

terpart, General Ioannis Ntavos, paid a return visit to Canada in October. More important, Premier Bill Davis of Ontario, the country's largest province, headed to Greece in September 1979 on a mission organized by Dr. Leonidas Polymenakos, president of the Greek Community of Metropolitan Toronto. The premier met the president, the prime minister, and the minister of co-ordination, Konstantinos Mitsotakis, to whom he pitched Ontario as a source of foreign investment and CANDU nuclear reactors.²³

The Essence of Life

Greece's restored democracy proved strong and robust. In 1981, the former dissident Andreas Papandreou took over the government of Greece at the helm of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK). Trudeau was delighted at his old friend's success, but officials in the Department of External Affairs looked on darkly. They worried about Papandreou's public rejection of the European Economic Community and NATO, his strong anti-American views, and the strain these might place on bilateral relations. Their fears were misplaced. On assuming power, Papandreou would temper his positions on these issues. More important, his personal affection for Canada reinforced relations between Canada and Greece.

That was made clear when Trudeau sent Governor General Edward Schreyer to Athens to wave the flag in May 1982. He was accompanied by Canadian Minister of State for External Affairs Pierre De Bané, who was happy to supply Greece with military hardware and technology to reduce their dependence on US supplies. Greece's new head of state, President Constantine Karamanlis, returned the visit in October, visiting Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto, and meeting Trudeau, as well as Premiers René Lévesque and Bill Davis.

In March 1983, Prime Minister Papandreou travelled to Canada, visiting Montreal, Quebec City, Toronto, and Ottawa. He was showered with honours. In Quebec City, the Greek prime minister was awarded the Medal of the National Assembly. Toronto Mayor Art Eggleton welcomed Papandreou "on his triumphant return to his home away from home", and York University granted him an honorary doctorate for his accomplishments as a politician and educator. Tens of thousands of cheering Greek-Canadians gave the prime minister a hero's welcome. Papandreou's visit allowed him to reassure Trudeau about his NATO and European policies. Papandreou also shared the enthusiasm of Canadian officials who were keen on advancing