

VIARTE 2025 NUMAR 110  
PERIODIC SEMESTRÂL DE FEDERAZION  
AL SERVIZI DAI FOGOLÂRS DAL CANADA



# LA CISILUTE

Atualitât • Culture • Storie • Tradizions • Informazioni

BENVENUTI NELLA CAPITALE  
EUROPEA DELLA CULTURA  
TRANSFRONTALIERA 2025

GO! 2025  
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"FOGOLÂRS 2026 IN FRIÛL"  
CONGRÈS DE FEDERAZION  
DAI FOGOLÂRS DAL CANADA



EXPERIENCE FRIULI WITH THE  
FOGOLÂRS FEDERATION  
JULY 21 - 26, 2026







## FOGOLÂRS FEDERATION OF CANADA

UNITING FRIULIANS ACROSS CANADA

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### In copertina:

Un'immagine di GOI2025, la capitale europea della cultura.  
Una foto scattata al Castello di Udine al congresso "Fogolârs 2014".

## 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 sostegno.*





## Renzo Rigutto, Presidente della Federazione dei Fogolârs del Canada

At the Annual General Meeting on May 3, I was nominated to be the new president of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada, and it is with a great sense of honour and pride that I accept this responsibility and challenge. I would like to thank Joe Toso and the delegates at the AGM for putting their confidence and trust in me, and I look forward to working together with all the member societies and our familial associations in Friuli to continue to take the Federation forward. Our goal is to maintain, promote and experience the culture and history of Friuli, and that important connection we all have with the land of our forefathers.

I must take a moment to thank Joe Toso for the time, dedication and resources he has devoted to the Federation over the past 21 years, the past ten as president. This commitment hasn't come to an end as Joe has graciously accepted a nomination to stay on as the Federation's treasurer. *Gracie Bepi par dut ce che tu âs fat e che tu continuis a fâ pe Federazione.*

As the Federation now embarks on organizing what promises to be another wonderful convention in the

summer of 2026, it is my hope to see many of you in Friuli from July 21-26 for "Fogolârs 2026 in Friûl". It is vital that the Federation be the conduit between our member societies/clubs and Friuli so that we can continue the work laid down by all those who preceded us, whether their role was that of a volunteer, supporter or committee member. The importance of this cannot be understated. After celebrating 50 years of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada, it is only by working together that we can move the Federation and our societies forward.

*Si viodìn in Friûl! See you in Friuli!*

MANDI!

*Renzo Rigutto*



*Renzo Rigutto*



## Joe Toso, Presidente Uscente della Federazione

Dear Friends,

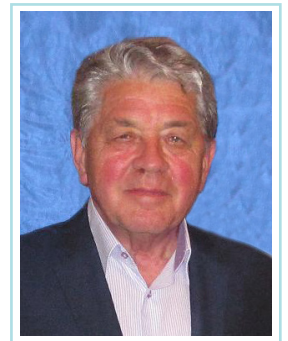
As was announced on May 3, 2025 at the AGM in Toronto, I am stepping down as President of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada. This was not an easy decision, but it's one made with a full heart and deep reflection. I have always believed in the culture, language, and traditions that define who we are as Friulians. That belief has guided my dedication to the Fogolârs, Società, Famées throughout the years. From my time with the Famée Furlane of Vancouver to my involvement in the Federation, I have been honoured to serve and to help preserve and promote our shared heritage.

I truly believed that it was through my participation in the Federation, and the incredible work we have done together, that I had the great honour of receiving awards in Friuli and in Canada. Those awards are not just personal – they are a reflection of the strength and unity of our Fogolârs and the Federation across Canada. I am deeply grateful for everything I have received in return for the time I have volunteered. From the privilege of delivering trophies at the Giro d'Italia to being a part of unforgettable conventions, these moments have meant so much to me. Since joining the board in 2004 as Vice President, then serving as Treasurer until 2014, and finally as President, I have had the chance to work with so many passionate and committed individuals. I have also gained lasting friendships – people I now consider family.

While it saddens me to step away, I believe it's necessary. At this stage in my life, I recognize the importance of allowing new energy and new ideas to shape the future of the Federation. That is why I fully support Renzo Rigutto to become the new President of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada. It's time to open the door to the next generation

and let them carry the torch forward. I also want to thank our sponsors, including Ente Friuli nel Mondo and the Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia. Their financial support made the *congressi* possible and helped us publish La Cisilute and the 50th Anniversary Book. To the Board – you have been outstanding. Thank you for your support, dedication, and for making this journey so meaningful. Special thanks to Dr. Gabriella Colussi Arthur for the outstanding 50th Anniversary Book, and to the Federation, and all the Fogolârs, Famées, Società across Canada – thank you for your trust and your commitment to our mission. Thank you again for everything. It's been an honour.

*Giuseppe Toso*



*Giuseppe Toso*



## In Linea Diretta

Christmas and Easter have come and gone, and we are all anxiously awaiting Spring! It has been a busy few months within the Federation with lots of meetings and activities. Since the last issue of *La Cislute*, we held the Canadian launch of our 50th anniversary book, *Milestones, Transitions, Legacy* by Gabriella Colussi Arthur. The launch was held on November 24, 2024, at the Famee Furlane Toronto and it was attended by many local members. Our President, Joe Toso, thanked all those who were involved in the production of the book. The Honourable Michael Tribollo, Provincial Member of Parliament for Vaughan-Woodbridge, congratulated the Federation and the Friulian community on our achievements. Via Zoom, Mauro Bordin, President of the Consiglio Regionale del Friuli Venezia Giulia, and Franco Iacop, President of Ente Friuli nel Mondo, both congratulated us all on the work we are doing to maintain Friulian traditions.

*From Sea to Sea, An Illustrated History of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada*, by Monica Stellin, documents the first twenty-five years of our history. Our most recent book picks up the narrative in 1999 and focusses not only on the work of the Federation but of its member Fogolârs/Fameis/Società. It has eight chapters which capture our milestones, the changes brought about by community transformations and our efforts to maintain our history and culture. The book is full of memorable pictures from events and *congressi*. Reading the book you are overcome with the richness of all that we have accomplished, and it will inspire us to look forward to what we can continue to achieve in the coming years. During our November 9, 2024, Mid-term Zoom meeting,



President Joe Toso, researcher Alex Wall and author Gabriella Colussi Arthur at the Toronto launch of *Milestones, Transitions, Legacy. Fifty Years of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada*, November 24, 2024.



Delegates and Executive at the Annual General Meeting of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada, Toronto, May 3, 2025.

many expressed concerns about issues that we are facing, such as declining membership, managing a *sede* and encouraging participation in events. It was agreed that we would arrange other meetings via Zoom to focus on these issues. We have now held three of these meetings, called "Growing our Fogolârs". They have been positively received and have generated lots of new ideas which many have taken note of and hope to implement within their societies.

On November 28, 2024, Renzo Rigutto and I met with Luca Zelioli, Console Generale of the Consolato Italiano in Toronto. He had been invited to attend the *congresso* and book launch but due to other commitments could not attend. The meeting focussed on how we can work together to promote the Italian culture. The Console Generale was presented with our 50th anniversary book to broaden his knowledge of our mission.

On March 30, 2025, Joe Toso, announced his resignation as president effective May 3, 2025. Joe has provided many years of leadership, as a VP, treasurer and then as our president. He also represents the Federation and the Fogolârs of North America in meetings with the *consiglio* of Ente Friuli nel Mondo. We will miss his dedication, leadership and passion. We wish him all the best! At our Annual General Meeting on May 3, 2025, Renzo Rigutto was appointed President for the remainder of the term, ending in 2027. Joe Toso was elected as treasurer for a four-year term, ending in 2029.

Many of you attended the 2014 and 2022 *congressi* in Friuli. They were a huge success and everyone had a great time. The "Fogolârs 2026" *congresso* will again be held in Friuli, from July 21 to 26. Mark it on your calendars! The *congresso* committee is meeting regularly to organize this event and more details will be provided in the next issue of *La Cislute*.

**Luisa Del Bel Belluz, Vice President**

## LA NESTRE INT

### SENATRICE CANADESE-FRIULANA!

*E* con grandissimo piacere che abbiamo appreso che **Sandra Pizzolitto Pupatello** è stata recentemente nominata al **Senato del Canada**. Questo onore, ben meritato, le permetterà di continuare a incidere nello sviluppo del nostro Paese. Ricorderete che la Senatrice Pupatello, in quanto una dei dirigenti del Partito Liberale dell'Ontario, ha capeggiato parecchi ministeri durante il governo omonimo della Provincia. Fiera delle sue origini friulane, la Senatrice è stata anche Presidente del Fogolâr Furlan di Windsor e Vice Presidente della Federazione dei Fogolârs del Canada. La Federazione dei Fogolârs del Canada, nonché di tutta la comunità Friulano-Canadese del nostro paese si unisce alle schiere di sostenitori per congratularsi con la neo-Senatrice ed offrirli i nostri migliori auguri di buon e proficuo lavoro.



*It* is with great pleasure that we learned that **Sandra Pizzolitto Pupatello** was recently appointed to the **Senate of Canada**. This well-deserved honour will allow her to continue to influence the development of our country. You will recall that Senator Pupatello, as one of the leaders of the Ontario Liberal Party, headed several Ministries in the government of the same name in the Province. Proud of her Friulian origins, the Senator had also been President of the Fogolâr Furlan of Windsor and Vice President of the Federation of Fogolârs of Canada. The Fogolârs Federation of Canada, as well as, the entire Friulian-Canadian community of our country, joins the legions of well-wishers in congratulating the new Senator and offering her our best wishes on her appointment to the Senate of Canada.

*Ivano Cargnello*

### Giro d'Italia 2025

**Claudio Petris**

**Purtroppo!** E sì, purtroppo quest'anno, non essendoci corridori friulani presenti al Giro d'Italia, non c'è stata la consegna della tradizionale targa appositamente predisposta dalla Federazione dei Fogolârs del Canada. L'interesse degli emigrati friulani in Canada per la 'corsa rosa' risale al 2010 quando, da parte dell'Ente Friuli nel Mondo è stato inaugurato un cippo a Forcella Lius (fra Paularo e Ligosullo) e la Federazione ha consegnato al ciclista francese Ludovic Turpin, un trofeo, quale primo corridore transitato sul Passo Duron.



*Il momento della consegna della targa del Giro d'Italia 2024 e si riconoscono da sinistra: Claudio Petris, Alessandro De Marchi e Andrea Cainero.*

*'in ricuart di Enzo Cainero, al Prin Ciclist Furlan'.*

Purtroppo, qualche giorno prima della partenza del Giro d'Italia, un po' a sorpresa, c'è stato l'annuncio che neanche Alessandro De Marchi sarebbe stato presente alla 'corsa rosa', per cui, quest'anno, si è dovuto rinunciare al rito della premiazione del corridore furlan.

Allora, un po' a malincuore, ci si dovrà accontentare del gradito messaggio di saluto inviato ai Fogolârs dal "Rosso di Buja" Alessandro De Marchi e della foto ricordo scattata in occasione della consegna della targa per l'arrivo della tappa di Sappada del 24 maggio scorso.



*Il messaggio di saluto di Alessandro De Marchi.*





## Fogolâr Furlan Montreal

Dopo i diversi incontri tradizionali del nostro Fogolâr, come il pic nic, la Fieste da Cjastinis, la Festa dell'Acero, aprile porta con sé la ricorrenza certamente più emblematica per i friulani di tutto il mondo: la Festa della Patria, che Montreal ha celebrato con la consueta solennità.

All'introduzione storica hanno fatto seguito la presentazione dei simboli della Patria, la lettura di alcune poesie ed una breve conferenza su un personaggio particolare della nostra cultura culinaria: il frico.

Di questo piatto, amato ed apprezzato da secoli, si è tracciata la storia e se ne sono sottolineate le qualità e la tipicità, mantenute e migliorate attraverso il tempo, senza tuttavia dare risposta ad una domanda ormai classica: qual è il frico migliore? Quello con le patate o quello di solo formaggio? Questa domanda non può avere che una risposta equanime: tutti due sono ottimi, dipende solo dal gusto personale!

Alla fine del convivio si è approfittato per aggiornare i membri presenti sulle ultime novità concernenti il sodalizio e per rinnovare il direttivo dell'associazione, che è stato riconfermato per acclamazione dall'intera assemblea. Le cariche sono state quindi distribuite come segue:

Presidente: Paola Codutti

Segretario: Ugo Mandrile

Tesoriere: Joe Mestroni

Pubbliche relazioni: Aldo Chiandussi

Consiglieri: Vittorio De Cecco, Sonia Patrizio,  
Caterina Visnadi, Doris Vorano.

Vorrei approfittare di questo articolo, e possibilmente anche dei prossimi, per iniziare una consuetudine: illustrare brevemente una personalità, un luogo, una tradizione, una storia del nostro Friuli. Per l'occasione ho scelto Ardito Desio.

Quella di Ardito Desio è una storia di passione e abnegazione, di conquiste e di divulgazione. Di viaggi, scoperte e narrazione. Desio nasce a Palmanova nel 1897, studia a Cividale e a Udine. Dopo aver combattuto nella prima guerra mondiale si unisce alla scuola fiorentina dei geografi italiani, fondata da un altro friulano, Giovanni Marinelli, iniziatore anche di una rivista geografica che sarà poi diretta dal figlio Olinto, cui tanti friulani contribuiranno negli anni.

Le sue esplorazioni cominciano negli anni '20 e si focalizzano sulle allora colonie italiane: la Libia, Rodi e le isole greche, l'Etiopia e poi via, via sempre più lontano, il Tibet, l'Afghanistan, fino all'incontro con il suo destino, la regione del Karakorum, l'Himalaya, il K2, seconda montagna del mondo.



*Il comitato di Montreal: Joe Mestroni, Vittorio De Cecco, Ugo Mandrile, Paola Codutti, Sonia Patrizio, Doris Vorano, Aldo Chiandussi e (assente) Caterina Visnadi.*

Nella sua lunghissima vita (si spense nel 2001, dopo aver letteralmente abbracciato tre secoli) Ardito Desio ha avuto modo di vedere innumerevoli eventi, da lui analizzati con lo spirito dell'attento osservatore.

Il 29 maggio 1953, Edmund Hillary, un alpinista neozelandese e lo sherpa nepalese Tenzing Norgay sono i primi uomini a raggiungere la vetta del monte Everest, il più alto del mondo. L'anno successivo, il 1954, Desio organizza la scalata al K2, che conquista nel corso di quella famosa (e contestata) missione che conclude un percorso di preparazione durato quasi 100 anni. Fu nel 1856 che il colonnello inglese Thomas Montgomerie misurò, da una distanza di 200 km, l'altezza delle cime della catena del Karakorum, nominando K2 quella più alta: 8610 metri. Da allora si susseguirono diversi tentativi di conquistare il gigante: impresa resa difficile per la posizione particolarmente isolata della vetta principale. Molti alpinisti si scoraggiano dopo le prime esplorazioni.

L'avvicinamento di Desio è stato studiato, progressivo, molto preparato. Diversi sono i suoi viaggi negli anni e la missione finale viene simulata, con periodi di prova sul Cervino e sul Monte Rosa, per testare le tende e le attrezzature. La costanza e la preparazione gli permettono di arrivare alla conquista della montagna, realizzando



## Fogolâr Furlan Montreal

il sogno della sua vita di esploratore: “La cima del K2, la gigantesca piramide di roccia e ghiaccio, mi apparve”, ricorda nei suoi libri, “come sospesa nulle nubi. Fu una visione indimenticabile che impressionò profondamente il mio spirito lasciandomi un ricordo incancellabile, colmo di desideri e di propositi.”

Da vero ricercatore, Desio ha preparato i suoi successi documentandosi ed imparando dai risultati conseguiti dagli altri. E, nella logica dello scienziato, anch'egli ha sentito il bisogno di lasciare traccia del suo passaggio spiegando, scrivendo, divulgando. Sono oltre 400 i suoi scritti, tra monografie e saggi, che coprono un intenso percorso di esplorazione delle ricchezze paesaggistiche e delle caratteristiche socio-economiche dei luoghi visitati.

I grandi viaggi, le scoperte scientifiche, ogni percorso innovativo si sviluppa così: è uno sforzo incrementale, non è un'avventura “in solitario”. Dietro al fuoriclasse c'è un grande lavoro di squadra e, molto spesso, un

continuo passaggio di testimone. Passaggi necessari, perché il progresso tecnologico e i fenomeni innovativi non hanno un ritmo costante e un progresso lineare. L'innovazione avanza con violenti strattoni, ci sono forti accelerate e brusche frenate, conseguenze di improvvise scoperte e fallimenti. Questa dinamica richiede una velocissima capacità di risposta ed ecco che a guidare la corsa, molto spesso, non troviamo un singolo maratoneta bensì un susseguirsi di velocissimi staffettisti, abili a coprire, nel più breve tempo possibile, la distanza a loro assegnata per poi passare il testimone. Questa è la storia delle grandi rivoluzioni tecnologiche, dai tempi della macchina a vapore, passando per il motore a scoppio, il personal computer, il web 2.0.

### *Ugo Mandrile*

Fonti: Alberto Di Minin, Il Sole 24 ore, 17 Maggio 2014  
Wikipedia, diversi



## Fogolâr Furlan Ottawa

In seguito alla Pandemia, e vedendo che molti gruppi italiani hanno chiuso le porte, temevamo anche noi una riduzione di membri. Invece è successo il contrario. Nel 2024, particolarmente da luglio in poi, abbiamo sostenuto un incremento considerevole di aderenti. Ora vedremo se questo aumento sia stato semplicemente in reazione al fatto che molti si sono sentiti isolati durante il periodo di Covid ed hanno sentito la necessità di uscire ed associarsi, o qualche altro motivo. Vedremo quanti rimarranno. Ma il Fogolâr rimane molto ottimista. Pensiamo che questo interesse verso il Fogolâr sia dovuto alla utilizzazione dei nostri metodi di comunicazione per mantenere i nostri membri ed il pubblico italiano di Ottawa dovutamente informato: (Pagina Web, Instagram, Facebook, ecc.). Con la decina di membri che sono irraggiungibili via email, ci manteniamo in contatto via telefono, per posta o per mano. Siamo lieti che si è riuscito a rinnovare il Consiglio di amministrazione attirando componenti giovani, e soprattutto nuovi candidati con idee nuove. Diciamo che nel nostro desiderio di aggiornare il programma, nessuna idea nuova viene bocciata. L'età dei componenti del nuovo direttivo è attualmente dai 30 ai 77: Carla Barry, Bob Blasutti, Angela Boisvert, Stefani Truant, J.P. Spessot, John Serafini, Roger Serafini, Nilde Morielaz e Ivano Cargnello. La modernizzazione della nostra contabilità:



versamenti via e-transfer rende molto facile la procedura di adesione. E-transfers hanno anche il vantaggio di assicurare il pagamento con anticipo di biglietti per attività.

Tutto questo insieme, cioè, più giovani nel direttivo, modernizzazione dei nostri mezzi di comunicazione e sistema di contabilità, la nostra distribuzione settimanale d'informazione via email ecc. rende l'immagine di una organizzazione moderna e dinamica.

Our administration also actively encourages and supports new ideas even if these, at times, appear to be





## Fogolâr Furlan Ottawa

risky. We believe that it is absolutely essential for older members to actively support new ideas!

**ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN** after the last issue of the *Cisilute*:

Oil tasting event. We were apprehensive about setting up such an event since it is impossible to obtain Friulian olive oil in Canada. In order to Friulianize the activity, we provided furlan Wines and Cheese. The event was so successful that we have been asked to offer guidance and ideas to another Italian group considering similar endeavours.

Community Involvement. The Fogolâr of Ottawa is a member/partner of the NCIC and an active supporter Villa Marconi Long Term Convalescent Home. To be noted that three of the past Presidents of Villa Marconi were members of the Fogolâr of Ottawa. To support the Villa Marconi project, the Fogolâr holds most activities in their halls.

Just as in previous years, the Fogolâr's Confraternità del Presepio created an Italian style Presepio for the Villa Marconi residents. It is very heart-warming to see the reaction of the 'vecchietti' who say that our presepio reminds them of 'i Natali della loro infanzia' in Italy.

Il Pranzo di Natale is always a success. Of course, during the event, a furlan Babbo Natale appears carrying gifts in a 'cosse Cjargnele' instead of a bag. Da notare che durante la Cena di Natale il Fogolâr ha riconosciuto i piu di 40 anni di lavoro che Enrico Ferrarin svolse in seno alla community friulana ed italiana di Ottawa,



conferendoli il Premio di Bon Furlan.

Annual AGM and Fieste dal Friûl. The AGM in April was well attended. After the annual meeting we held the Fieste dal Friûl under the watchful eye and shadow of the furlan Golden eagle. We began with the history of Friuli and several videos and explanation thereof. Videos were with English subtitles so that all would understand the significance of the celebration. During these celebrations, we always feature the new *furlan* anthem by Arlef, as well as *il Cjant de Filologiche: Un Salût ae Furlanie*. *Durant dutis lis Fiestis dal Friûl, il Fogolâr al met a disposizion dai participants materiâl e libri di caratar storic e cultural, la lenghe furlane e la*

*storie dal Friûl, in particolâr sul 3 avril 1077. Il dut al è simpri siarât cun la cene furlane di polente, spezzatino, formadi furlan (dal Friûl) e vin furlan (Refosco del Pedunculo Rosso).*

A Vigniê: *Par cheste istât: Il Picnic al sarà il 10 Avost.*

*Par l'autun il Fogolâr al pense organisà: Un 'workshop' sul frico. O sperin ancje di torna a portà le Mostre de Lenghe Furlane de Federazion dai Fogolârs dal Canada/Arlef par mostrale durant le 'Settimana Italiana'.*





## Fogolâr Furlan Sault Ste. Marie

### Italian Frece Tricolori participate in the R.C.A.F. 100th Anniversary

The Royal Canadian Air Force (R.C.A.F.) marked its Centennial in 2024 with an extensive lineup of commemorative events across Canada and abroad. One of the main events in Canada was the Spectacle Aérien International de Bagotville, the Bagotville International Air Show, on Saturday, June 22, 2024.

With over 83,000 spectators in attendance, a variety of aircraft were on display for spectators to visit. The Skyhawks (Canada's military parachute demonstration team) showed off their skills with spectacular maneuvers as they descended from the skies with their Canadian Flag Parachutes and trails of red and white smoke. Vintage Aircraft entertained the crowd by performing aerial acrobatics. Spitfires and P-51 Mustangs flew in formation as they had done during WWII.

Canada's Snow Birds, the Euro Typhoon Fighter of Great Britain's Royal Air Force, and the American F-35 Fighter Jet performed breathtaking displays of aerial agility and tactical maneuvers. Canada's CF-18 Hornet Fighter Jets thrilled the crowd demonstrating their strafing and bombing techniques with the impressive presentation of their "Mass Attack". As well, the CF-18 Demonstration Team, which performs in air shows around the world, illustrated its awe-inspiring and intense flying power.

The Italian Airforce Aerobatic Team, the "Frece Tricolori", were exceptionally well received by the crowd. The ten jets (nine for Formation Flying plus one Solo Jet) took off along the runway with the Italian National Anthem playing over loud speakers. They also performed their show with the playing of several songs by Andrea Bocelli. The signature green-white-red smoke from their jets stretched out seven miles (over 11 kilometres) during their performance. When the Frece Tricolori landed at the end of their performance, the leader in Jet #1 had a big Canadian flag on display in his



*Taio Marson seated in the cockpit of the CF-18 Hornet as his brother Dion explains the instrumentation.*



*Dion Marson with his parents Paul and Dionisia.*

cockpit as he was waving to the crowd.

Being that both of our sons are pilots with the R.C.A.F., my wife Dionisia and I were excited to attend the Air Show. Taio flies the Boeing CH-47 Chinook Helicopter based out of Petawawa, Ontario; and, Dion flies the CF-18 Hornet Fighter Jet based out of Bagotville, Quebec.

The organizers of the Air Show had requested a Chinook Helicopter from 450 Squadron, Petawawa, to participate with a static display. Taio and other crew members were granted permission to have their family members fly with them so that they too could attend the Air Show. Because of its massive size, the Chinook Helicopter was an extremely popular display which attracted many people who were given the opportunity to "tour" the helicopter and ask the crew questions.

Since our son Dion is a Fighter Pilot with 433 Squadron, Bagotville, he was invited by the Italian Team "Frece Tricolori" to join them in a practice flight the day before the Air Show was to begin. Dion flew with Oscar Del Dò (from Udine) in Jet #9. Upon meeting the Frece Tricolori pilots, Dion was asked two key questions important to all Italians: 1) "Did you eat?"; and, 2) "Would you like an espresso?"

Dion was thrilled and amazed at how close to one another the Italian jets flew in their formations. He got a kick out of the commands that were given over the pilots' headsets from the leader. Whereas English is the international language of aviation, when it came time to initiate a maneuver or begin releasing the tri-coloured smoke, the command given by the leader to the rest of the pilots was: "Vial!"; and, when it was time to stop the smoke, the command was: "Basta!"

The Italian Team Frece Tricolori represent Italian excellence. The last time that they performed in Canada was in 1992. They also performed over the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa; as well as fly-overs in Montreal, Trenton, Toronto, Vancouver, Cold Lake, Edmonton, and Moose Jaw.

Belated congratulations to our Royal Canadian Air Force and Happy 100th Anniversary!!!

**Paul Marson, Fogolâr Furlan Sault Ste. Marie Member**





## Fogolâr Furlan Edmonton

The Fogolâr Furlan Edmonton has had some big changes! In 2024 we elected a new board! Our past president Giorgio Cimenti has stepped down from the presidency after 14 years of dedicated work for the club. With big shoes to fill, Lorenzo Benvenuto has been elected as our new president. To assist with transitioning his many years of knowledge, Giorgio is staying on the board as our Vice President. A huge thank you to our retiring members Luciana Zacher, Jennifer Ursella and Marina Martin, who have all tirelessly put their blood, soul and furlanità into the Fogolâr. A big welcome to our new members, Gastone Monai (who will take on the role as Treasurer) and Alexa Salvador!

### Fogolâr Furlan D'Edmonton Board

|                                  |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| President - Lorenzo Benvenuto    | Director - Mario Ursella    |
| Vice President - Giorgio Cimenti | Director - Ken Rawlick      |
| Treasurer - Gastone Monai        | Director - Gina Rawlick     |
| Secretary - Nina Benvenuto       | Director - Eleonora Cimenti |
| Director - Alexa Salvador        | Director - Danny Zanier     |
| Director - Mara Zanier           |                             |

We recently hosted our annual bocce tournament that brought together twelve enthusiastic teams. This year our event took place at the Italian Seniors Centre's beautiful three-lane bocce courts, allowing more teams to play and more play time! The event was a splendid celebration of skill, camaraderie, and cultural heritage. With players of all ages displaying impressive technique and sportsmanship, the tournament was filled with laughter, friendly competition, and heartfelt cheer.



Our new board from left to right: Luciana Zacher (now retired), Mario Ursella, Ken Rawlick, Eleonora Cimenti, Nina Benvenuto, Gina Rawlick, Lorenzo Benvenuto, Giorgio Cimenti, Gastone Monai, Mara Zanier, Danny Zanier, (missing) Alexa Salvador.



Team Salam!! Our 2025 bocce tournament winners: Luciana Zacher, Darcie Salvador and Paolo Benvenuto.



## Fogolâr Furlan Niagara Region



Emilia and Gabriella Fabris  
Card Designs

On Sunday December 8, 2024, the Fogolar Furlan Niagara celebrated their annual Charity Christmas brunch at the Anziani Hall Club Roma St. Catharines Ontario. We had a fun-loving crowd of FFN members, family and friends. This year our Director/Treasurer Lucia Scodellaro-Labenski organized via Community Care to adopt a senior. Lucia together with the help from the FFN Children assembled a very substantial shopping cart of gifts for our respective adopted senior. The children hand crafted their own Friulian Christmas greetings and assembled the gifts in the shopping cart. A very enjoyable Christmas brunch and celebration of membership milestones.

Mandi Mandi  
**Doriano Degano**



Lucia organizing the Children





## Società Femminile Friulana di Toronto

Siamo molto liete di riportare che con l'arrivo dell'autunno 2024, la nostra Società ha continuato delle varie attività che hanno avuto una buona partecipazione sia dalle socie ed anche dagli ospiti. Durante la nostra assemblea generale di settembre, le nostre socie e comitato esecutivo si sono rimboccate le maniche per preparare dei dolci deliziosi. Inoltre, una socia ha creato tovaglie e grembiuli fatti a mano che sono stati venduti. Il ricavato di questa vendita è stato donato alla "Autism Beyond 21" charity, un'importante organizzazione che fornisce servizi, programmi, e supporto alle famiglie con giovani adulti autistici (di età pari o superiore a 21 anni).

In October, once again we conducted our new tradition called "Carno-ween" (Carnevalùt + Halloween). Our event was attended by 85 members and guests. Our Executive Committee, in collaboration with a couple of our members, formed three groups and performed their "maschere." With our first group, we saw the return of last year's very elderly couple who got married, but this year their "honeymoon was over." Our second group was "The Drunken Wedding Ceremony" where all key players, including the priest, had too much to drink. Lastly, the third group featured a skit about the 2024 Paris Olympics, which celebrated the achievements of five "special" Olympians who didn't quite make it to the actual competitions but still deserved to be recognized for their unique talents.

A novembre si sono tenute le elezioni per il comitato esecutivo e sono lieta di annunciare che il comitato è stato rieletto per acclamazione. Come facciamo ogni anno in questo mese, abbiamo celebrato un servizio del Rosario per tutte le nostre socie defunte. Inoltre, 38 persone hanno partecipato al viaggio per vedere lo spettacolo "School of Rock" a Mississauga, che è stato seguito da una cena al Montecassino Banquet Hall.

Our year ended with our annual Christmas luncheon, which was attended by 89 members. The tables were decorated with hand-made centerpieces, created by one of our members, and each place setting had a wrapped gift. A delicious meal was prepared and served by Gianni Ceschia's team, followed by a draw for several prizes. Members were entertained by the committee with a funny skit about "mischievous children" learning how to sing "Jingle Bells," which ultimately summoned the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus.



*Members enjoy watching the Christmas skit performed by our Executive Committee.*

Dato il grande successo della nostra raccolta di cibo a Natale dell'anno scorso, questa attività è stata ripetuta quest'anno (e continuerà ad essere una tradizione annuale per gli anni a venire). Ancora una volta, la generosa risposta delle nostre socie è stata incredibile! La donazione è stata consegnata alla comunità locale di Weston.

Con l'arrivo dell'inverno, la nostra Società ha fatto pausa per i mesi di gennaio e febbraio; tuttavia, le nostre assemblee e le nostre attività regolari sono riprese a marzo 2025. Ogni socia è stata accolta con una bellissima rosa gialla, in onore della Giornata Internazionale della Donna, insieme a due cartelle gratuite di Bingo. Circa 80 socie sono ritornate con gioia ed entusiasmo nel vedere le loro amiche dopo un lungo e freddo inverno, ed a passare un paio d'ore assieme in allegria. E con questo abbiamo ricominciato la nostra stagione!

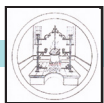


*Socia Angela Dozzi (far right) delivering our Christmas Food Drive donations.*



*Group photo of all performers at Carno-ween 2024.*





## Famee Furlane Vancouver

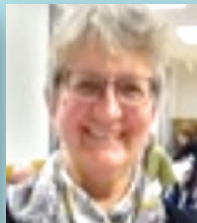
The Famee Furlane of Vancouver had some changeover of directors in 2024. We are fortunate to have Sonia Tolusso and Marina Ferluga-Blake join the rest of our team consisting of: Danny Scodeller, Lana Tesan, Vic Tesan, Luigi Tuan, Jerry Marzin, Mike Marzin and David Polano. All of our directors are following in the footsteps of our parents who were all actively involved with our society for many years.



*Danny Scodeller*



*Jerry Marzin*



*Lana Tesan*



*Vic Tesan*



*David Polano*



*Luigi Tuan*



*Mike Marzin*



*Marina Ferluga-Blake*



*Sonia Tolusso*



As for our Lega Femminile, after serving for many years, Corina Marzin and Marilyn Tesan have opted to step down and pass on the torch. Marina Marzin has been elected as the President of our Lega Femminile. Marina has a long-standing history with the Famee, as her father Luigi was our president back in 1982.

We closed out 2024 with our Seniors Luncheon in December. This was organized by our Lega Femminile. Our next event was the annual Babbo Natale. We had the privilege of having Rick Tesan doing the Santa

duties, and he even came equipped with his own personally grown beard!



On Saturday, February 8, our Lega Femminile held their annual luncheon where Marina Marzin was officially elected as their president. Our sincerest thanks goes to Marilyn Tesan, Corina Marzin and Josephine D'Odorico for their many dedicated years of service to our Lega.



On April 7, we held our annual "Festa della Patria" and over 60 members attended this event. A big thanks goes to Marina Marzin who did a very informative talk about the patrie and our Friulian culture. We incorporated our archives project, "La Storia Photos", into this event because our past plays a key role with our history and our future.



Our Annual General Meeting was held on April 27. We shared our vision and our plans for 2025 with our members. Membership continues to be a key focus for us. We are happy to report that since 2024 we have had 11 new members join us! Engagement and connectivity with our younger members will be an important part of our plans for 2025. We look forward to 2025, growing our Famee membership, and celebrating with our members at all the events we have planned.



## Fogolâr Association of Winnipeg

*The Annual Porchetta.* The annual porchetta was held on September 15, 2024, with 66 attendees in the Galleria Hall. The response to Sorrento's roasted pork table-top presentation was well received with many families and friends taking photos of the buffet table and pork offering. Post meeting, the weather permitted good use of the outdoor patio to set up our raffle prizes and enjoy some fresh air, and the children were able to enjoy the playground area.

*Halloween Social.* The Halloween Social event was held at the Crescentwood Social Hall on Saturday November 2, 2024. Many thanks to the Events Committee and to the volunteers who put their time and effort into sourcing donations, preparing the gift packages, helping set up the hall with Halloween decorations, and cleaning up at the end of the event. We booked the hall for the expected full capacity of 340 guests, however less than half that number attended. Despite the low turnout, the Events Committee made a profit of just over \$1,000.

*Fogolâr Festa Natalizia.* The annual Christmas event and presentation of the Premio Campo Awards, originally booked for December 15, 2024, in the Mauro Hall was unexpectedly bumped to December 22.



Most of our members were not available to attend as many already had alternate plans for that day. The event was cancelled, and future bookings are to be explored for 2025/26.

The Premio Campo Fogolâr Awards. This year's award winners were Mr. Eros Bazan and Ms. Sara Masini. The award recipients provided thank you letters to the members of the Fogolâr, the Premio Campo Awards Committee, as well as the founders of the Premio Campo Fogolâr Award. It is gratifying to witness the foresight of our founders in providing these continuing benefits to our youth on an annual basis.



*Eros Bazan, Premio Campo Fogolâr Award Recipient, 2024.*



*Sara Masini, Premio Campo Fogolâr Award Recipient, 2024.*

**Valentino Corvino**  
President, Winnipeg Fogolâr





## Fogolâr Furlan Windsor

This article will highlight some of the ways that the Fogolâr Furlan Club in Windsor is working hard to maintain its place as a pillar in the community. We understand the importance of securing partnerships with local charities and groups as well as finding ways to give back to the community.

The Fogolâr Furlan Women's Association continues to do amazing charitable work in a variety of ways. The sewing group has been regularly making items to donate to our local hospitals, such as incubator covers and blankets. They also partner with local women's shelters and supply new garments and toiletry bags. The toiletry bags that have been donated are full of supplies that are generously brought in by members during drives throughout the year.

Outside of these regular occurrences, they have partnered with the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Charity to donate money to homes in our community where children are in need of beds and bedding. They are holding a number of events to raise money for this chosen charity. These events are the Women's Day Motown Concert, a High Tea and the Summer in the City Car Show. A big thank you to our Women's Association for all that they do to make our club and our community better places.

A current initiative for the Fogolâr Furlan Club involves working with the We are One Lunch Program to make our club in Windsor a hub where students in our community, who attend school without access to lunches, can receive nutritious meals made in our kitchen. This initiative is dependent upon provincial government funding which has been set aside for similar programs in Ontario. Our club continues to support young Furlans in our community with our scholarship program. The Fogolâr in Windsor hands out scholarships each year on behalf of the club itself and we are very fortunate to have a number of members come forward to offer bursaries to our young Furlans entering post-secondary education institutions.



*A group of friends enjoying the delicious treats at the Fogolâr's first High Tea.*

There is even one open to those who are looking to further their education through Masters programs. We have a vested interest in making sure our youth are a pivotal part of our club and we hope they continue to keep the Fogolâr in their minds and hearts.

It is our sincere hope that people continue to think of our Fogolâr in Windsor as a community cultural organization that does its best to support our community in whatever ways that it can. Wishing everyone a wonderful summer!



*Some of the Scholarship recipients and donors at the Christmas Banquet.*



*A Furlan mother and daughter enjoying a special moment with Santa Claus.*



*Beautiful ladies enjoying the photo booth at the Member's Banquet.*



*Having a great time posing at the photo booth at the Member's Banquet.*



*Two members of the Fogolâr Furlan Women's Association Executive posing at the High Tea.*



# "FOGOLÂRS 2026 IN FRIÛL"

Congrès de Federazion dai Fogolârs dal Canada

## EXPERIENCE FRIULI

with the Fogolârs Federation of Canada from July 21 to 26, 2026



REGIONE AUTONOMA  
FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA



Further details to follow at: [www.fogolarsfederation.com](http://www.fogolarsfederation.com)





## Famee Furlane Toronto

It seems that “dull moments” are but a memory for the Famee Furlane Toronto. Not only is there a resurgence in new membership; but there also appears to be a rebirth of sorts in folks wanting to celebrate their roots, heritage and their much honoured traditions and customs. The rediscovery of old friendships, the making of new ones, all the while enjoying and appreciating the value of connections has most definitely added to a flourishing sense of belonging currently being felt at the Famee Furlane Toronto.

Breakfast with Santa, the much loved and anticipated event of the year, continues to be a highlight of the season’s social calendar for many. The conviviality of the day, the excitement at Santa’s arrival, the smiles on faces, coupled with sharing of the season all come together. It seems it is a most magical event that is truly special for young and old alike. No Bah Humbug is ever present and this year was no exception.



Amidst much laughter and singing, the Befana arrived in January, bringing with her stories of her adventures and treats to fill all the *scarpetts* lovingly painted by each child. The traditional *falò* and blessing was followed with the enjoyment of sausage, polenta and pizza, while the little ones were focusing on individualizing their

*scarpetts*. This was the third year the event was hosted by the Famee Furlane Toronto in collaboration with its Women’s Auxiliary and the Alpini Gruppo Autonomo Vaughan, and it was a tremendous success. Thanks to the generosity of the attendees, sweets were plentiful, including a number of traditional “pinza” versions. It seems the honouring of old traditions is enjoying a terrific comeback in the community.

This year the Festa della Patria was celebrated on Sunday, April 6, and held a few unexpected surprises. The afternoon was opened by new member Joseph Narduzzi singing the *furlan* anthem. This was followed by three recent *furlan* language class graduates, Sandra Dionisi, Joseph Narduzzi and Loretta Antonacci, all reciting poems in *furlan*. Their readings were a great tribute to the success of the language program. Before the highlight of the afternoon, attendees then enjoyed a couple of short videos depicting the history, the land and the language of Friuli.





## Famée Furlane Toronto

Duca Gianni Ceschia, then proceeded with the ceremony by reading the proclamation giving Friuli its autonomy and continued by inducting four new FFT members the *Order of Bon Furlan*. Since 2001, it is an annual tradition that honours deserving individuals who continuously exhibit their support to the Famée through volunteering and commitment. This year's worthy recipients are Loretta Santarossa, Marisa Francescut, Patricia Pivetta and John Roman. Congratulations.

Before continuing with refreshments, including an assortment of homemade delights, and general socializing, we all were moved by Joseph Narduzzi's solo of "Stelutis Alpinis". Oretta Avoledo and her team of volunteers once again outdid themselves by planning a wonderful celebration of our *patria*. Thank you.

While the traditional events are a part of our identity, the new activities currently being offered are being wholeheartedly embraced by our community. Fun events such as theatre productions, painting classes, Sunday Game Socials, Chair Yoga with the Auxiliary



ladies, the ever-popular Friulicious family night dinners, to name but a few, are evidence that along with the fun, a strong sense of community and a common connection are at the heart of the revival of all things old and new at the Famée Furlane Toronto.

**Ivana Pontisso**

## Keeping it Interesting: How your Fogolâr can use Facebook

The world of social media is vast. Making connections or getting the word out about your club can be daunting. Which platform would work best for your club, which one will be the most viewed? A website? E-mail? Instagram? TikTok? Facebook? They all have their champions but at the Famée Furlane Toronto, we've found our Facebook page gets the most response. It's our most valuable, easy-to-use way of posting event information, photos, and all sorts of interesting articles about "robis furlanis".

I think of Facebook as a "place dal marçhât" where we can see what's happening at the Famée and at other Fogolârs, and in Friuli. To keep things interesting, we connect with other Friulian pages and share their posts on our page. People constantly tell us they like what we post. Most of it is on Facebook already and we just make the connections. We try to share or link wisely and keep things positive and factual.

Facebook itself has great instructions on setting up your own page. You can advertise on it (for a fee, of course), monetize it, share it and control who can see it or post on it, allow comments or not. You can

put your club's face on it in the profile picture and cover photo, you can invite people to like it, post photos and videos, and do lots of creative things.

For us, it is important to keep control of what is posted and shared. We also are careful about privacy issues. You can control comments and so on, so that the page is not hijacked by hackers or rude comments. You need to have a moderator and back up who can change things if needed, edit the page and monitor or give access to anyone else who wants to post on your page.

The main thing that keeps people coming back or liking your page is the content. For us, that means curating the content and moderating the comments. For us, the focus is our Famée and our events, and Furlan history, culture, and language. And a few barzelletis in Furlan here and there. It's important to post regularly.

A Facebook page is a great way to interact with Friulians at home and around the world. The many pages online show what a fascinating, interesting and vibrant community we are all over the world.

**Lauretta Santarossa**



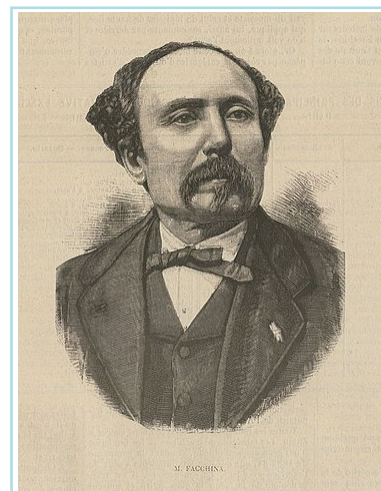


## Gian Domenico Facchina

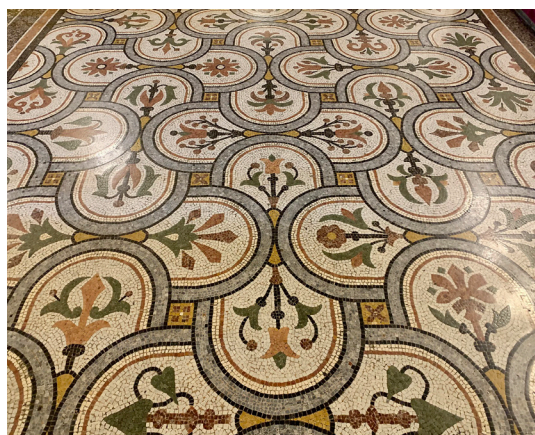
### Il mosaico per corrispondenza

Nessuno saprà mai dire perché, da una zona ben limitata del Friuli pedemontano, siano usciti - con destinazione Italia e mondo intero - i migliori mosaicisti che abbiano lavorato in questo settore, da quasi due secoli a questi giorni e che lo facciano ancora oggi, quasi in regime di monopolio. Fantastico - e forse anche campanilistico - sarebbe pensare che, scomparsa l'arte dei grandi maestri romani e bizantini (e basti pensare alla più grande composizione pavimentale musiva d'Europa che si trova ad Aquileia), tutto sia scivolato nei secoli come una corrente sotterranea, per riemergere poi, agli inizi dell'Ottocento con un'abbondanza di mani e di iniziative d'arte nel mosaico, da poter decorare, restaurare, abbellire, impreziosire e recuperare opere antiche in tutte le capitali europee e con una tradizione rinnovata da invidiare gli antichi. Mosaicisti, però, provenienti da una sola zona: dai paesi tra Maniago e Spilimbergo, da Sequals, Tauriano, Meduno, Solimbergo, Arba, Colle, Pinzano, Valeriano, S. Daniele, Coseano. Che lavorarono, con mosaici in mille città: da Leningrado a Buenos Aires, da New York ad Atene. Nel mondo, il mosaico è friulano: ovunque. Merita il primato (posto tra molti pari) un maestro indiscusso, Gian Domenico Facchina, emigrato in Francia a ventiquattro anni (era di Sequals): è già in grado di restaurare antichi mosaici a Narbonne e a Nîmes; nel 1855 e negli anni seguenti è alle dipendenze del direttore dei lavori per l'Opéra della capitale francese che gli commissiona la parte centrale

della cupola, trecento metri quadri di mosaico, con altre realizzazioni sempre in mosaico e di maestranze friulane, che fanno del grande progetto un'autentica novità. La stampa francese affermò che l'architetto aveva scoperto Gian Domenico Facchina, ma che anche questi aveva scoperto l'ideatore e architetto: per dire che i mosaici figurativi e decorativi del maestro friulano erano parte essenziale dell'Opéra. E tanto ebbe fama d'arte da poter ottenere, con un decreto ministeriale del 1876, un laboratorio dove poteva far scuola d'arte musiva: nel quale laboratorio, il Facchina non ebbe tanto spazio per i troppi impegni personali. Ne fondò uno nuovo a Venezia, a Palazzo Labia, con una specie di pendolarismo tra la città lagunare e Parigi. La sua partecipazione a mostre internazionali lo imposero all'attenzione dell'arte europea: con una produzione enorme, da Lourdes a Bucarest, da Barcellona a Rio de Janeiro. Suo è il brevetto che permise la "spedizione" in tutto il mondo di opere musive - su cartoni di nuovi artisti - composte nella sede di produzione, azienda privata o "bottega": si prepara e si compone il mosaico a tavolino, lavorando a



Ritratto di Giandomenico Facchina di George-Léon-Alfred Perrichon, *Le Panthéon de l'industrie*, 12 ottobre 1884.



I mosaici nel Palais Garnier (l'Opéra di Parigi) eseguiti dal mosaicista Gian Domenico Facchina, Cavaliere della Legion d'Onore.



## Gian Domenico Facchina

rovescio e incollando le tessere su fogli di carta, che poi, a destinazione o prima, rovescio e incollando le tessere su fogli di carta, che poi, a destinazione o prima, vengono rivoltati sul cemento fresco. Con questo sistema, chiunque poté allora ordinare commissioni da ogni parte di mondo, ricevendo il mosaico già pronto, quasi come un'opera sezionata e spedita con la stessa perfezione che il cartone esige sempre. È la tecnica che oggi permette l'invito di mosaici, anche di grandi dimensioni, ovunque. Fu, questo sistema, la fortuna e il successo dei mosaicisti friulani: a Berlino, a Marsiglia, a Copenaghen, alla Library of Congress di Washington. Nascerà da questa "dispersione" di mosaicisti friulani nell'Otto e nel Novecento, quella Scuola



*L'esterno del Palais Garnier a Parigi un maestoso edificio barocco.*

Mosaicisti di Spilimbergo che, oggi, è quasi l'unica maestra di un'arte antica che i friulani hanno portato a fatto conoscere come loro vocazione quasi connaturata alla loro cultura.

Cheste poesie e je di Rina Del Nin Cralli che e à cjàpât il Premio Aquileia tal 2004 e 2010. Un premi de Federazion dai Fogolârs dal Canada, il Premio Aquileia al ricognòs i contribûts fâts a la culture furlane intal Canada.

### SIUM

Cun te in sium  
jo soi tornade  
int' une malghe  
in alte montagne.

Fra ches crétis jo crodevi  
di cjatà brillans e oro  
ma tu, tu mi as fat capi  
c'a no vâlevin un bôro.

E cu la lûz c'a vignive dal alt  
jo ài viodût  
che no tu vevis tuârt.

Jo pensavi  
di vê scuviârt cuisà se  
ma tu, tu mi as fat capi  
che il vêr tesaur al e  
dentri di me.

**Rina Del Nin Cralli**

Vittorio De Cecco al scrîf dispès par la *Cisilute*. Al à cjàpât il Premio Aquileia al congrès "Fogolârs 2008" a Calgary pes sôs poesiis. Cheste poesie e je stade scrîte juste pal nestri sfuei.

### SOLITUDINE

Compagna della mia vita  
mi è stata spesso vicina  
nella gioia e nello sconforto....

Ma nel tramonto della mia  
vita, ho ritrovato una via  
che, nel corso degli anni avevo  
dimenticato....

È la via dell'assoluto, la via  
dello spirito e dell'immutabile,  
quella che molti esseri umani

non hanno mai conosciuto  
e ascoltato, malgrado i segnali  
del tempo, camminando nell'oscurità

ma nel mio essere, grazie  
a lei, ho trovato il piacere  
del silenzio, la presenza divina....

Di un istante di profonda  
meditazione che mi avvicina  
all'eterno....

**Vittorio De Cecco, Gennaio 2025**



# IL CANADON DAI ZOVINS

In 2022, I boarded a plane to Italy for the Fogolàrs Congress with excitement, pride, and not a single sentence of Italian under my belt. My family hails from a small town, Chions, just outside of Pordenone, and I assumed — like so many second-generation kids do — that most of my relatives would speak English. I was wrong.

At family dinners and coffee chats, I felt like an outsider. I couldn't speak with my Nonno's/Nonna's siblings, couldn't fully understand the stories they were sharing, and couldn't ask the questions I had waited years to ask. I left Italy with a full heart but a deep frustration. I had missed something important.

That trip lit a fire in me — and began what would become a two-year journey to learn Italian. It's been a path of ups and downs, of slow progress and small victories. I started with Duolingo, immersed myself in Italian music and Rai radio, and most importantly, found my incredible tutor Anna through Preply, an online platform connecting learners with affordable private teachers (many as low as 5–10 euro/hour). I usually spent about 20 minutes a day studying, listened to Italian music or Rai while cooking, and had one or two one-hour sessions with Anna each week. Anna, a teacher from Milan, was patient, funny, and brilliant — and became the cornerstone of my success.

Fast forward to June 2024. After eight months of consistent effort, I returned to Italy — and this time, everything was different. I had earned the only Canadian student spot for a one-month cardiology elective in Pavia (I'm currently in my fourth year of medical school), and I was ready. I reconnected with my family in a whole new way — chatting with Zii, laughing with cousins, and soaking up every word. One relative even said, "Last time your sister came, she spoke no Italian," to which I got to proudly reply, "Actually, that was me!" Believe it or not, I also managed to get a part-time job at a local pizzeria.



Part-time pizzeria work to practice conversational Italian.



Meeting my tutor, Anna, for the first time in person.

It was surreal. I felt Italian in a way I never had before. I understood the stories, felt the humour, the nuance, the warmth — all through language. Back in Canada, I now occasionally run into Italian-speaking patients, and being able to switch languages to comfort or clarify is something I never imagined would bring me so much joy. If you're a second or third-generation Italian-Canadian who's thought about learning Italian — this is your sign. Twenty minutes a day, music in your ears, and a tutor who believes in you. It's not just about words — it's about identity, connection, and pride in where we come from. Faith, as our Nonni might say, muove le montagne. Let it move you, too.

**Tiana Bressan**, a proud second-generation Italian-Canadian



Time well spent with cugini and zii.



# IL GJANTON DAI BÖVINS IT FURLAN DAI BÖVINS

The following is a letter written by Sara Masini to thank the Fogolâr Association of Winnipeg for the Premio Campo Fogolâr award given to her in 2024. It is a touching letter in which Sara reflects on the Fogolâr community and how being Friulian has instilled in her the values of hard work, honesty, and a dedication to family and heritage.

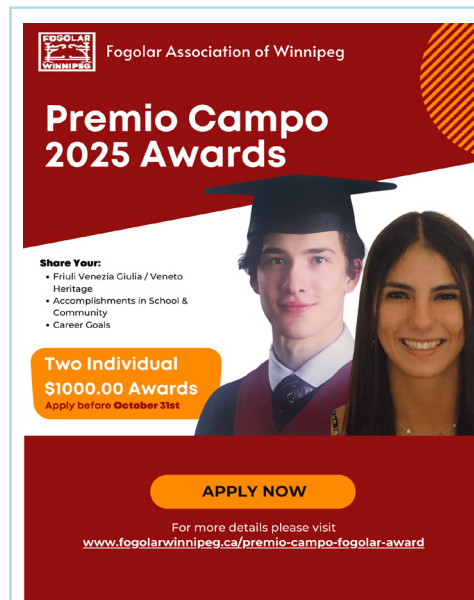
Good evening everyone,

Although I can't be with you in person tonight, I want to express my deepest gratitude for this incredible honor. Receiving this award from a community that holds such significance for me and my family is truly humbling. I sincerely apologize for not being able to share this special moment with you all in Winnipeg.

The Fogolar has always been a vital part of my life and my family's story. My grandparents, AnnaMaria and Gildo Di Biaggio, devoted immense time and energy to this community. My Nonno, a past president of the Fogolar, believed strongly in the importance of connection, heritage, and the bonds that unite us. His legacy, including the

monument he built to honor those who have passed, serves as a reminder of the enduring strength of our community. I really wish they were here to see me receive this award, I know how much it would have meant to both of them.

My mother, Daniela, also played an active role in the Fogolar. Her stories about her time in the Youth group and choir inspired me to cherish our Friulian roots and the incredible experiences this community provides. From my childhood visits to campo to my participation in Fogolar Federation events in Friuli, the lessons and memories I've gained are treasures I will always carry with me.



**Fogolar Association of Winnipeg**

## Premio Campo 2025 Awards

**Share Your:**

- Friuli Venezia Giulia / Veneto Heritage
- Accomplishments in School & Community
- Career Goals

**Two Individual \$1000.00 Awards**  
Apply before October 31st

**APPLY NOW**

For more details please visit  
[www.fogolarwinnipeg.ca/premio-campo-fogolar-award](http://www.fogolarwinnipeg.ca/premio-campo-fogolar-award)



## FOGOLÂR FURLAN DI CALGARY GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP IN ITALIAN STUDIES

For an Alberta resident pursuing a graduate degree (Masters or Doctoral) in an Italian Studies program in any year of study, demonstrating commitment to Italian culture and high academic standing.

**One award valued at approximately \$5,000**  
Apply by June 1 at [calgaryfoundation.org](http://calgaryfoundation.org)

**CALGARY FOUNDATION**  
FOR COMMUNITY, FOREVER



## Fogolar Furlan Windsor 2025 Scholarships

We are pleased to announce that applications to the Fogolar Furlan, Above Grade Landscaping & Camlis Continuing Education Scholarships are now open. Fogolar Furlan members, spouses and children are encouraged to apply at the Member Scholarship link found on the Fogolar website.

**Application Deadline: July 31, 2025**

519-966-2230 [www.fogolar.com](http://www.fogolar.com)



## FOGOLÂR FURLAN DI CALGARY SCHOLARSHIP IN ITALIAN STUDIES FOR ALBERTA STUDENTS

For an Alberta resident pursuing a major in Italian Studies, entering fourth year of undergraduate studies. Must demonstrate commitment to Italian culture and have achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher in previous year's studies.

**One award valued at approximately \$1,500**  
Apply by June 1 at [calgaryfoundation.org](http://calgaryfoundation.org)

**CALGARY FOUNDATION**  
FOR COMMUNITY, FOREVER

As I continue my studies in Law here in Italy, I remain committed to the values this community has instilled in me: hard work, honesty, and a dedication to family and heritage. This award reinforces my commitment to give back to the community and honor the traditions that have shaped me.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for this recognition and for your ongoing support and celebration of Friulani culture. Though I am far away, I am with you in spirit tonight, and I hope to celebrate with you all in person one day soon. Bun Nadal e Bon an gnuf a ducj.

**Sara Masini**





## Famée Furlane Hamilton

Greetings from the new President, Mavi Borsato Huang. Elections were held in November 2024 resulting in a brand new executive and board. The New Year has brought on many changes and challenges. In this difficult financial climate that we all find ourselves in, we have been working on all aspects of our day-to-day operations. Where necessary we are making changes that will allow us to continue to grow as a cultural social club. We have recently hired a new Event Coordinator, Tim Elzinga. Together, we are updating all our pricing and streamlining how we take care of our day-to-day business. We are in a unique position of being close to a new and upcoming community here in Binbrook and we are exploring all options of greater community involvement. One of our new mandates going forward is to get involved in more community events and to open our doors to all our wonderful neighbours. Growing our membership and encouraging the local community to attend our events will be a new focus for us going forward.

Below are just a few community events that we have been working on. We have recently introduced a weekly Progressive Euchre tournament every Wednesday evening that has been very successful. Each week we now enjoy a full house playing euchre alongside our Bocce League. We have also had quite a bit of success with our "Singo Bingo" events that happen on a monthly basis. Our attendees have really been enjoying having a DJ play songs that correspond with squares on the cards. It's really proven to be a fun filled event.

Many thanks to the previous board for finishing off the "Lunch and Learn" events provided through our NHSP Grant. Our community enjoyed the lunches and found the topics aimed at seniors quite informative. We also held our recent Furlan Lunch in February where our guests enjoyed a typical Furlan meal, which included muset and brovade. A special thanks to Angelo Bertoia and his crew of helpers who help make the muset and brovade.



Making muset. Left to right: Louis Chiarcos, Lou Battiston, Mara Bertoia, Joe Viola, Angelo Bertoia, Alex Huang.

Then this past month, we held our annual Hunters Dinner with a meal cooked by Gianni Ceschia. We enjoyed dining on Gianni's wonderful lasagna as well as rabbit and bison stew. It was a feast enjoyed by our sold out crowd. And, we've recently held our end of the season bocce



Hamilton's New Front Door.

dinner. A fabulous dinner was served and enjoyed by all. Many thanks to the many volunteers who cooked and helped with the event and the many volunteers who work hard all season managing the schedules and games.

Looking ahead, we will be hosting our Annual Golf Tournament in July. As usual, our tournament is open to all and sponsorships are still available. We are holding a two-day Holistic event in the fall. Energy workers, readers, crystal vendors, artisans and holistic practitioners are all welcome to book a table. And, in May, we will be holding a Vision Board Workshop. Guests will create their own personal vision boards where they can manifest their future by using visual representation of their goals, dreams and aspirations by compiling images, words and affirmations that inspire and motivate them towards achieving their desired future. We are also happy to report, that we have installed new front doors. We are constantly trying to make improvements as our finances permit.

We are keeping busy! Wishing you all lovely spring and summer seasons ahead! Mandi di Cûr

**Mavi Borsato Huang**, President



Gianni Ceschia plating antipasto for our annual Hunters Dinner.

## Ricordando Olga Zorzi Pugliese

### Olga Zorzi Pugliese

**November 4, 1941 - March 23, 2025**

Olga Zorzi Pugliese, Professor Emeritus at the University of Toronto, passed away peacefully on March 23, 2025. Professor Zorzi Pugliese was a friend of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada and *La Cislute*. In issue 73 (2007) of the *sfuei*, the then-President of the Federation, Paola Modotti Filippin, interviewed Olga for the column “Profili della nostra gente” that featured Friulian-Canadians who achieved that ideal promoted by our forefathers; that the highest pinnacles can be reached by those who are dedicated and work hard. In the interview, Olga recalls “We always thought of Friuli and the family we left behind. Friulian was spoken at home, although we children tended to speak in English. We cooked in the Friulian way and the frequent get-togethers with relatives and others from Friuli often ended with singing.”

The strong connection to the land of her ancestors manifested itself early in Olga's life. At the age of seventeen, she enrolled at the University of Toronto where she began to study Italian and continued her studies of French and Spanish. At that time, she was one of the very few young women of Italian heritage at the University of Toronto.

During her 45-year career at the University of Toronto, Olga taught in the Department of Italian Studies and in the Renaissance Studies Programme (Victoria College) and served in many administrative positions, including as Emilio Goggio Chair of the Department of Italian Studies (1997-2002) and as Director of the Centre for Renaissance and Reformation Studies at Victoria College (2005-09). She was one of the founding members of the Canadian Society for Renaissance Studies, which awarded her its Lifetime Achievement Award (2008), and of the Canadian Society for Italian Studies, where she served as president (2005-08). She was also an active member of many scholarly organizations including the Renaissance Society of America, the American Association of Teachers of Italian, the Associazione Internazionale per gli Studi di Lingua e Letteratura Italiana, among others. She was also active outside of academics, especially in the Dante Alighieri Society of Toronto, the Famée Furlane of Toronto, the Fogolârs Federation of Canada, the Centro Canadese Scuola e Cultura Italiana, and the Italian Canadian Archives Project (ICAP).

Olga's scholarly work focused on Italian Renaissance literature and culture and included major contributions on many writers. For many years, Olga also worked on Italian-Canadian subjects, publishing a book (with Angelo Principe) on the founding of the Famée Furlane of



*Olga Zorzi Pugliese*

Toronto. She also did research on Italian mosaicists in Canada, the Italian Canadian artist Albert Chiarandini, and the group of anti-fascists, particularly those from Friuli. In 2023, Olga wrote her family history, tracing the ancestry of the families of her four grandparents in Friuli. In 2024, Olga made a presentation at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto that shone a light on the Friulian artisans who created the dazzling mosaic canopy of the Rotunda ceiling (and who worked on other buildings in Toronto). Her presentation can be viewed at: <https://www.rom.on.ca/learn/resource-hub/italian-creativity-and-heritage-toronto-rom-mosaic-1933>

In her long and distinguished career as a professor at the University of Toronto, Olga influenced generations of students and colleagues and worked tirelessly for the advancement and promotion of scholarship and Italian culture. As a proof of her generosity, together with her late husband Guido Pugliese (1940–2016), she endowed in perpetuity several scholarships for study in Italy at various institutions. She also endowed a course in Italian Canadian Studies now offered annually in the Canadian Studies Program at University College, University of Toronto. To thank her, colleagues and friends dedicated her a 2-volume festschrift titled *A Garland of Gifts: Essays in Honour of Olga Zorzi Pugliese* presented to on her 80th birthday in November 2021.

Professor Olga Zorzi Pugliese lived her life to the fullest. She was dedicated to her passion for research, and was close to the academic community as well as the Canadian, Italian and Friulian communities, of which she was a generous benefactor.

**Javier P. Grossutti**



## Ricordando Pre Ermanno Bulfon

La *Cislute* ricorda Pre Ermanno Bulfon, fondatore, assieme a Rino Pellegrina, della Federazione dei Fogolârs del Canada e scomparso 40 anni fa nel 1985. La seguente testimonianza viene dal libro di Monica Stellan *From Sea to Sea: An Illustrated History of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada*. Sono le parole di Rino Pellegrina e si trovano alle pagine 65 e 66.

### Ricordando Pre Ermanno

Sarà stato forse l'inizio del 1968, durante una delle riunioni mensili dei soci della Famée Furlane di Toronto (che si tenevano allora presso l'ex Italo-Canadian Recreation Club), che incontrai pre Ermanno per la prima volta. Le sue parole di saluto ai presenti, il suo modo di parlare così diverso e accattivante mi colpirono subito. Alcuni mesi dopo in seno alla Famée stavamo tentando di dar nuovo vita a una vecchia e tradizionale attività estiva, il picnic, che era divenuto famoso nella comunità friulana degli anni trenta. Per non penalizzare coloro che da buoni cristiani tenevano alla messa domenicale, chiedemmo (con qualche titubanza) a pre Ermanno se fosse disposto a celebrarla al campo. Lui ben volentieri venne e celebrò in lingua friulana. Fu questo uno dei primi incontri che pre Ermanno faceva con le comunità friulane in Canada.

Quando venne il momento di scegliere qualcuno che si impegnasse a unire in federazione i fogolârs del Canada, i rappresentanti dei sodalizi friulani furono unanimi nel nominare pre Ermanno e il sottoscritto. Fu l'inizio di una grande e felice esperienza per me: a fianco di don Ermanno si camminava su strada sicura e il suo consiglio era sempre saggio. Pre Ermanno sapeva incoraggiare come non altri a tentare nuove strade, nuove avventure, nuovi progetti comunitari. Assieme ne abbiamo fatta di strada, abbiamo visitato comunità friulane sparse in tanti angoli di questo grande paese; assieme abbiamo allacciate tante nuove e



Pre Ermanno Bulfon

bellissime amicizie. Sono state incontri e giornate che non si possono dimenticare.

Mi piace riportare una interessante descrizione della personalità di Ermanno fatta dal suo ex-parroco, divenuto poi vescovo ausiliare di Toronto, Monsignor Robert Clune: "Those who knew him, will know that he was very approachable, enthusiastic, energetic, considerate, intelligent, willing, outgoing, humorous, and of a happy, optimistic disposition. With a big smile, a loud laugh, a warm personality, and a ready wit, he was loved and appreciated by both young and old." Bishop Clune non poteva descrivere meglio la figura e il carattere di pre Ermanno. La sua opera, la memoria che di lui abbiamo di quei troppo brevi diciotto anni trascorsi in Canada dal suo arrivo alla sua immatura dipartita, testimoniano la grandezza d'animo di quest'uomo, di questo prete. Ermanno s'è sempre sentito profondamente prete, anche se talvolta le apparenze ne avessero fatto dubitare.

La sua dedizione alla causa della friulanità in Canada potrebbe farci pensare che tutte le sue energie le avesse spese a questo riguardo, ma le risorse di questo giovane sacerdote furono veramente inesauribili. Trascrivo una testimonianza di pre Adelchi Bertoli, che tolgo, come ho fatto per quella precedente, dal libro *Pre Ermanno: 1942-1985* pubblicato in occasione del decimo anniversario della sua scomparsa:

*"Lui al ricuadave cun nostalgje e braure dut ce che il Friûl al à di grant e di biel...; al à fat tant par tegni-dongje i furlans, par tegni-su la lenghe e tradizions, però tal stes timp al à cirût di fâsi canadês cui canadês e di plantâ e fâ florî in cheste cjere e in cheste civiltât dut ce che di ben al veve puartât cun se dal Friûl.*



Padre Ermanno Bulfon celebra la Messa al picnic della Famée Furlane Toronto, 1968.

## Ricordando Pre Ermanno Bulfon

*I ricuardi pre Ermanno simpri entusiast; nol veve pore di nuje; no si fermave denant a dificolât, al tentave dut ... e quant che alc al lave struc', ala saveve fâ une grande, biele ridade ancje sui siei sbalios ch'a pòdin ben capitâ cuant che si lote in prime file e che si ûl provâ dut par fâ dal ben. Pre Ermanno al podeve semeâ un predi scjassôs, e al ere ancje, ma parcè ch'al ere plen di vite, al ere il so temperament. Dentrivie, però, tal so cûr, à ere tante bontât, tante fede, chê fede semplice e fuarte che j veve dade sô mari."*

Ermanno scrisse pure diverse poesie in friulano, pubblicate nel libro *Un Friûl vivût in Canada*. Nel presentare alcune di queste poesie nel libro *Pre Ermanno: 1942-1985*, Gianrenzo Clivio afferma: "questo *Un Friûl vivût in Canada* appare davvero come il testamento spirituale di un uomo che alla religiosità profonda e alla fede illuminata univa un profondo amore per la terra e la lingua friulana, che si sentiva partecipe del dramma e delle lotte dell'emigrazione come tutti i suoi corregionali, e che questi sentimenti seppe, con stupefacente efficacia e semplicità, tradurre in poesia che lascia di lui un ricordo non labile."

**Rino Pellegrina**

**Pas**

*Une pâs fonde  
dentri di me  
chi mi  
cjarezze,  
come 'ne plume,  
cun docezze.*

*Content  
dal stât ch'io soi  
l'è Biel, cussi,  
come  
t'une gnot  
di stelis  
e la lune  
cidine, a cimie.*

*Tu sês grant  
Signor,  
che tu às fat par mè  
chel chi,  
e lu Sint*

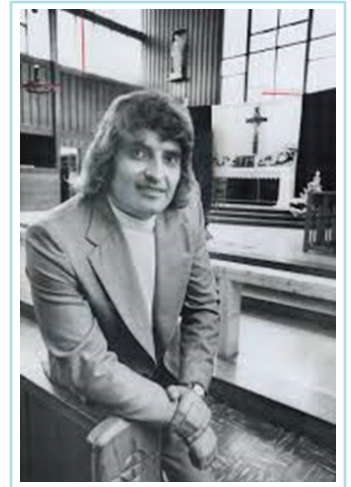
**Bepo Franzel**

Bepo Franzel è il pseudonimo di pre Ermanno Bulfon.

**Dre Bepo**

## My Memories of Father Bulfon

My memories of Father Bulfon, not surprisingly, are now cloudy after so many years. The number one thing I do remember was how much bigger than life he was. He could fill up a room with his presence the minute he entered it. There was an aura about him, not visible to the human eye, that exuded happiness and spread joy all around him. I first came to know about him through the Famee Furlane of



*Padre Ermanno Bulfon*

toronto, of course, mainly from attending the masses that were held in the large hall of the club. In those days, long gone, the hall would be filled with people, young and old, and all listening to what he said. He commanded attention. Later on, as I became more involved with the Youth Group, and eventually the Club and Federation, I came to know him better, especially when we were involved with what eventually became the Furlan Youth of Canada.

While working with him and Rino Pellegrina, I marvelled at his ability to speak to anyone and everyone, from politicians to construction workers, from children to pesky teenagers. His great love for his heritage and for young people was the impetus for the creation of the Furlan Youth of Canada. He wanted the youth to form a strong alliance. He wanted it to connect youth groups throughout Canada, with the aim of fostering connections and communication amongst the groups, as well as providing a network of support. Of course, the main goal was to provide them with the tools to continue nurturing their love of heritage and culture. The fun that we had was a happy byproduct!

I remember his boisterous (and at times, wicked) sense of humor. So much so that at times it was easy to forget that he was a priest. But make no mistake, at the youth conference that led to the creation of the Youth Federation, he made sure every single one of us attended mass. And while celebrating mass, he was a different person altogether. His calling and his love of heritage were one and the same.

Most of all, I remember the immense sense of loss when he passed. He was one of those unique and rare individuals who left an indelible mark on our Friulan community, and had so much more to give. He is remembered with love.

**Rosemary Maraldo**



## Ricordando Pre Ermanno Bulfon

*Pre Vigj Glovaz (don Luigi Gloazzo) è un sacerdote friulano che conobbe pre Ermanno già da seminarista. In questa "lettera" ricca di accenti poetici e scritta nel materno friulano, don Luigi si confida all'amico Ermano e sembra ne scolpisca la figura e soprattutto l'anima. "Fortunati noi che ti abbiamo conosciuto e goduto", riassume e conclude questo splendido ricordo di Ermanno.*

### **"Furtunâz nô che ti vin cognossût e gjoldût"**

Cjâr Mano,

i tiei amîs di Toronto mi àn domandât di netâ il polvar che il timp al depon sui faz e lis robis vivudis par che la tô muse, 'e torni a ridi cun chel estro contagjôs che nus slargjave il cûr.

Il Signôr, te sô sapienze e bon gust, tal pensâti al à cjalât il paîs dulà che tu vevis di nassi e di vivi i plui biei agns de tô vite. Cussì al à metût-dongje aghe frescje di risultive, ch'e coreve cjantarine in duc' i fossâi di San Martin, un poeje di tiare argilose e fuarte, che si cjatile par ogni cjanton, il spirt zugatulon dai fruz di paîs.

La tô cjâr vive 'e menave morbinose come i vencjârs adôr dai fossâi e i curtîi dal borc no bastârìn pai tiei zûcs, robâz a lis oris dal misdi de canicule avostane. La fadîe di cent gjenerazions di sotans 'e veve scuadrade la tô muse contadine lassantj une bocje di ridi misteriose come chês puartis des nestris cjasis furlanis ch'a tegnin dentri la soferenze e lis strûs e a' lassin lâ-fûr in libertât lis cjossis ben vistudis e mondis ch'a ricrèin la vite di duc'.

Te tô persone 'o ài scuviart la part miôr dal servidôr de vite ch'al supe-sù la porcarie, la maluserie, la solitudin, la violenze, la muart e lis cambie tun miracul di amôr, in vite, lûs, gjonde, amicizie, fieste. Trop che ti à costât la so dome chel Signôr che tu stâs rimirant cui tiei vôi discocolâz.

Ce ch'o ricuardin di te al è chel vivi par cualchidun che ti stronfave (traboccava) di ogni bande.

La tô persone, nudride di afiez di famée, di pais, di glesie, di popul, di Gjesucrist, 'e je cressude sparnizant tor a tor ligrie e benvolè.

Che il Pari dal cîl, ch'al cjale fin tes commissuris e tai fondons dal cûr, ti torni a zumielis dut chel che tu âs regalât multiplicanlu par mil.

Furtunâz nô che ti vin cognossut e gjoldût.

'O sin sigûrs che parfin il to ridi al cjantarà senze nancje une ombrene di maluserie.

La tô memorie 'e je pâs par nô ch'o restin e il to non nus ricuardarà par simpri ch' o vevin un fradi vèr ch'al cjaminave cun nô pes stradis dal paîs dal cûr.

Mandi Mano.

*pre Vigj Glovaz*

*Tratto dal libro, Pre Ermanno 1942 - 1985, pubblicato nel decimo anniversario della scomparsa di Pre Ermanno. Patrocinato dalla Federazione dei Fogolârs Furlans del Canada e dalla Parrocchia di S. Pietro, Woodbridge, Ontario. A cura di Rino Pellegrina, Alberto Picotti, Rita Zanatta, 1995.*

## L'ultin mandî

### **A Tribute to Anita Sabucco September 2, 1932 – November 11, 2024**

Sadly, the Società Femminile Friulana lost one of its former presidents, Anita Sabucco, who passed away on November 11, 2024. She served two terms as president of the Società, in the late 1980s and then again in the mid-2000s. She was a strong, direct, and well-organized leader who was attributed with having the Società become the only all-women group member of the Fogolârs Federation of Canada. Rest in peace, Anita.

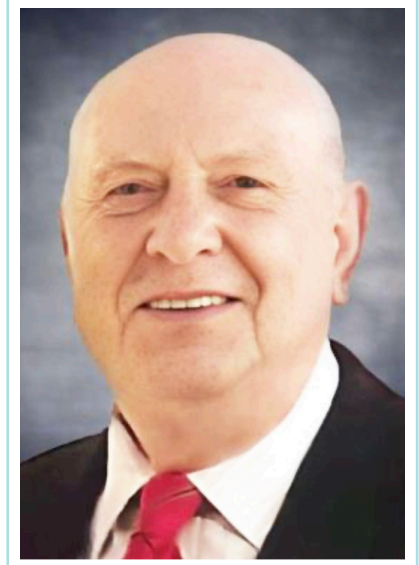


## L'ultin mandì

### Ricordiamo Derio Rosa 1936 - 2024

Il ricordo di un amico che non c'è più. L'invecchiamento dei membri e dei simpatizzanti è una realtà alla quale tutte le associazioni si stanno confrontando e i fogolârs non fanno eccezione. Il ricambio generazionale non è all'appuntamento in forza sufficiente a garantire un futuro di lunga portata a molti sodalizi: è l'ineluttabile circolo della vita. Per questo la scomparsa di soci molto attivi nel sodalizio si fa particolarmente sentire. È con tristezza che abbiamo ricordato il primo anniversario della scomparsa di Derio Rosa, uno dei membri più attivi nel Fogolâr di Montreal. Nato a Casasola nel 1936, emigrato in Canada ventitreenne, Derio si è spento lo scorso anno, a 87 anni, lasciando un grande vuoto in seno alla famiglia e nei ranghi, già radi, del sodalizio quebecchese.

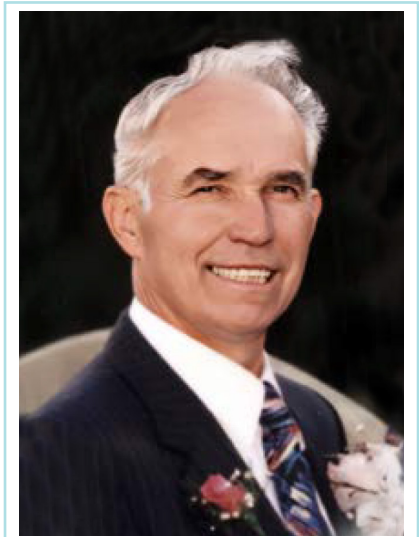
Quest'uomo ha sempre affrontato la vita con amore e con gioia, felice di lavorare il suo amato orto, di condividere il suo vino e il suo buon umore con gli altri e di fare belle cantate con gli amici. È stato eletto presidente del Fogolâr di Montréal nel 1974. Impegnato in diverse attività del sodalizio, è stato membro del coro "I Furlans" dalla fondazione, nel 1975, fino alla cessazione dell'attività del gruppo, nel 2005. Nei bei tempi, quando non mancavano flessibilità e agilità ha anche fatto parte della troupe di danza del sodalizio montrealese. E fin quasi all'ultimo è stato attivo nel nostro Consiglio di Amministrazione. *Gracie di vênus judâts Derio e mandì!*



### A Tribute to Elio Cossarin March 6, 1933 - October 12, 2024

The Fogolârs Federation of Canada is saddened by the passing of Elio Cossarin, a man of integrity and compassion. Born in Prodolone, San Vito al Tagliamento, Elio had many fond memories of his childhood, despite the challenges of living in times of war and scarcity, and often shared these stories with his children. Elio had a wonderful time helping on the family farm, playing soccer and living a simple, yet rich life. Elio's work ethic was formed in these early years and remained a fundamental part of his life. Elio joined his father in Powell River in 1950. In 1967 Elio married Bernadette McCloskey and, along with their children, they lived a wonderful life. Elio and Bernie both worked tirelessly to improve the lives of children and adults with disabilities. They advocated for an increase in services and supports and improved the lives of countless individuals.

Elio was a founding member of the United Way, was a proud member of the Italian Club, the Knights of Columbus, Church of the Assumption, Powell River Association for Community Living, was a founding member of Citizen's Advocacy Society, and volunteered for many years with BC Special Olympics – Powell River. He was awarded Powell River's Good Citizen Award in 1986 and was inducted to the Hall of Fame at the Italian Cultural Center in Vancouver for Social and Humanitarian Work in 2007. He was honoured by these achievements but remained humble and continued actively volunteering until his passing. The depth of Elio's commitment to his family, community, and the many organizations that he was involved in, is inspirational. He was proud to be Friulian and was a good friend to the Federation, supporting the publication of *La Cisilute* which he enjoyed reading.





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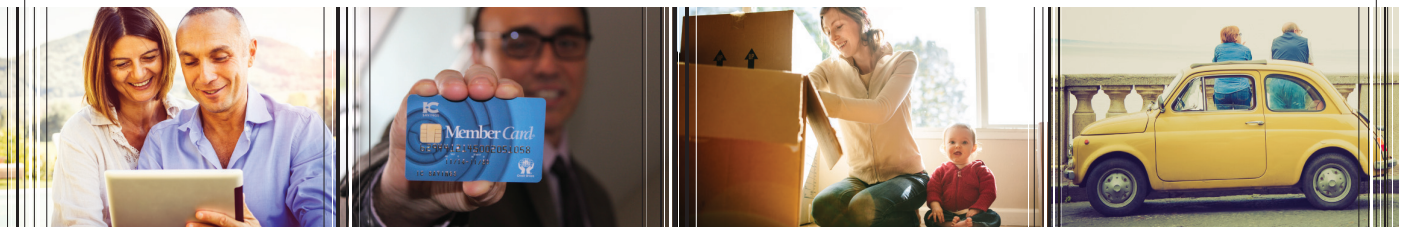


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