

April 21, 2022

Dear Dom Lipa Families, Friends, Employees and Supporters,

In this communication, we let you know about a Covid-19 outbreak at the home, say thank you and good-bye to Josie Babic and introduce you to our elected Directors on the Board.

Covid-19 Outbreak on Kastelic Wing

On Wednesday, April 20, 2022, Toronto Public Health declared an Uncontrolled Confirmed Outbreak on Unit Kastelic Wing (K-Wing) due to a rise in resident cases with an unknown source of infection. There are a total of seven residents on K-Wing, who tested positive on April 19th.

All these residents experienced symptoms simultaneously and we do not know the origin of the infection. We suspect the virus was spreading, while the person was asymptomatic.

We remind everyone that it is critical to follow all recommended precautions to help protect our residents, staff, and families. Everyone should always wear a mask while at Dom Lipa, ensure distancing of six feet from residents and other visitors, perform good hand hygiene and follow other good infection control practices.

The government has lifted public health measures but the risk of getting Covid-19 has not changed, based on the rising number of cases. In addition, those who have been vaccinated against Covid-19 are experiencing waning immunity. See the Ontario Covid-19 Science Table report of April 14, 2022 at https://covid19-sciencetable.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Update-on-COVID-19-Projections_2022.04.14_English.pdf or see the website at <https://covid19-sciencetable.ca/ontario-dashboard/>.

Dom Lipa staff are implementing the following recommendations from Toronto Public Health until further notice.

Resident Testing: All residents on K-Wing were tested on April 20th. All residents on K-Wing are to be tested day five post exposure (April 24).

Staff testing: PCR testing of all staff on K-Wing on April 20th. All staff on K-Wing are to be tested day five post exposure (April 24).

Droplet and Contact precautions: Applies to all LTC residents and will be reassessed when day five testing returns.

Congregate Dining/ Small Group Activities: Retirement residents may continue with small group activities and congregate dining within their cohort (i.e., on their own floor, or in the main dining area, only with others in their own cohort).

Hallway time/Outdoor time: Supervised and scheduled outdoor time for LTC residents is permitted if staffing allows (i.e., resident must be supervised) and IPAC measures in place.

Supervised and scheduled hallway time is permitted for LTC residents who are not symptomatic or a confirmed case.

Cohorting: Reinforce the importance of cohorting of staff and residents to the unit/floor.

Visitors: Essential Care Givers are permitted. General visitors are not permitted.

Absences: Permitted for Medical, Compassionate, or Palliative Absences.

Short Term Absence - Essential Absence (e.g., pharmacy, grocery, outdoor exercise): Permitted for Retirement residents.

Short Term Absence - Social: Not Permitted.

Cleaning and Disinfection: Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces at least two times daily.

Staff working at multiple sites: If the staff has worked on a floor/unit during an uncontrolled outbreak, staff should not work at other sites. If staff has not worked during the uncontrolled outbreak, they can continue to work at multiple sites.

Farewell to Josie Babic, Food Services Supervisor

As you may have heard, our Food Services Supervisor, Josie Babic, is retiring from Dom Lipa on May 2, 2022. Our heartfelt thank you, Josie, for the three decades you have dedicated to Dom Lipa's residents and staff!

The Directors of the Board, along with the administration team and staff sincerely appreciate Josie's hard work, and dedication. Josie has held a variety of positions at Dom Lipa and found her true calling in 2008, when she started working as a Food Service Apprentice. She studied and received a certificate in Food Services and Nutrition Management from CHA Learning in June 2010, which led to her appointment to the position of Food Services Supervisor in 2011. For the past 11 years, Josie has searched tirelessly for affordable food vendors to provide the delicious and familiar food options for our residents to enjoy.

We wish Josie all the best in her new adventures!

Directors Elected at Annual General Meeting

The following directors were elected by the membership at our April 3rd Annual General Meeting: Jessica Ferkul and Father Ivan Plazar were each re-elected for another three-year term. Jason Gorel was elected to join the Board for a three-year term.

Jessica Ferkul - Secretary of the Board is a Senior Project Coordinator at Infrastructure Ontario. She holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree from McGill University. Jessica brings her construction, procurement, business and engineering skills and experience to the Board. Following her graduation from university, Jessica moved to Ljubljana for a brief period to work as a Junior Engineer. Dom Lipa is a place of personal connection for Jessica, as she has family members, who have resided at Dom Lipa, and she has close ties to the Slovenian community. Jessica has served as a Director since 2018.

Father Plazar served as a Priest for the first Slovenian Catholic parish, Our Lady Help of Christians in downtown Toronto and for the Slovenian Parish, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church in Etobicoke. Father Plazar is active in ensuring the Slovenian character of the Home is maintained. He also continues to celebrate Mass at Dom Lipa and attends to the spiritual needs of our residents. Father Plazar has been a dedicated Director on the Board since 1991.

Jason Gorel is a financial professional with extensive experience working in the real estate sector, for large public real estate organizations. Currently he is Chief Financial Officer for Covalon Technologies Inc., a medical products company based in Mississauga. He holds Chartered Professional Accountant, Chartered Financial Analyst, Director of Education Program (Rotman), and other financial designations.

In the past, Jason has held positions as Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer for Toronto Community Housing Corporation, Canada's largest apartment landlord, and Senior Director, Finance for SmartCentres Real Estate Investment Trust.

Jason Gorel serves on the Board of Directors of Moya Financial Credit Union, and as Chair of the Governance & Human Resources Committee. Jason holds a membership in Slovenski Dom and is on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Slovenian Chamber of Commerce. Jason's parents are both Slovenian immigrants to Canada and from them he has a good understanding of the needs and objectives of Slovenian senior citizens.

The Directors, Administration team and staff wish you a wonderful Spring!

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors of the Slovenian Linden Foundation – Dom Lipa

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