



DOM LIPA

SLOVENIAN LINDEN FOUNDATION

August 1, 2024

Dear Dom Lipa Families, Friends, Employees and Supporters,

In this communication we provide updates about the Covid-19 outbreaks at Dom Lipa and share the Ontario Respiratory Virus Tool. We outline the advocacy efforts by AdvantAge Ontario on behalf of cultural homes. We also provide an introduction to the new Minister of Long-Term Care and highlight summer news.

### Covid-19 Outbreak Updates

#### **July 30 Covid-19 Outbreak Declared on Kastelic wing**

A new Covid-19 outbreak was declared for the Kastelic wing (long-term care nursing) on July 30<sup>th</sup>. One resident began coughing and tested positive on July 27<sup>th</sup>. This resident was immediately isolated. On July 30<sup>th</sup>, two more residents tested positive. Currently there are no employees infected.

We remind visitors to check for symptoms of illness prior to every visit. Once at Dom Lipa, please consider masking to ensure the safety of others.

#### **June 10 Covid-19 Outbreak Over on West 2 wing**

The Covid-19 outbreak on West 2 wing (long-term care nursing) which we reported in our June 14<sup>th</sup> communication ended on June 18<sup>th</sup>. In total 5 residents and 1 staff were infected. There were no hospitalization and no deaths because of Covid-19.

### Virus Tracking in Ontario

For information about what is happening weekly with virus activity in Ontario, see <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Infectious-Disease/Respiratory-Virus-Tool>

Public Health Ontario provides and compiles the Ontario Respiratory Virus Tool (ORVT) which provides comprehensive epidemiological information on respiratory virus activity in Ontario, including COVID-19, influenza, RSV, and other respiratory viruses. Explore respiratory virus data including case trends, outcomes (hospital bed occupancy, ICU bed occupancy, and deaths), laboratory testing, and outbreaks. The ORVT is updated weekly on Fridays, with data up to the previous Saturday.

### AdvantAge Ontario's Advocacy for Cultural Admissions

We wanted to keep you updated on the progress of AdvantAge Ontario's progress with advocacy for cultural homes. The cultural admissions issue remains a priority at Dom Lipa and at other cultural homes.

AdvantAge Ontario, along with representatives from cultural homes were featured on *The Agenda's* (TVO television) examination of this topic. The June 26, 2024 segment is now available online at <https://www.tv.org/video/challenges-for-cultural-long-term-care>. The panel of speakers included member homes who shared unique perspectives on behalf of their cultural

communities: Dr. Steven Harrison, AdvantAge Ontario Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer of Tri-County Mennonite Homes, along with Aleksandra Grzeszczuk, CEO, Copernicus Lodge Home for the Aged, and Allan Meiusi, Chair, Estonian Relief Committee in Canada-Ehatare Retirement and Nursing Home. Dr. Samir Sinha, Director of Geriatrics at Sinai Health System also sat on the panel and highlighted the critical supports that cultural homes provide to Ontarians.

Dom Lipa is a member of AdvantAge Ontario, which is a network of not-for-profit leaders across the province who share a commitment and passion for advancing senior care. To learn more about this association and their advocacy work for cultural homes, go to <https://www.advantageontario.ca/AAO/About/AAO/About.aspx?hkey=547d0013-3608-4538-8149-214e6a4ab56b>

### New Minister for Long-Term Care

On June 6, 2024, the Honourable Natalia Kusendova-Bashta was appointed Minister of Long-Term Care.

Advantage Ontario has already met with the new Minister and briefed her on the cultural admissions issue and the challenges our community is facing. She said she was supportive of cultural homes. AdvantAge Ontario will continue to raise this issue in our meetings with Ministry officials and the Minister's senior political staff. In addition, AdvantAge Ontario will soon make a proposal to the Minister and suggest an improved process for crisis admissions to cultural homes.

The AdvantAge government relations team has suggested delaying the letter writing campaign until the new Minister has an opportunity to better understand the issues.

Dom Lipa appreciates the tremendous support from AdvantAge Ontario and the involvement and engagement of our community members.

### Summer Happenings

Dom Lipa is fortunate to have three students on site this summer to assist residents with taking advantage of the fine weather to enjoy the outdoors, and other recreational activities.

On August 1<sup>st</sup>, we will have our second resident BBQ event. We are all looking forward to this event and are excited to spend time together. Our new 'soft serve frozen dessert' machine will be introduced and we will offer everyone a delicious cool treat.

We wish everyone a lovely August!

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

The Slovenian Linden Foundation – Dom Lipa  
52 Neilson Drive, Toronto, ON M9C 1V7 | P: 416-621-3820 | F: 416-621-9773 | [info@domlipa.ca](mailto:info@domlipa.ca)