals, Fogolârs,



*Cainero con Toso al traguardo della tappa Tarvisio-Lussari del Giro d'Italia con la targa donata dalla Federazione che, quest'anno, prevedeva la consegna al primo ciclista friulano a passare il traguardo sul Lussari. Foto: Ente Friuli nel Mondo Facebook*

and corporations. We are also grateful for the financial assistance of Ente Friuli nel Mondo and the Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia. Elections were held at the AGM and I'm pleased to continue as president of our organization for another four years. It will be an exciting time as the Federation celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2024. The official celebration will take place in Windsor



**Giuseppe Toso**

during "Fogolârs 2024" from August 8 to 11. For several years now, the Fogolârs Federation of Canada has presented a trophy to a cyclist in the Giro d'Italia. It was Enzo Cainero - who was a great supporter of the sport and worked tirelessly over the years to bring the Giro to Friuli - who made the presentation on our behalf. Last year, I was present at the stage arrival in "Madone di Mont" - Castelmonte - and it was so exciting! Enzo Cainero invited me to return for Giro 2023. Sadly, he passed away just a few months ago but I wanted to keep my promise to this man who had such passion for his homeland and the Giro. Stage 20 of the Giro ended in Monte Lussari on May 27 and it was Enzo's son, Andrea, who made the presentation of our trophy. He told TeleFriuli that this trophy meant a great deal to his father. Alessandro De Marchi was the first Friulian to cross the finish line, proudly waving the Friulian flag.

**Giuseppe Toso**

## Loris Basso, Presidente dell'Ente Friuli nel Mondo

Carissimi lettori,

Martedì 20 giugno 2023 ricorrerà il 70° anniversario di fondazione del nostro Ente Friuli nel Mondo, prima istituzione del suo genere in Italia, costituita nel 1953 - ben dieci anni prima della nascita della Regione Autonoma Friuli Venezia Giulia - per unire, rappresentare e tutelare i friulani partiti dal Friuli storico per emigrare in Italia e nel Mondo. Per suggellare questo traguardo sarà la città di Udine, capitale del Friuli, ad ospitare la Convention Annuale dei Friulani nel Mondo nel Salone del Parlamento del Castello, nel medesimo prestigioso sito dove la storia ebbe inizio.

Alla luce della straordinarietà dell'occasione, il Consiglio direttivo dell'Ente ha deliberato di anticipare di circa un mese l'organizzazione dell'evento individuando la mattinata di sabato 24 giugno.

Al centro dei lavori sarà posto un tema di attualità in Italia, ovvero quello del "Turismo delle radici" o "Turismo di ritorno". Nel quadro della promozione del "2024 Anno delle radici italiane nel mondo" la Convention Annuale si raccorderà infatti agli obiettivi dell'iniziativa "Il Turismo delle Radici - Una strategia integrata per la ripresa del settore del Turismo nell'Italia post Covid-19", inserita all'interno del PNRR (Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza) sotto la direzione del Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale e rivolta specificamente alla platea di emigrati e discendenti di emigrati italiani nel mondo, un bacino di utenza che sfiora gli 80 milioni di persone. A settant'anni di distanza dalla nostra fondazione, intendiamo così proporre una riflessione sul ruolo che assieme ai Fogolârs Furlans potremo svolgere per promuovere questa forma di turismo alla riscoperta dei luoghi di origine e sensibilizzare le istituzioni regionali e locali per creare sul territorio un'offerta turistica integrata e mirata al target dei friulani all'estero e dei loro discendenti.

Senza dubbio la Convention di giugno sarà anche la cornice ideale per tributare le nostre congratulazioni a Giuseppe Toso, rieletto per la terza volta alla Presidenza della Federazione dei Fogolârs del Canada, e a tutti i componenti del suo consiglio di amministrazione ai quali estendiamo sentimenti di incoraggiamento e gratitudine.

Speriamo, di cuore, di avere tra i nostri ospiti anche una nutrita presenza dal Canada. Sarete tutti i benvenuti!

Vi saluto con l'augurio di vederVi presto a Udine!



**Cav. Loris Basso**

**Loris Basso**

## Mario Toros (1922 – 2018)

### Nel centenario della nascita

Mi ricorderò sempre di quando lo incontravo a Udine: mi prendeva sottobraccio, “Caro avvocato!”, diceva con quel suo largo e franco sorriso. Poi, se eravamo a Friuli nel Mondo, invariabilmente si finiva alla Spezieria pei Sani, lì all’angolo di via Poscolle e via Zanon per un bicchiere di vino; per lui un Franconia, il suo preferito.

Lo conoscevo come presidente effettivo prima e poi emerito, fino alla morte, di Friuli nel Mondo, ma sapevo ben poco del suo passato.

Mario Toros nasce il 9 dicembre 1922 a Pagnacco, ma la famiglia si trasferisce quasi subito a Feletto Umberto, alla periferia Nord di Udine, dove abiterà tutta la vita. Difende sempre le proprie origini contadine, fin da Dolegna, da cui la famiglia era originaria e la propria formazione, fondamentalmente autodidatta: scuole professionali serali, istituzioni cattoliche, sindacati. La sua vita è stata una salita faticosa ed impegnativa, sulla quale Toros si arrampica con la determinazione di chi ha i mezzi ideali, d’intelligenza e di volontà per farlo. A 14 anni è operaio alle Officine Bertoli, dove rimane qualche anno. Quando scoppia la guerra è ancora adolescente. Dopo l’8 settembre del 1943 entra nella resistenza e milita nella brigata Osoppo.

L’esperienza in fabbrica, particolarmente motivante nel percorso verso il sindacalismo e nell’appartenenza all’area cattolica, sancita già dalla scelta partigiana di inserirsi nell’Osoppo, lo condurrà ad essere uno dei fondatori della CISL, il sindacato cattolico dei lavoratori italiani.

Parlando dell’attività politica e sindacale di Mario Toros, un giornalista dirà: “Era un sindacalista fervente. Aveva il coraggio di opporsi con le idee alla sinistra marxista e al neofascismo. Parlava con irruenza e la convinzione di chi ci crede. Aveva fisico adatto, grande resistenza, paura di nessuno”.

La carriera politica inizia nel dopoguerra: consigliere comunale all’opposizione a Tavagnacco e poi nella maggioranza a Manzano; negli anni ’50 è consigliere e assessore nella “grande Provincia” (comprendeva ancora Pordenone) e nel ’58 entra alla Camera, confermato nel

’63 e nel ’68. E poi il passaggio al Senato, dal ’72 all’87 (in tutto sette legislature). Egli è stato certamente tra i più longevi politici ad aver portato le istanze del Friuli in parlamento, sia da deputato che da senatore. Sottosegretario al lavoro con i presidenti Rumor, Colombo e Andreotti e infine ministro: delle Regioni con Rumor e del

Lavoro con Moro. In tale veste di fronte alla tragedia del terremoto del Friuli si dimostrò determinante nel contribuire al processo di ricostruzione che divenne un esempio di capacità e laboriosità in tutto il mondo. “La sera del terremoto, a mezzanotte – racconta in un’intervista – mi telefonò Cossiga (ministro dell’Interno), convocandomi per la mattina dopo a Roma, assieme al presidente Comelli. In quella storica riunione nacque il modello Friuli, ancora oggi giustamente lodato ed elogiato. A cavallo tra gli anni ’60 e ’70 Toros fu chiamato dal governo italiano a presiedere presso la Fao, l’Agenzia dell’ONU per l’Alimen-

-tazione e l’Agricoltura, la prima Conferenza mondiale degli italiani nel mondo. Parlando dell’Italia gli uscì una battuta che gli è rimasta cara e che citava spesso: “Amate quest’Italia – disse ai compatrioti sparsi nel mondo – credete in questa giovane democrazia, dove è possibile che un operaio diventi ministro del lavoro!”, facendo riferimento a sè stesso.

Toros è stato un importante fautore dell’Università friulana, nata poi nel 1978 e per la quale si impegnò moltissimo anche a Roma.

Prima ancora di lasciare il Parlamento, Toros aveva rivolto il suo impegno al mondo, anzi al suo “Friuli nel mondo”, assumendone per oltre vent’anni, dal 1982 al 2003, la presidenza, come successore di Ottavio Valerio. Da consigliere della provincia di Udine partecipò al voto costitutivo dell’Ente nel 1953. Come presidente, Toros è stato per i correghionali espatriati un punto di riferimento basilare; ha rappresentato la comunità degli emigranti cercando di interpretare e fare proprie le esigenze di vecchi e giovani, capace di ascoltare e sempre fedele all’adagio: Se il nono nol conte e il nevôt nol scolte si piert il fil de sapience e duncje de vite.



Mario Toros



## Mario Toros (1922 – 2018)

Tra le sue iniziative politiche citiamo una proposta di legge del 1964 sulla cittadinanza per gli emigrati, che ci ha messo trent'anni a diventare realtà; la trattativa con il governo svizzero per sciogliere i nodi che causavano ai nostri connazionali enormi problemi sociali e umani nel ricongiungimento familiare e un equo trattamento previdenziale; la fondazione dell'UNAIE (Unione Nazionale Associazioni Immigrati ed emigrati), di cui assumerà la presidenza, fino a seminare le premesse per la legge sul voto per gli italiani all'estero. Le porte della sua casa di via dei Martiri a Feletto erano sempre aperte per le donne e gli uomini dei Fogolârs Furlans che da tutti i continenti non mancavano di fargli visita. Conosceva tutti, li chiamava per nome, chiedeva notizie dei

consorti e degli studi dei figli, perfino dei malanni. Era capace di parlare in modo tale che tutti lo capissero e lo seguissero, motivandoli ed incoraggiandoli ad agire in nome della friulanità, rinnovando in loro la consapevolezza di appartenere a un'identità regionale con forti caratteri storici e socio-culturali di cui egli è sempre stato fiero ambasciatore nel mondo.

Mario Toros è stato il politico friulano più popolare e carismatico dentro e fuori della Piccola Patria e che ha rappresentato il punto di riferimento morale, culturale e sociale delle genti friulane emigrate in Italia e nel mondo. Fu, forse più di ogni altro, la voce autentica del popolo friulano, ovunque emigrato, al cospetto delle istituzioni regionali, italiane ed internazionali.

U.M.

## Premio Epifania

Joe Toso, presidente della Federazione dei Fogolârs del Canada, riceve il Premio Epifania.

Siamo fieri di annunciare che il 4 gennaio scorso Joe Toso, presidente della Federazione dei Fogolârs del Canada, ha ricevuto il prestigioso Premio Epifania nel corso di una cerimonia tenutasi a Tarcento.

Definito "Cavalierato del Friuli", il Premio Epifania, creato 68 anni fa, viene assegnato ad individui o istituzioni a riconoscimento di attività che hanno recato particolare prestigio alla Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia. I vincitori dell'edizione attuale sono lo stori-

co Ferruccio Tassin, la scrittrice Ilaria Tuti e l'imprenditore friulano-canadese Joe Toso, della Columbia Britannica.

Il premio è ben meritato. Joe Toso non è solo un imprenditore di successo e un uomo d'affari friulano-canadese rispettato, ma anche un propugnatore della cultura friulana. Quando la sua famiglia è partita da Majano alla volta della Francia, Joe aveva solo sei anni. In un secondo tempo si è trasferito in Canada, dove ha trovato lavoro nell'industria siderurgica. Partito dal gradino più basso, grazie al proprio lavoro Joe si è issato fino in cima, per arrivare all'acquisizione dell'azienda. Joe ha vinto numerosi premi nel settore degli affari ed è uno



*I tre laureati del Premio Epifania 2023: al centro Joe Toso, alla sua sinistra la celebre scrittrice Ilaria Tuti e a destra lo storico Ferruccio Tassin.*

dei più rispettati imprenditori italo-canadesi nella provincia in cui vive

È un bell'esempio d'intraprendenza friulana.

Joe non ha mai dimenticato le proprie radici e dedica il tempo libero alla comunità friulana della Colombia Britannica e di tutto il Canada. Ha grandemente contribuito alla fondazione della Famée Furlane di Vancouver, che ha guidato per molti anni. Nel 2014 è stato eletto presidente della Federazione dei Fogolârs del Canada, che dirige tutt'ora.

Grazie per tutto il lavoro che svolgi, Joe. Siamo fieri di te. Felicitazioni per questo meritatissimo premio!

**Ivano Cargnello**



## Fogolâr Furlan Ottawa

Dopo tre anni di pausa imposta dalla pandemia, il Fogolâr di Ottawa ritorna al suo programma con fervore celebrando la Fieste dal Popul Furlan il sabato 29 aprile e organizzando per la comunità di Ottawa la Mostra della Lingua Friulana. Il giorno seguente, domenica 30 aprile, si è tenuta la prima Assemblea Annuale in quattro anni.

Ivano Cargnello ha tenuto una conferenza sulla storia del Friuli. In particolare, sottolineò l'importanza del 3 aprile 1077 per il Friuli. Cioè, della vicenda tra il Papa ed Enrico IV sul soggetto delle investiture, e che concluse con la scomunica di Enrico IV. Dopo un perdono travagliato seguito da un tentativo di ritorno dell'imperatore in Germania, un ritorno assicurato dal Patriarca Sigardo. L'imperatore per ricompensare il suo fedele suddito emise una bolla conferendo al Patriarca pieni poteri politici sul Friuli. Per di più, li concesse anche altri territori. Si può facilmente capire perché il 3 aprile è considerata la data della creazione della 'Patrie dal Friûl'.

Durante la conferenza si offrirono copie della Bolla imperiale tradotta dal latino in friulano, italiano ed inglese.

Di particolare interesse agli storici è che il primo parlamento friulano, costituito per prima volta nel 1232, deliberò anche durante il dominio veneziano, per poi essere eliminato da Napoleone nel 1805.

Continuò una mini conferenza sull'evoluzione della lingua friulana, cioè, dagli inizi del mondo celtico e romano sino al presente con enfasi in particolare sulla mostra ivi presente. In particolare, si parlò dello sviluppo della lingua attraverso i secoli e come la parlata locale era radicalmente differente da dialetti italiani. Si rammentò



Due giovani vestiti alla friulana di fronte a due pannelli della mostra creata dall'Agenzie regionâl pe lenghe furlane (ARLeF).

che anche Dante Alighieri riconobbe che la favella locale del Friuli era completamente differente dal resto dell'Italia.

Durante l'evento si ribadì l'importanza dell'ARLeF, la Regione FVG e Friuli nel Mondo. Il Presidente evidenziò anche il ruolo notevole della Federazione nell'allestimento della mostra ed il contributo versato per le celebrazioni del 3 aprile.



La consegna del certificato di Bon Furlan a Franco Mauro.



Una foto ricordo del nuovo direttivo del Fogolâr Furlan di Ottawa.





## Fogolâr Furlan Ottawa

Si concluse il pomeriggio con i filmati:

- L'ardielut e la Rosade. Pasolini in Friuli
- La patrie dal Friûl
- Film turistico della RAI

La domenica 30 aprile si svolse l'Assemblea Annuale, di grandissima importanza poiché dopo quasi quattro anni di inattività si temeva insufficienza di partecipanti. Invece, grande successo in quanto i partecipanti hanno assicurato più che il minimo quorum.

Durante l'Assemblea il presidente rammentò la perdita di quattro membri del sodalizio ed, in particolare, durante questi ultimi mesi, la perdita di due pilastri del Fogolâr: Ezio Manarin e Luciano Gervasi.

Dopo un pomeriggio d'informazioni si consegnò il certificato di Bon Furlan a Franco Mauro e al tesoriere, Luciano Gervasi, che purtroppo è deceduto improvvisamente 4 giorni prima.

Seguirono le elezioni del direttivo. Il Fogolâr è lieto di annunciare che tre giovani membri si sono aggiunti al direttivo così assicurando un futuro per il Fogolâr. La prima riunione del nuovo direttivo sarà il 5 giugno, 2023.



*La Mostra della Lingua Friulana con una conferenza sulla storia del Friuli e sull'evoluzione della lingua friulana.*

Il Nuovo direttivo per 2023:

Ivano Cargnello, Presidente. Enrico Ferrarin, vice Presidente. Roger Serafini, Tesoriere e ex Presidente. Bob Blasutti, Segretario, Nilde Morielaz, Comitato Sociale. J.P. Spessot, Responsabile Tecnico. Direttori: John Serafini, Ivana Meneguzzo e Stefania Truant.



## Fogolâr Association of Winnipeg

*I* would like to take this opportunity to review the past year's accomplishments and outline our endeavours scheduled for 2023.

The Annual Porchetta. This annual event was held on September 9, 2022, in the Caboto Galleria. It was a full house with 76 members and guests in attendance. The response was excellent and many families and their children were present! The events committee did a great job of coming up with activities that had the children and the adults mingling together. This resulted in a lot of smiling faces as the children took "selfies" with their newfound Fogolâr friends. It was rejuvenating for all present!

Fogolâr Festa Natalizia. The annual Christmas event was held on December 18, 2022, in the larger Café 13 venue at the Caboto Center. The Festa Natalizia is a very popular event and many families with young children were present. The events committee planned activities that the children and adults could do together, such as the craft tables which kept everyone busy. The photo booth was also a big hit. Large smiles were visible everywhere as families and members took the opportunity to get their polaroid pictures taken while

wearing Christmas garb. Another very popular activity was the enlarged map of FVG. Family pins were available for the guests to mark their hometowns so as to show their children and grandchildren their family origins.

The Premio Campo Fogolâr Awards. The presentation of our student awards took place at the Fogolâr Festa Natalizia. This year's award winners were Mr. Drake De Luca and Mr. Alessandro De Sordi. Both recipients took a few moments at the podium to thank the members of the Fogolâr as well as the founders of the Premio Campo Fogolâr Award. It is gratifying to witness the foresight of our founders in providing such benefits to our youth on an annual basis.

### Drake De Luca

*A little bit about myself. I'm a third year Mechanical Engineering student at the University of Manitoba. I'm very passionate about engineering and knew from a very young age that I wanted*





## Fogolâr Association of Winnipeg

*to be an engineer like my father, my Auntie Sonia, and my Uncle Ernie.*

*I always thought it was incredible that my Nonni were able to come to Canada and raise three successful engineers, and so I've naturally always wanted to be an engineer too.*

*I'm very proud of my history and Italian heritage, and I'm thankful for the community that the Fogolar Association has created which has allowed me to connect with my Nonni and their history.*

*I have many fond memories attending Fogolar events and I've always found it a great way to connect with my Nonni and my heritage. I've always enjoyed meeting my Nonni's friends at these events, and learning about how they met and their history together.*

*This award will be a huge help in allowing me to follow my dreams and become an engineer, and I'm very thankful to the Fogolar Association for their contribution to my future.*

*Thank you.*

### Alessandro De Sordi

*Dear Fogolar Members,  
Thank you for awarding me one of the Fogolar Premio scholarship awards.*

*The proceeds of the award will be put to use as I pursue a Masters degree in Economics next year.*

*Like many immigrants, my Nonni left Italy in pursuit of a country that would provide their children and their grandchild with greater opportunities than they had, opportunities, which in their mind, were closely tied to post-secondary education. I know that they too would be gratified by my receipt of this award and that sentiment makes this award even more meaningful to me.*

*Your support and generosity is most appreciated.*

*May the holiday season bring you peace, health and good times spent in the company of your family and those around you.*

*With gratitude,*

*Alessandro De Sordi*



### Fogolâr Association of Winnipeg Updates:

#### 1. Increased Connectivity, Communication and Social Media Presence and Launched website.

Our Facebook page and Instagram accounts are a success with members and guests who take advantage of them to upload photos and videos from home, as well as from international sites while on vacation or on business. The Fogolâr Association of Winnipeg's website, which was launched using the WordPress.com platform, is being revised to a WIX platform which will allow us to easily make changes and updates ourselves, rather than relying on an outside administrator. We currently have our WIX trial website running and are ready to convert to the new version this summer.

#### 2. Virtual Board Meetings.

We continued to meet on a regular basis and meetings were held via Zoom. This is primarily due to ease of access for those with mobility issues or who live outside Winnipeg. We do plan to have several in-person board meetings this year.

#### 3. Events

We hosted the Porchetta event in September and our Festa Natalizia in December. Our Annual General Meeting, held on February 19, 2023, was done in-person and met the required quorum for election of board members. Two board members, Eleonora Travan and Valentino Corvino, had completed their three year terms and required re-election to the board. Both were re-elected with unanimous support from the membership.

**Membership.** This past year continued to be difficult for our membership as we experienced 3 additional founding members passing throughout the year. The organization is continuing to transition to our 2nd and 3rd generation members. Their enthusiasm at making positive changes to grow our membership numbers is being well received as shown with the increased participation numbers for our events.

**Donations.** The Fogolâr provided support to the family members who travelled to the 2022 congresso in Italy and the seven members who made the trip were very thankful to the Fogolâr for this support.





## Fogolâr Association of Winnipeg

Premio Campo Fogolâr Endowment - Annual Award. Two Premio Camp Awards of \$1000 each will again be awarded and applications will be accepted till October 31, 2023.

Board of Directors - 2023. Introducing our 2023 Board Members as Elected at our March 29, 2023, board meeting.

Valentino Corvino - President; AnnaMaria Toppazzini - Vice President; Eleonora Travan - Treasurer; Adriana Aiello - Secretary; Roberta Novel - Membership Coordinator; Jennifer Corvino - Website / Social Media Coordinator; Robert Fabro - Social Coordinator; and Alessandro De Sordi - Events Coordinator. \*Cam Giavedoni is not on the Board of Directors but he has kindly agreed to continue to be the Fogolâr's representative on the Italian League and Caboto Centre.

## Fogolar Association of Winnipeg

### Board of Directors 2023

#### Introducing



Valentino Corvino  
President



AnnaMaria Toppazzini  
Vice President



Eleonora Travan  
Treasurer



Adrianna Aiello  
Secretary



Jennifer Corvino  
Website/Social  
Media Coordinator



Roberta Novel  
Membership  
Coordinator



Robert Fabro  
Social Coordinator



Alessandro DiSordi  
Events Coordinator

[www.fogolarwinnipeg.ca](http://www.fogolarwinnipeg.ca)



## Fogolâr Furlan Sault Ste. Marie

*T*his article is a bit different from our usual submissions for this is my "Coming Home" story. My name is Marisa Del Col and, like many of you, I am the daughter of Furlan immigrants. My mother Anilba (née Bertolo) came from Bannia and my father Eraldo from Praturrone. I was born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie and raised my two daughters (Miranda and Alexa) here as well. My parents were part of the original members of the Fogolâr Furlan of Sault Ste. Marie and I was an active participant of the Furlan Youth Group at that time.

I was honoured to represent Sault Ste. Marie as Miss Fogolâr, to be a Master of Ceremony for our 2002 Congresso, and was thrilled to have travelled to Friuli with other Furlan youth from across Canada to study and immerse myself in the rich and beautiful history and culture of Friuli. It was always wonderful participating in the events of the Fogolâr Furlan and the Federation, and it was like a second family to me. But life is not always easy when death is involved. With the passing of my father, then my mother, and subsequently my sister, I found it difficult to see my parents' friends and join in the regular festivities



*Marisa Del Col as Miss Fogolâr with the Fogolâr Youth.*

without them. I stopped attending all meetings and events but I continued to keep in touch with some members, as they regularly invited me to the events. For many years, I could not bring myself to join the Fogolâr Furlan, which brings me to today. Many years have passed and my daughters are now young adults. As I am nearing the end of my teaching career. I'm ready to start the next chapter of my life. I reached out to our fearless leader and dear friend,



## Fogolâr Furlan Sault Ste. Marie

Roberto Bressan, and told him I will attend the next meeting and any future events. I could actually hear him say through the email “Finally, Marisa!” Not long after that email, Robert asked if I would serve on the executive. Things escalated quickly. I’m now the secretary, I attended my first AGM in March 2023 and I am now writing this story. It was wonderful seeing so many familiar faces and reconnecting with new members. The greetings and hugs I received from my parents’ long-time friends were heartwarming, to say the least.

There are many exciting and fun events coming up for the Fogolâr Furlan of Sault Ste. Marie that I’m excited to be part of. I look forward to reacquainting myself with both old and new members, locally and abroad, as I’ve also offered to assist with the Federation’s 50th Anniversary Commemorative Yearbook for 2024. As for myself, I will continue sharing and celebrating the beautiful Friulian culture with my daughters and friends. I’m so happy to be “home” again!

Marisa Del Col, Secretary,  
Fogolâr Furlan di Sault Ste. Marie

*Benvenuta Marisa!*

*Your Fogolâr Furlan and Federation families welcome you back with open arms, as it does for everyone who got busy in the Canadian way of life and/or lost touch with their Fogolârs in the wake of their passed immigrant genitori, nonni, and famiglie. We were, are, and will always be one strong famiglia united through generations, as a result of our rich immigrant history that has made Canada what it is today – diversified, unified, and strong. If there was ever a story of a Prodigal Son/Daughter, this story would be one of them! Grazie e mandi Marisa... e a tutti who continue to keep the flame of our furlanità alive in their hearts, dinner tables, and Fogolârs!*

*Roberto Bressan, President,  
Fogolar Furlan di Sault Ste. Marie*



*The Sault women of the “Fogolârs 2002” congresso with Marisa Del Col at the far right.*



*2023-25 Fogolâr di Sault Ste. Marie Executive (L to R): Roberto Bressan (President), Robert D’Angelo, Anthony Flumian, Nirvano Graffi, Francine Floreani (Treasurer), Liliana Bressan, Marisa Del Col (Secretary), Folgo Della Vedova (Vice President), Paul Marson, and Rick Borean (Communications). Missing: Frank Tesolin (Past President), John Rosset, Enzo Turchet, John Cesco, and Alisha Rosset.*





## Famée Furlane Hamilton

Fortunately, we did not have any big snowfalls to cancel any of our events this winter! The Valentine's Dinner Dance on February 11 was a sold-out event. It was a beautiful meal and we danced to local group "Daybreak" with Nick Barbieri and his band. It was so nice to see people dancing again... it was our first club dance since Covid ended!

On March 11, we held a "Misdi à le furlane" meal which was well attended by members. Angelo Bertoia, his wife Mara, and Lou Battiston made almost two hundred cotechini (muset). They made extra to sell as a fundraiser too. There were many families and children at the event which brings us hope that the furlan culture will continue. Rosi made sixteen gubane for dessert with an optional spritzer of grappa. This brought great memories of the congresso in Friuli where we had gubana often! The annual Hunters Dinner, on March 25, was sold out and a success! It was chaired by Ezio Colle and the food was cooked by Gianni Ceschia. Many thanks go to the volunteers who helped prepare the rabbits and to the hunters who supplied the venison. Everything was so good! Ezio had a survey on the tables about having another dinner "Monte e Mare" on November 18 and



*Hamilton shows its Friulian pride at the Festa della Patria 2023.*

the event is already sold out!

On March 31, Heart of Ontario Tour rented the Famée Furlane to promote the town of Binbrook for the weekend. It began on Friday night with a furlan meal with local



*The Famée's long-time volunteers come together to celebrate Angelo Bertoia's birthday.*



*A gathering of family and friends at the "Misdi à le furlane" lunch.*



## Famèe Furlane Hamilton

celebrity chef Mark Farrugia from La Piazza Allegra. Local bands serenaded guests all evening. Ontario wines from Ridge Road Estate Winery and craft beers from Clifford Brewing Company were promoted. On Saturday and Sunday, local artists, vendors, and bands were present. The bocce courts were open to visitors and our members were on hand to teach the game. The grounds were used to provide games for children and introduce art sculptures.

On April 3, we celebrated the Festa della Patria with the volunteers with a typical furlan lunch.

The annual Volunteers Dinner was held on April 14 for the dedicated core group that come out every Monday and for the board members. Peter Narduzzi was the main chef, with Linda Peressutti as sous chef. Joe Viola and Renato Infanti prepared two huge pots of great sugo that will also be used for pasta on Mondays. We celebrated the birthdays of our long-time volunteers, Livio Tam, Angelo Bertoia and Joe Viola, with cake and prosecco.

On May 3, we hosted our Bocce Dinner and Prize night. There was a core group of competitive bocce players who, from October to May, came out for fun, food, drinks, and cards, as well as to play bocce. We celebrated



*Rosi Lenarduzzi McQueen (standing) with members of the Famèe Furlane Hamilton at the "Misdi à le furlane" lunch.*

Mother's Day on May 14. In the next months, we will have a takeout cannelloni and meatball fundraiser, the Members Dinner on June 10, a golf tournament on July 9, the Members Picnic on July 16, and Festitalia on September 23.



## Società Femminile Friulana di Toronto

The Società Femminile Friulana ended its first year back after the pandemic with a wonderful Christmas 2022 celebration. The event was well-attended by almost 95 members, who were greeted with a venue fully adorned in festive décor. The tables were decorated with hand-made pinecone Christmas trees that were painted red and adorned with twinkling lights. In addition, each place setting had a wrapped present for each member, which consisted of a coffee mug customized with our Società's logo.

After a delicious meal prepared and served by Gianni Ceschia's team, the executive committee entertained our members with a lively performance of "Domenic the Christmas Donkey." This was then followed by a special guest appearance by Santa, Mrs. Claus, and Little Nicki. Well wishes were shared by all in the hopes of seeing each other again in the new year.

March 2023 brought the restart of our Società's new season, and many of our members are participating more regularly at our general assembly meetings and planned



*A festive décor greeted members at their Christmas celebration.*

activities. In fact, on May 9, 2023, our Società celebrated its 85th Anniversary with a special High Tea Celebration. We are so proud to see how our beloved





## Società Femminile Friulana di Toronto

Società Femminile Friulana has continued to live on through several generations, all the while maintaining its traditions and spirit of togetherness among the Friulian women of Toronto. CONGRATULATIONS! With the arrival of spring, many social events are resuming, and many young brides-to-be are preparing

Cumò che an fevelat ingles  
che par i nonnos, a capi, a le un gran pes  
dos peraulis in furlan  
par no ca fasin un can can.

I vin devant di no  
une coppie innamorade  
e par tignì sù la tradision  
a mangiaran muset e brovade.

A son incontras une bieles sere  
chi, a Toronto, in primevere  
e dopo tanciu diis  
an decidut di planta radiis.

I problemas dalla vite a son complicas  
ma il vuestri amor al serf come une claa  
ricuardaisi di simpri doprale  
par evita in famee la guere mondiale.

I nonnos e i genitors a son chi orgolios  
di iesi testimoni a chieste bieles zornade  
e viodius a scomensa la vuestre gnove strade.

Allore i augurin salut a tanciu frus  
viodeis di dai bon esempi  
Mike di insegnai a ciapa il lus  
e Susy di insegnai di no cresi come mus  
violetis ben ca e une bune idee  
a e cusì ca nas la bune famee.

poem written by Vicky Guerra

for their wedding. In the joyful spirit of sharing, one of our more creative members has proudly offered a “furlan” poem that she wrote for the wedding of her niece and nephew a few years ago.



*Santa and Mrs. Claus made a special appearance.*



*Traditions and the spirit of togetherness permeate all Società functions.*



## Famée Furlane Toronto

### 90 Years Strong

The Famée Furlane Toronto honoured its 90th Anniversary at a celebration luncheon held on May 28, 2023. From very humble and benevolent beginnings, how it has grown over its nine decades! In its lifetime, the club has cultivated friendships, honoured Furlan culture and traditions, and reached out and supported the community, all the while fostering a sense of family community. True to their reputation as “builders,” the club not only built its own *sede*, brick by brick, but continued with building, to help fill the needs of the community through the construction of The Terraces, the seniors’ residence and ultimately, Villa Leonardo Gambin, a long term care residence. A trilogy of accomplishments that has serviced the community well.

This remarkable milestone also served as a time of reflection on its social and cultural accomplishments, acknowledging the club’s rich history, and the countless memories created and shared together. 90 plus years later, it still remains a “*famee*”. The Famee Furlane Toronto evidenced its pride in its strong foundation by showcasing memorabilia and pictures of its countless past outstanding achievements, activities and events. It also showed its sprawling network connections with the other Fogolârs across Canada and around the world through video greetings. The highlight of the celebratory luncheon was the rebirth of the Famee Furlane Balarins. Their cultural dance performance stirred emotions as more than one generation of *balarins* came together to pay tribute to our history through traditional dance. It was a moving and



most enjoyable experience. There was so much to share; it was difficult to showcase 90 years of history in one afternoon!

Our themed celebration “*Ator la Taule*” reflected the club’s origins as the idea of forming a club was, in fact, “around Pietro Rodaro’s mosaic-terrazzo table”. This now historic table has always stood proudly in our lobby and will, without a doubt, follow us into our new home. It was a “*famee*” then and remains a “*famee*” today and continues to be very “*Furlan*”!







## Famée Furlane Toronto

Approximately 327 people attended the 90th anniversary luncheon, eager to help celebrate with pride *"ator la taule, come une famee furlane"* and the event did not disappoint! It was amazing to have witnessed the power of unity and the strength of our spirit, yet again, nine decades later! We made our forefathers proud!

As we honoured the past, it was recognized that it is now time to embrace the present with all of its changes and look towards the future with hope and anticipation. The foundation laid by those who came before us has paved the way for the extraordinary possibilities that lie ahead! The feeling of getting back to a dedicated membership and wanting to continue to carry the torch was a heartfelt emotion shared by all. The event ended with a feeling of a renewed sense of purpose and our people left, marching confidently towards our shared future!







## Famée Furlane Toronto



Rosanna Cannella

### An Enduring Legacy

It is with heartfelt sorrow that we advise one of our much loved and committed board members, Rosanna Cannella, passed away on Tuesday, June 13, 2023. Rosanna was the spark that kept us all on our toes, with her lively sense of humour and positive can-do attitude. Her perpetual willingness to help and commitment to members was her trademark. A Famée Furlane Toronto member since 1979, Rosanna first served on the Board from 1990 to 1995 and returned in 2020. Throughout, Rosanna provided hands on volunteer support on a number of levels. Whether consistent help with the FFT Golf Classica annual tournament, spearheading congresso tours for the Federation to Udine in 1981 and Calgary in 1985, to a host of other events including the annual picnic, Rosanna could always be counted on to provide support and direction. Membership benefited greatly from her superb organizational skills and unique attention to detail. Rosanna's last role with the Board was as Membership Director, but in addition to her board responsibilities, her deep sense of duty spilled into other much needed areas. The emptiness Rosanna's departure has left will be difficult to fill as will be her vibrant smile and contagious laughter. We thank Rosanna for the richness she added to our team, the warmth of her personality and for her never-ending support. Embrace your Furlan roots, open your hearts to others and be compassionate to those in need an enduring legacy that will live on with all who knew her.

*“90 anni di vita per un’associazione come la Famée Furlane Toronto sono un traguardo ambito, al quale tanti altri sodalizi aspirerebbero evidentemente ad arrivare. Un traguardo le cui fondamenta sono state costruite con il duro e disinteressato impegno di tanti corregionali, quasi cent’anni or sono, nella fondazione, mantenimento e sviluppo di un’istituzione ormai faro nell’ambiente della friulanità in tutto il mondo. É un piacere ed un onore porgere alla Famée Furlane Toronto i più sinceri voti augurali per questa ricorrenza. Congratulazioni e sperin che le strade che o vês denant a sedi ancjemò plui lungje di che ca lassait daûr.”*

*Federazion dai Fogolârs dal Canada*





## Fogolâr Furlan Montreal

Lentamente e un po' tentennante, il Fogolâr di Montréal, riavviatosi socialmente lo scorso autunno, continua a camminare con passo fermo. Questo lo dimostrano i molti soci che, non ostante l'età avanzata ed i numerosi acciacchi, o peggio, continuano a partecipare ai nostri incontri, a questi insostituibili momenti di comunione socio-culturale con gli altri corregionali.

Che si chiamino "Fieste da Cjastinis", "Festa dell'Acero" o "Fieste dal Popul Furlan" ha un'importanza relativa per coloro che ancora sono orgogliosi di vivere la propria friulanità ritrovandosi assieme.

Finita la pandemia maledetta, l'autunno ci ha trovato puntuali alla consueta castagnata di metà novembre e, dopo la pausa invernale, ancora una volta al "Sugar Shack" per gli inizi di marzo, a fare il pieno di calorie con i prodotti dell'acero ed i piatti tipici della cucina locale.

Naturalmente, la ricorrenza più importante è stata quella in ricordo del 3 aprile 1077, data ufficiale di fondazione della Patria del Friuli. È un momento di fierezza, di senso di appartenenza e di fratellanza, sapendo che corregionali di tutto il mondo celebrano questa festa, che nella piccola Patria ha raggiunto da anni un'ufficialità ormai affermata e radicata nel sentimento popolare.

Dopo un breve riassunto storico sulla nascita ed i 350 anni di vita della Patria del Friuli è stato spiegato il valore ed il significato dei tre simboli, che da sempre il nostro sodalizio espone in questa occasione: la Spada, che rappresenta il potere temporale del patriarca, il Tallero che ne rappresenta il potere economico ed un cofanetto con un pugno di terra del Friuli, che rappresenta il senso di appartenenza a questa patria friulana ed alla sua comunità storica e culturale, fisicamente che anche solo idealmente, dato che il necessario espatrio, sopportato da centinaia di migliaia di corregionali attraverso i secoli ha sparso questa terra ai quattro angoli del globo.



*I soci brindano al Friuli durante la Fieste de Patrie.*



*Una bella foto del gruppo montrealese alla Cabane à Sucre.*



*Vitôr Cech e i tre simboli della Patria del Friuli.*

Nel corso dell'evento sono anche state recitate poesie in friulano. Ad ogni celebrazione di questa ricorrenza, presento la sintetica biografia di un personaggio di rilievo nella storia del Friuli. Questa volta, data la contiguità del centenario della nascita, il 2022, ho ritenuto doveroso illustrare la vita di Mario Toros, da giovane operaio in fabbrica, fino a ministro a capo di diversi dicasteri, tra cui quello, importantissimo, del lavoro, attraverso il cattolicesimo, la resistenza ed il sindacalismo, per infine dedicare gli ultimi vent'anni ai corregionali sparsi in tutti i continenti come presidente dell'Ente Friuli nel Mondo.

La bella festa è stata animata e conclusa dai tradizionali canti popolari, che non mancano mai in queste circostanze.

Il sodalizio montrealese piange la scomparsa del Dr. Gian Paolo Sassano, originario di Udine e da decenni membro attivo del Fogolâr. Studioso, docente universitario, artista, Gian Paolo non ha mai lesinato i suggerimenti e la critica costruttiva per continuare a migliorare il nostro Fogolâr e sostenere la cultura friulana. Ci mancherà.

**Ugo Mandrile**



## Famée Furlane Vancouver

*We* had a significant changeover of directors in 2022, with four of our team opting to step down. In November, at our Annual General Meeting, Jerry Marzin, Mike Marzin, Angela Boscarol and David Polano were elected to our board. They are joining our current board members of Danny Scodeller, Lana Tesan, Nicola Guaran, Vito Mussio, Luigi Tuan, and Marilynn Tesan, the President of our Lega Femminile.

Many of our new board members are following in the footsteps of our parents who were all actively involved with our society for many years.

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to our former directors who have dutifully served the Famée here in Vancouver over the past number of years. A heartfelt thanks goes out to:

### Tony Fabbro

Served as President for Past 10 Years



### Laura Stefanon

Our Hall Rental Director for Past 8 Years



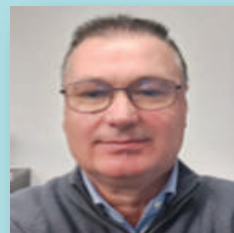
### Lino Toppazzini

Past President & Board Member for 30 years.



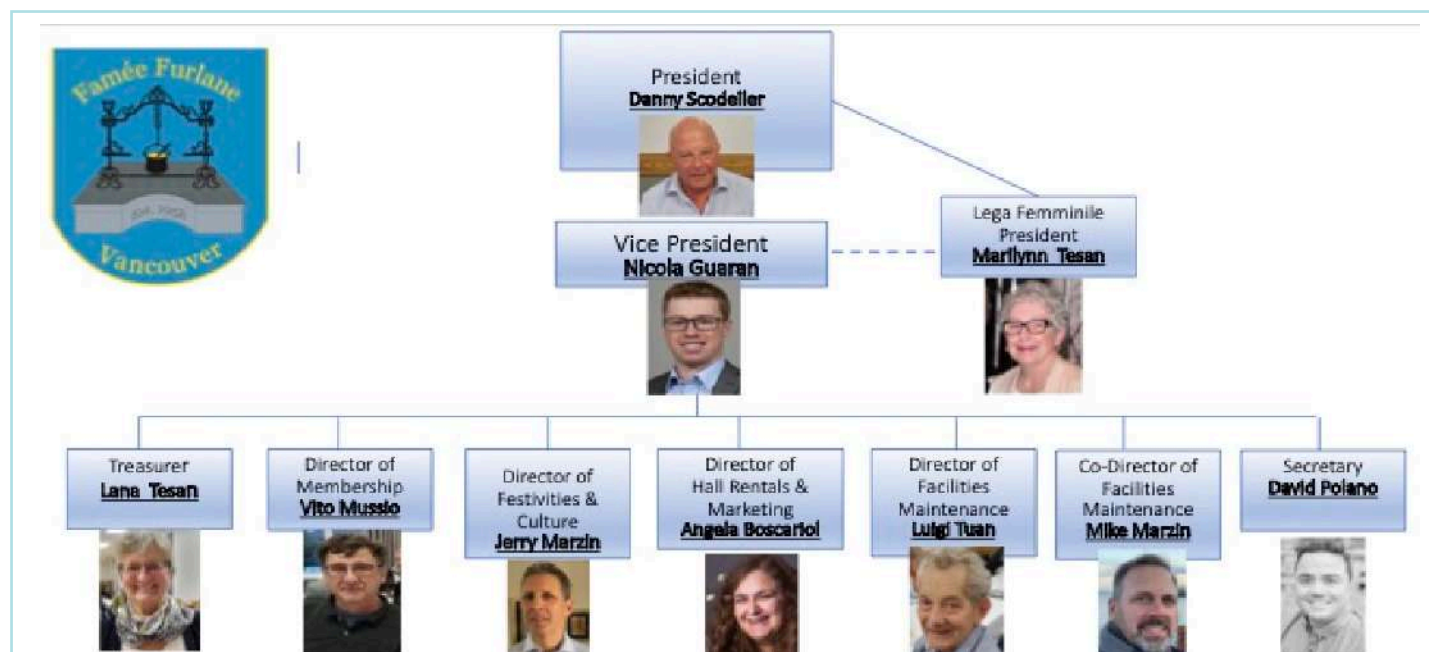
### Andrea Nussio

Board Member for Past 2 years



We have re-structured our board, with each director having a designated role. This, we believe, will provide us with added attention for all that we are striving to

achieve. we are excited to announce our 2023 Board of Directors and their areas of responsibilities:







## Famée Furlane Vancouver

As we wrapped up 2022, and entered 2023, we had a number of events, bringing our members together at our hall, re-connecting with each other, and sharing our mutual interests in our Friulian culture.

Our Babbo Natale event was held on the afternoon of December 11. Santa paid a visit, with treats for the kids, and the parents were taken care of with an assortment of pastries, panettone and coffee. Even some of the grownups got to sit on Santa's lap!



Our Calamari Nights, held on the last Friday of the month, are always a popular event. Our first one this year was held on January 27. Both the 5pm and 7pm seatings were completely sold out. A big thank you goes to our cooks, Vito Mussio and Rose Fabbro, our servers and the bartending crew. We have a number of these popular Calamari Nights scheduled for the rest of the year.

We held our first ever Super Bowl Party at our Hall on February 12. Again, a big thank you goes to Vito Mussio and his wife, Michelle, for preparing a great meal of pasta, salsiccia, salad and dessert for our football fans.

Our Annual Members' Meeting was held on Sunday, March 19. We had 48 members attend, where we reviewed our 2022 financial reports and shared with members what each of our directors has been working on.



On Sunday, April 1, we held our Fieste de Patrie dal Friûl event with 51 guests in attendance. Jerry Marzin, our Director of Festivities, put together a program, with displays and information highlighting the history behind this event. Tony Fabbro (our former president) made a presentation to our members on the significance of this event for Friuli.

We have many other events planned for the rest of the year, and a few new exciting initiatives:

- Italian Canadian Soccer Federation Coppa Italia: a Famée Friulana of Vancouver team will be entered into this tournament taking place in June 2023
- Squadra Ciclismo Famée Furlane: a cycling club for group rides on select Saturdays will begin in May 2023
- Mothers' Day Luncheon on May 13
- UEFA Champions League Final at our Hall on June 10
- Father's Day Barbeque Picnic on June 18
- Vancouver Whitecaps Soccer Game vs LA Galaxy Group
- Ticket Event in July

As always, we look forward to our members continuing to gather and sharing our stories and our mutual appreciation of our Friulian culture.



## Fogolâr Furlan Windsor

*Happy Spring!* We hope everyone is doing well and your clubs and associations are doing well. In Windsor, we are very busy. We have been holding regular events and are constantly preparing for some new activities and opportunities as well. We will go over a few of our major events that we have enjoyed this past spring.

Our children's events are coming back even stronger this year. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt brought out nearly five times the amount of children as the previous year, despite being a day with miserable, stormy weather. These children ran around the Fogolâr on a gloomy Saturday morning to collect eggs, treats and prizes. It was lovely to see so many happy and smiling faces. They filled the halls with laughter and excitement. What an amazing day!

The Women's Association at the Fogolâr in Windsor is always busy looking for new ways to reach out to the community. The women continue to support a local charity every year with fundraising and donation collections. The Giorno della Donna event is one that is looked forward to every year. This year was no different. It was extremely well-attended this year and brought in people from across Windsor and Essex County. We wish them luck as they are currently planning their second annual Summer in the City Car Show. The grounds were full of amazing cars and trucks last July and the attendees were so impressed with the organization of the event that they agreed to come back again this coming year. We are looking for it to be bigger and better! If you are in the neighbour



*The Perissinotti cousins and their Nonna pose for a photo at the Fieste de Patrie event.*



*The current Board of Directors of the Fogolâr Furlan Windsor.*

hood, feel free to come by and see the amazing vehicles on display.

Our Fieste de Patrie was sold out this year! Our speaker, Frank Perissinotti, a local member and retired Professor of Architecture, brought in a new lecture series that focussed on ancient Friuli and the sites that are famous for their roles in creating the Patrie dal Friûl. The lecture was so well-received that Frank Perissinotti is looking at doing some more outdoor events during the summer, both in Windsor and even in nearby Detroit, Michigan.



*Friends take a moment to pose after a lecture at the Fogolâr.*





## Fogolâr Furlan Windsor

We are also proud to announce that we will be hosting the “Fogolârs 2024” congress from August 8 to 11. We have set up a committee in Windsor and its members are busily getting things set and organized. We are so excited to have delegates from across Canada, and even from Friuli, come down to visit us. We have had many members volunteer to assist wherever needed, and we are happy to showcase the pride and camaraderie within our Fogolâr with you all! There is always lots to do at the Fogolâr in Windsor! We wish you all the best for the upcoming summer!



*Congratulations to the 50-year members who received their gold pins at the Spring Members' Banquet.*



## Fogolâr Furlan Sudbury

On September 12, 2022, the Fogolâr held its first General Membership Meeting since January 2020. Elections for the Board of Directors were held at the meeting and the result were as follows: President: Marilyn Simonato; Vice President: Pietro Stefanuto; Secretary/Treasurer: Franca Bortolussi; Auditor: Italo Polano; Health & Welfare: Giuseppe Zanini; Health & Welfare: Darlene Dini; Director: Antonia Copetti; Directors: Edda Bozzatto, Mario L. Zuliani and Sonia Del Missier.

After a three year delay, the Fogolâr held its first Memorial Mass on November 4, 2022, to remember our deceased.

In 2022, we were able to resume our very popular Members Banquet / Children's Christmas Party to everyone's delight. In January of 2023, the Club held its annual Bocce Tournament. The event was well attended and a great success. The Board of Directors of the Fogolâr Furlan Sudbury are currently working on our 40th Anniversary + 2 to be held on August 26, 2023.

The Fogolâr continues to work in conjunction with the Cultural and Education Committee of the Società Caruso, which comprises of the Coro Caruso, Ladies Auxiliary, Associazione Alpini, Associazione Veneta, Calabria Social Club, the Fogolâr and Associazione



*President Marilyn Simonato is shown with Renzo Rigutto (left) and Joe Toso (centre) at the Fogolârs Federation of Canada AGM in May 2023.*

Regionale Marchigiana by having special events to develop an Italian Learning Centre.

In 2022, a \$500 donation was made to “La Cisilute” in honour of Vittorio Centis who was dedicated to the Fogolâr Furlan Sudbury and served as president and vice-president for many years. Sadly, Vittorio passed away in 2021 but we will always remember his commitment to the Fogolâr, his kindness and generosity, and his love for his homeland.



## Fogolar Furlan Niagara Region

### That Little Place by the Lights

My wife, Suzanne, and I discovered an amazing, heart warming place in an unassuming corner of Muskoka, in Huntsville, Ontario.

One late August afternoon, while walking in downtown Huntsville and looking for a place for lunch, there, on Main Street we saw That Little Place by the Lights. While waiting to be seated, we noticed traditional Friulian ceramic plates, with those recognizable proverbs, hanging on the wall. I said, adding a few unprintable explicit Friulian adjectives, "The owners must be Furlan?" Just then we were greeted by a friendly "How are you?" from a smiling, young energetic fellow. Without hesitation I asked "Seistu Furlan?" "Si si!" he responded, with a big, warm welcoming hug. We met Manny Buttus. This eating place was bustling and humming with upbeat activity. Within minutes, from the kitchen Momma Annie Buttus and then Papà Loris came out to greet us, as if we were long-lost family. The warmth from their heart and soul was a recognizable "Furlan" characteristic. It was the same warmth that is associated with the "Fogolar" hearth, as found in almost all early colloquial Friulian homes, as a family meeting place and the cornerstone of all our Fogolar's and Famee's throughout the world.

Annie and Loris, originally from Manzano, Udine, purchased "That Little Place by the Lights" in the early 2000s. Their intention was to make it a warm and welcoming place where everyone feels at home. They achieved their mission. I always say, "You can take a



*Manny and Lindsay Buttus.*

Furlan out of Friuli, but you cannot take the Furlan out of the heart and soul."

The restaurant is now operated by son Manny and his wife, Lindsay. Annie and Loris having taken a much-deserved step into semi retirement, but still come by for daily visits. By the way, Annie's lasagna is world-class. It's my favourite lasagna and I highly recommend it.

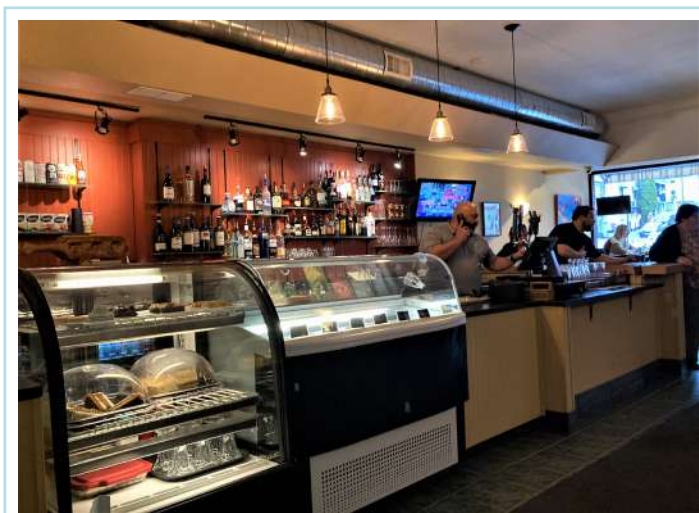
They have been reviewed numerous times by John Catucci from the TV series "You Gotta Eat Here" as well as the Food Network! They are rated as one of the top places to eat in Ontario.

Mandi Mandi Buttus Family

**Doriano Degano - Fogolar Furlan Niagara**



*Doriano Degano (left) and Manny Buttus (right) in the Friulian Corner.*



*A rare, quiet moment before the dinner rush.*





## Fogolâr Furlan Calgary

The Fogolâr Furlan di Calgary held a lunch at the end of November at the Calgary Italian Cultural Association. It was well attended by our members, and gifts of prosecco and panettone were distributed for Christmas. At the event, we celebrated the 88th birthday of long-time member Maria Del Degan, who had become a great-grandmother for the first time just two months earlier. She was in fine form and even walked the 1 km from her home.

In early January, we held our *La Befana* celebration. Our secretary, Loretta Biasutti, again donned the outfit - and nose - of *La Befana* to make a welcome appearance. She distributed mandarines to the adults and candy to the children. We would like to thank those people who brought a wide selection of baked goods - including crostoli, gubana, and fritule - to the event. The president made a presentation and showed two videos from YouTube that were well received by the group. Books about Friuli were gifted to our members.

A Special Meeting was held to discuss the future of our society. It is a sad fact that due to decreasing numbers and increasing age of our community, and other issues, it was not feasible to continue to operate as a formal society, as defined by the province. We hope

that the Friulian community in Calgary will still continue to meet informally, and hold events from time to time.

The Fogolâr Furlan di Calgary would like to remind readers that there are several awards and scholarship endowments available to Alberta students. There is a high-school award, four post-secondary endowments and two post-secondary awards, one at the post-graduate level. These awards and scholarships provide financial assistance towards tuition at a post-secondary institution. The thank-you letters we receive show how remarkable these young people are. They are intelligent and caring individuals who all want to make a mark in the world by sharing their skills, knowledge and passions. Every time we read these thank-you letters, we are grateful that the Fogolâr Furlan established these scholarships. Interested students can find more information at these institutions: Education Matters (Italian), the University of Calgary (Italian), St. Mary's University (General), the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (Professional Cooking Program) and the Calgary Foundation (Italian). Search "Fogolâr Furlan" on their sites to learn more about the specific scholarships and their eligibility requirements.



*Savina Santin (seated) and Leda Fioritti enjoy the Christmas luncheon.*



*Maria Del Degan celebrates her 88th birthday.*



*Loretta Biasutti as La Befana.*



## Fogolâr Furlan Edmonton

*Ciao a tutti!* Cheers from the Fogolâr Furlan of Edmonton. We have cause for celebration! A founding member of the Fogolâr Furlan of Edmonton has turned 100 years old. My Nonno, Giuseppe Benvenuto, celebrated his 100th birthday on April 15, 2023. He has lived through a huge amount of change in society and has had a very active life. His story is long.

The first thing you should know about my Nonno is that he has been looking forward to his 100th birthday since he turned 95! One, because it's a huge achievement, but also because he loves celebrating with friends and family. Over the years he has planned his 100th birthday party multiple times. I've sat down with him and gone over the guest list again and again. We talked about steak vs. chicken, chicken vs. fish; he has poured over every detail for months.

The next thing you need to know about my Nonno is that he has an extreme passion for life. Until 98, he would walk up and down the stairs of his condo building and go for walks outside at lunch. He was always spending time with friends, and in his nineties he oversaw our garden at home. He even used the internet in his mid-nineties and responded to emails! If you told him he could rewind the clock and be 22 tomorrow, he would say "yes" and be out dancing and singing at the "furlan sagras" the following night. He grew up on a farm in San Vidotto, Friuli. When he was young, there was no electricity. Many times, my Nonno would say we were "so lucky" regarding almost everything. He would always tell us stories about how he had to cut the crops on the farm by hand and how difficult that was. He would look at the machines that do the farm work now and say, "So



*Joe Benvenuto, seated, is surrounded by his son, daughter-in-law, grandkids and sister.*

lucky". At Christmas, we would have him over for dinner and he would look around the dinner table at all the food and say, "This is a rich house". What we took for granted, he never did.

He grew up with five siblings and he was the oldest son. When my Nonno was 12 years old, his father passed away, making him the oldest man of the house and responsible for running the farm. He lived in Friuli until his mid-thirties, when he got married and decided to move to Canada with his wife. The plan was to always come to Canada for some adventure and "fâ un pôs di bês" and then move back to Italy. In Canada, he got offered a job as a chef, first in Edmonton and then at different mining camps in the North-West Territories, before settling at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton, where he made many lifelong friends. Nonno and Nonna did try to move back to Italy but finding good, consistent work was hard there.

Once back in Canada, my Nonno focused on the Italian community. Staying close to his roots has and always will be very important to him.

With that background, we thought that we would ask a 100-year-old for some life advice!





## Fogolâr Furlan Edmonton

Interview with Giuseppe Benvenuto:

**What is the secret to living this long?**

“No smoking and no drinking!”  
(He means only social drinking is allowed!)

**What’s brought you the most happiness in life?**

“My family and friends, but also dancing and singing! I sang in the choir for 85 years! Since I was 12 years old, I have been singing in the choir.” My Nonno has lots of stories of singing when he was young, and I remember them singing Furlan songs at social functions all the time. In fact, a couple of weeks ago he sang me a song from when he went on a trip to the Veneto in his youth.

**What do you always say, Nonno?**

“Numero Uno”, “Tutto Bene”!

**A pivotal change in your life?**

“Being in the war. At 18 years old, they made us join the army. I remember before the war, I was a picky eater. Then, one day, we found a mouse in the soup at camp. We thought to maybe take it out but then we left it in to add flavour.” My Nonno was a telegraph operator with the Alpini during the war.

**Something that you are proud of?**

“Starting the Fogolâr Furlan of Edmonton and being in the Alpini Club in Edmonton.”

Article written by *Nina Benvenuto*



*Fogolâr Furlan Members gather to celebrate Joe's 100th birthday.*



*President Giorgio Cimenti gives a speech and toast to Joe.*



*Joe Benvenuto on his 95th birthday. Always celebrating!*

## News from the Fogolârs Federation of Canada

The Federation held its Annual General Meeting on May 6 at the Famèe Furlane Toronto. As always, it was great to see everyone again. Although we are grateful for online platforms, which make it possible to “meet” more often, having and maintaining a personal connection with the delegates from other Fogolârs is so important to our community. We met the new president of the Famèe Furlane Vancouver, Danny Scodeller, who shared excellent ideas for involving the younger generation. Delegates also shared ideas about preserving our history, archiving Fogolâr materials, and conducting oral interviews with family members and Fogolâr members. Our financial situation is improving after the difficult pandemic years and donations to “La Cisilute” increased in 2022, and we are grateful for the support of individuals, Fogolârs, and corporations. We are also grateful for the assistance of Ente Friuli nel Mondo and the Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia. A special thank you goes to the Fogolârs Furlan of Edmonton, Calgary and Sudbury for their recent donations to “La Cisilute”.



*Diana Volpatti (Windsor), Danny Scodeller (Vancouver), Sonia Giovanatto (Windsor) and Luciana Zacher (Edmonton).*



*Frank Lenarduzzi (Hamilton), Franca Bortolussi (Sudbury) and Robert Bressan (Sault Ste Marie).*



*The board of directors (seated) and delegates at the Federation's Annual General Meeting.*

Elections were held at the AGM and Joe Toso will continue as president of our organization for another four years, and Sonia Bertolissi will continue as secretary. It will be an exciting time as the Federation celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2024. The official celebration will take place in Windsor during “Fogolârs 2024”. The Windsor *congresso* committee is already hard at work planning this event scheduled for August 8 to 11. Older issues of “La Cisilute” (1999-2008) have been posted to the Federation website, joining the more recent issues. On November 4, during the Mid-Year Zoom Meeting, delegates will vote on creating a position for the Past President on the board of directors.



*Frank Lenarduzzi (Hamilton), Joe Toso (Federation), Rosi Lenarduzzi McQueen (Hamilton) and Giorgio Cimenti (Edmonton).*



## A tribute to Armand Scaini

### ARMAND SCAINI

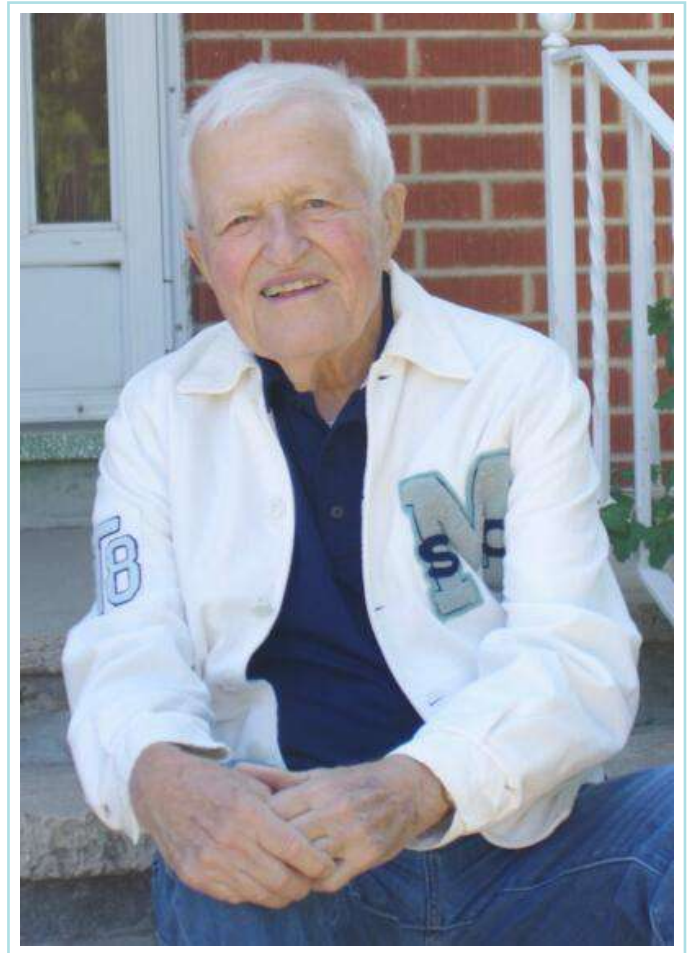
September 9, 1936 - May 6, 2023

The Famee Furlane Toronto community lost a great friend, volunteer and ambassador in Armand Scaini. Armando arrived in Toronto in March of 1949 at the age of 12, quickly learning English and achieving the necessary levels to attend St. Michael's College School. After graduating from St. Michael's, Armando went on to establish a family construction business.

Armando's commitment and dedication to the Famee Furlane Toronto and to the Furlan community in Canada over the past 45 years went well beyond his time as president of the Famee from 1978-1980 and from 1981-1985.

While Armando was a hands-on person and could always be seen doing repairs, replacing lights and much more around the Famee, Armando was also a fervent supporter of Friuli Terraces, Villa Leonardo Gambin and the Fogolârs Federation of Canada. Armando's time will also be marked by the many social and cultural causes he supported. Not only did Armando serve as president of the Famee Furlane Toronto; he also was president of Friuli Terraces (Friuli Benevolent Corp) and a founding director of Friuli Long Term Care, now Villa Leonardo Gambin.

Armando is credited with starting the Gruppo Età d'Oro at the Famee, and organizing many cultural



*Armand Scaini un furlan di grant merit.*

events and initiatives. His hands are everywhere around the Famee, Friuli Terraces and Villa Gambin. Armando and his wife, Joan, sponsored and named the chapel at Villa Gambin "St. Michael's" and did so "in honour of Father Ermanno Bulfon".

Armando's work did not go unnoticed. Armando received the City of Vaughan Volunteer Award in 2019 and, in 2017, was recipient of the Famee Furlane Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition and appreciation of many years of loyalty and dedication.

Armando's leadership, commitment, dedication and support have left an irreplaceable legacy.

### MANDI ARMANDO

*"La Federazione formula le più sincere condoglianze alla famiglia Scaini. La presenza di Armand nella nostra vita è stata un arricchimento per tutti."*



*Il president Armand Scaini fevele in ocasion di un event à la Famee Furlane Toronto.*

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