

MEET YOUR DISTRICT LODGE

Vice President of Hellenism

Brother Dr. [Ken Matziorinis](#)

For some Brothers, Hellenism is something inherited.

For Brother Dr. Kenneth “Ken” Matziorinis, it has become something he has spent a lifetime studying, teaching, serving and preserving.

Ken currently serves as Vice President of Hellenism for AHEPA District 23, Eastern Canada, bringing to the District Lodge an extraordinary combination of scholarship, leadership, community service and decades of experience within the Order.

And when your Vice President of Hellenism has a PhD, has spent decades teaching, has devoted much of his academic work to Greece and previously served as President of AHEPA Canada...apparently District Governor Brother Nick Pantieras took the word “qualified” rather seriously.

Ken’s AHEPA journey has taken him far beyond one Chapter or one District.

From 2014 to 2016, he served as President of the Canadian Order of AHEPA, one of the highest leadership responsibilities held by a Canadian AHEPAN.

During those years, Ken travelled extensively throughout Canada, visiting Chapters and AHEPA Families, strengthening relationships between Brothers and seeing firsthand how AHEPA’s mission was being expressed through education, philanthropy, civic responsibility and community service. His service also took him beyond Canada.

As Canadian President, Ken represented the Order internationally and participated in AHEPA delegations throughout the Hellenic world.

In 2016, he was part of an AHEPA delegation that visited refugee camps on the island of Lesbos, including Kara Tepe and Moria, during one of the most difficult periods of the European refugee crisis.

He also visited the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople as part of his AHEPA service, helping represent the Canadian Brotherhood within the wider AHEPA Domain.

For Ken, Hellenism has never been something confined to a flag, a dinner or a speech. It is something that must be understood, supported and passed forward. That belief can be seen clearly in one of his most meaningful AHEPA initiatives.

In 2022, the Montreal AHEPA Chapter made a \$26,000 contribution to McGill University to establish the Montreal AHEPA Prize for Hellenic Studies and support the Papachristidis Chair in Hellenic and Modern Greek Studies.

The initiative was led by Brother Ken. Think about what that represents. AHEPA did not simply celebrate Hellenism for an evening.

It helped create something within one of Canada’s leading universities that will encourage the academic study of Hellenism for years to come.

And that connection between Hellenism and education runs directly through Ken's own life. Ken earned his BA in Joint Honours Economics and Political Science, MA in Economics and PhD in Economics from McGill University.

He is Emeritus Professor at John Abbott College and a two-time recipient of McGill University's Distinguished Teaching Award. Those honors reflect more than academic credentials.

They represent a career spent doing something remarkably aligned with AHEPA's mission: educating the next generation.

His academic interests have included economics, economic history, the Greek economy, European integration and the forces that continue to shape Greece and the wider Hellenic world.

So yes...

if an AHEPA conversation about Greece somehow turns into a discussion about monetary policy, European economics or the economic history of the Hellenic world... we already know which Brother is getting the microphone.

Ken's professional experience has also extended beyond the classroom, including years working in economic consulting, banking and strategic economic analysis.

But perhaps the most important part of his story is what happened after reaching one of the highest AHEPA offices available to a Canadian Brother.

He kept serving.

He did not simply become a name on a list of Past Canadian Presidents.

He remained involved with his Montreal Brothers.

He continued supporting Hellenic education.

He continued advancing AHEPA initiatives.

And today, he continues serving on the District Lodge in a role that could hardly fit him better: Vice President of Hellenism.

That matters because preserving Hellenism requires more than nostalgia.

It requires knowledge.

It requires education.

It requires institutions.

And it requires people willing to explain not simply what our ancestors accomplished, but why those ideas still matter today.

AHEPA's mission calls upon us to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence.

Brother Ken's life has touched nearly every one of those ideals.

As an educator, he has taught generations of students.

As a scholar and economist, he has spent decades studying Greece and the forces shaping its place in the modern world.

As Canadian President, he represented AHEPA across Canada and internationally.

As a Montreal AHEPAN, he helped create lasting support for Hellenic Studies at McGill.

And now, as Vice President of Hellenism for District 23, he brings that lifetime of experience back to the District Lodge. There is something particularly valuable about that. Around an AHEPA table, titles eventually change.

Presidents become Past Presidents. Governors complete their terms. Lodge officers eventually hand their responsibilities to another brother.

But the knowledge, relationships and perspective accumulated over decades do not disappear. They become something the next generation can learn from.

And that may be one of Ken's greatest contributions to our Lodge. He brings not only accomplishments, but perspective.

Not simply knowledge of Hellenism, but decades spent studying what Hellenism means in the modern world.

Not simply the experience of having led AHEPA Canada, but the willingness to continue serving after the presidency was over. Some Brothers preserve Hellenism by remembering it.

Dr. Kenneth Matziorinis has spent a lifetime studying it, teaching it, serving it and helping ensure another generation is ready to inherit it.

We are proud to have Brother Ken serving alongside District Governor Brother Nick Pantieras and the rest of the District Lodge as Vice President of Hellenism for AHEPA District 23, Eastern Canada.

Because our history matters.

Our ideas matter.

Our heritage matters.

And ensuring that another generation understands why they matter may be one of the most important responsibilities we have.

Together, we continue building a stronger AHEPA District 23, Eastern Canada.