

Communiqué from AHEPA CANADA President

Fall 2014

Dear Brothers,

With this communiqué I would like to share with you some highlights of my activities as your President since I took office on July 27th 2014.

On Tuesday, October 21, 2014 I participated in the Conference on the Ecumenical Patriarchate organized by the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Canada in Toronto. It was an extremely successful and energizing conference on the absence of religious freedoms in Turkey and the plight of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Among the participants, apart from His Eminence Metropolitan Sotirios were the Canadian Ambassador to Greece Mr. Robert Peck, the Canadian Ambassador for Religious Freedom Around the World Dr. Andrew Bennett and the National Commander of the Order of St. Andrew Dr. Anthony Limberakis, Metropolitan of Korea Dr. Ambrosios Zographos and Fr. Maximos Conostas, Ph.D., Senior Research Scholar at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Dr. Karen Hamilton, General Secretary of the Canadian Council of Churches, Past Canadian President of AHEPA James Anas and myself. The Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I is our spiritual leader and deserves our full support.



At Conference on Ecumenical Patriarchate in Toronto, October 21, 2014

On Monday, October 20, 2014 your President participated in the Fall meeting of the Metropolitan Council in Toronto. It was my first meeting at which I learned a lot about the activities and work of the Metropolis as well as other Greek organizations in Canada. The new Consul Generals of Greece and Cyprus to Toronto Mr. Alexandros Ioannidis and Mr. Constantinos Christofides were in attendance and introduced to us during the Luncheon hosted by Metropolitan Sotirios. Also in attendance were Past Canadian President of AHEPA James Anas, James Smirnios Past Montreal Chapter President and Mr. John Dagonas, Chair of the Hellenic Heritage Foundation and CEGA Award Recipient for his philanthropic and community contributions.



Metropolitan Council Meeting, Toronto, October 20, 2014, Greek and Cypriot Consul Generals seen next to the H.E. Metropolitan Sotirios

On Saturday, October 18, 2014, AHEPA District 23 Governor Bill Bakalis and I travelled to New York City to participate in the Ground Blessing ceremony for the new St. Nicholas National Shrine that will be completed by the end of 2016 on Ground Zero right across from the 9/11 Museum and Memorial and the Freedom Tower.

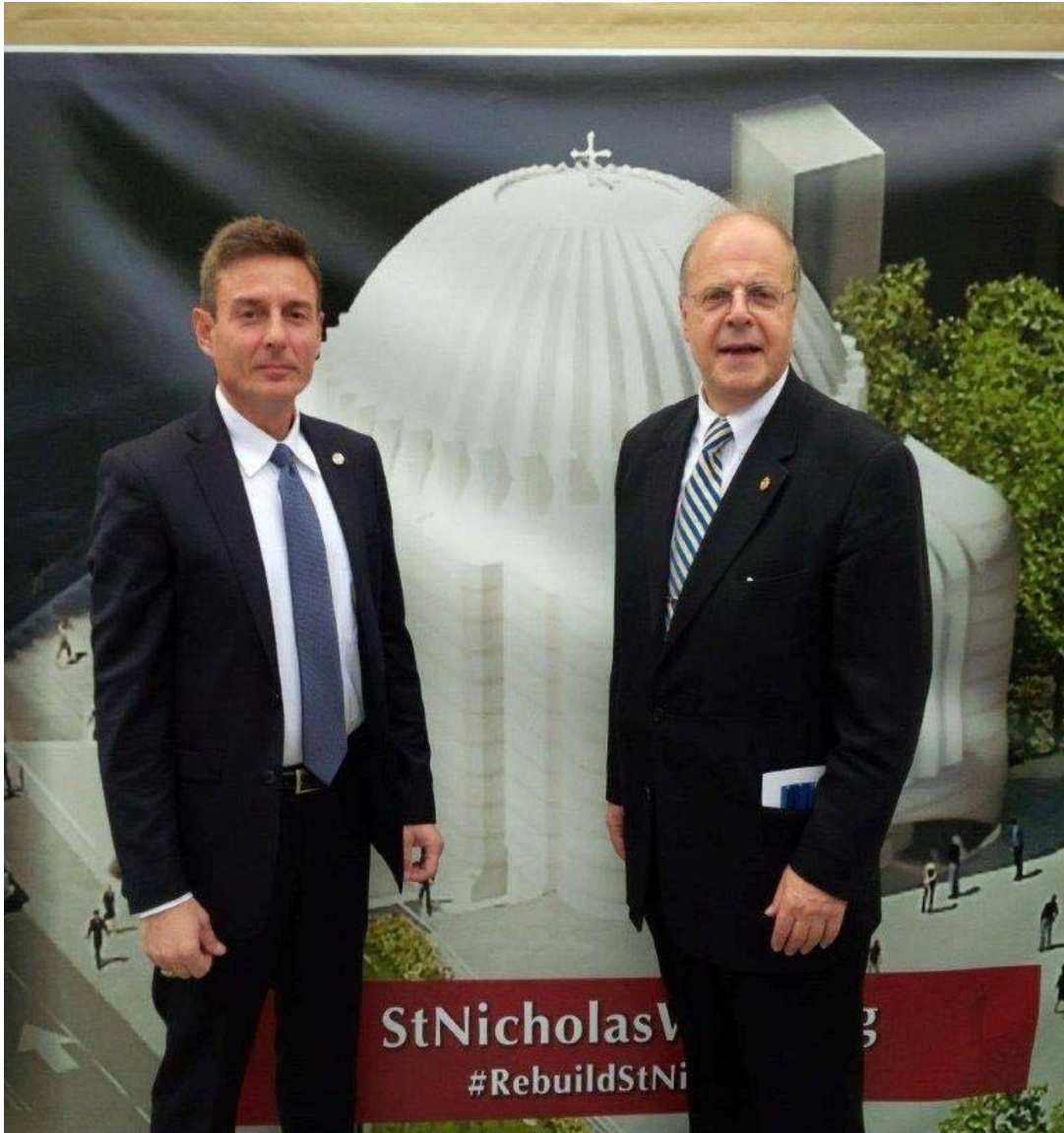
The \$38 million domed church designed by famed Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava is intended to serve both as the new home for the Greek Orthodox parish and as a national non-denominational shrine for ground zero visitors. The dome made of glass and white marble will be backlit from within so that it will glow at night.

"It will be a refuge for people in need of spiritual comfort regardless of their specific beliefs, or unbeliefs," said Archbishop of America Demetrios. "Above all, this resurrected St. Nicholas church will be a monument declaring the victory of good over evil, of love over hatred."

Aside from the numerous Archons of the Order of St. Andrew and AHEPA leaders including Supreme President Frangos, PSP John Grossomanides with his wife Grand President of the DOP Anna Helene Grossomanides, PSP Nicholas Karakostas, Chair of the Fund Raising Committee for AHEPA and Executive Director Basil Mossaidis. Also in attendance were the architect Santiago Calatrava, U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer, former Gov. George Pataki, former Mayor David Dinkins and various other government officials from New York and New Jersey. Pataki, who was New York's governor at the time of the attack, said the church was an important addition to the memorials and skyscrapers that have risen in recent years at the World Trade Center site. "We had remembrance, we had commerce, but without St. Nicholas, we did not have faith," George Pataki said.



Architect's Rendition of what St-Nicholas Church and National Shrine will look like upon completion in late 2016



Bill Bakalis District 23 Governor with Ken Matziorinis, Canadian President in Ground Blessing Ceremony at Ground Zero, New York, N.Y., Oct 18, 2014

On October 3, 2014 your President participated in the Installation Ceremony of the Montreal AHEPA Family Chapters. The Executives of all four Orders were installed. As the highest ranking active officer I installed the Executive of the Montreal Chapter while PGP of the DOP Sister Yiota Effremidou installed the Executive of the DOPs. Past Montreal Chapter President Demetris J. Yantsulis and current President of the Canadian Pan-Macedonian Association was honoured for his 45 years of service to AHEPA and three scholarships of \$1,000 each were handed out to deserving young Hellenes.



Montreal AHEPA Family Installation Ceremony, October 3, 2014



Presentation of Certificate of Merit to Demetris J. Yantsulis, Past Chapter President, PR Chairman and President of Pan-Macedonian Association of Canada

On September 26-27, 2014, PCP George Vassilas, PCP Nick Aroutzidis, PCP Frank Antoniou, District 23 Governor Bill Bakalis, Montreal Mount-Royal Chapter President Jimmy Dionissopoulos, Montreal SOP President George Daoud, Montreal MOA President Cally Kastaniotis and Grand Treasurer of MOA Effie Sapouridis along with Montreal Chapter Secretary George Meletakos and SOP high tech entrepreneur Peter Papanikolopoulos participated in the District Governors Conference and myself in the Supreme Lodge meeting that took place at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Canadian President of the DOP Christina Andrews, Regional Governor Aspa Kostopoulos as well as the European Governor Nick Papadopoulos and Hellas Lt Governor Basilio Petkidis were also in attendance among many others.

The meetings were extremely informative, inspiring and productive. We got to meet and deliberate with Brothers from Greece and across the USA. These meetings are vital educational experiences that help us coordinate our efforts across the AHEPA domain so that we can function as a strong unified body.



George Meletakos, Secretary CJ7, Jimmy Dionissopoulos, President CJ7, Bill Bakalis, District 23 Governor, Peter Papanikolopoulos, SOP, George Daoud, President of Montreal SOP, Ken Matziorinis, Canadian President, Washington DC, Sept 27, 2014



With Christina Andrews, Canadian President of the Daughters of Penelope, Sept 27, 2014



With Nick Aroutzidis, Past Canadian President of AHEPA, Washington, DC Sept 27, 2014



Supreme President of AHEPA Phillip T. Frangos in Washington, DC with SOP Leaders



At the ball game of the Washington Nationals (formerly the Montreal Expos)

On August 20, 2014 we organized a welcome dinner with the new Consul General of Greece to Montreal, Mr. Nicolas Sigalas in which many members of the Montreal AHEPA Family including PCP Lazarus Kalipolidis attended.



Greek Consul General of Greece to Montreal Nicolas Sigalas seated in the middle



Montreal AHEPA Family Welcome Dinner for Nicolas Sigalas, Aug 20, 2014



With AHEPA Chapter Brothers in Ottawa Greek Fest August 17, 2014



With Montreal Daughters at Ottawa Greek Fest, August 17, 2014



From Cheque Presentation: District 23 raised over \$5,000 for the APOSTOLI Mission in Greece presented to Nikos Papadopoulos, District Governor of Hellas



New and Past Canadian Presidents with new Supreme President in New Orleans, July 25, 2014



From New Orleans Supreme Convention, July 2014



Canadian President George Vassilas addressing Supreme Convention Banquet, New Orleans



PSP Anthony Kouzounis presents Archbishop Iakovos Humanitarian Award to Allan Jacobs, President of B'nai B'rith International



Ken Matziorinis taking the Oath of Office at New Orleans Supreme Convention, July 27, 2014



The newly elected Supreme Lodge of AHEPA for 2014-2015, New Orleans, LA, July 2014

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***Looking forward to seeing you in Kitchener on October 31-November 1st!
Supreme Vice President John Galanis and PSP John Grossomanides will be
participating at the District 23 Leadership Conference.***

Fraternally,

*Dr. Ken Matziorinis
President
AHEPA Canada*

*October 25, 2014
Montreal, QC*