

May 15, 2026

Dear Dom Lipa Families, Friends, Employees and Supporters,

In this communication we urge you register for our Annual Meeting on May 24<sup>th</sup> so we will know that we have the minimum of 25 voting members attending to reach quorum. Then we provide more detailed information about the application process to the long-term care area of our home. Finally we wish you a good Victoria Day weekend.

### Register now for our Annual Meeting

Please register for our Annual Meeting to take place on Sunday May 24, 2026, starting at 2:00 pm. This is the Sunday *after* the Victoria Day weekend.

We need to ensure that we have at least 25 voting members take part in the meeting either in person or on Zoom. We cannot go ahead with the meeting unless we have reached the quorum of 25 voting members.

A voting member is one who has contributed at least \$2000 in donations to Dom Lipa over the years. If you are unsure if you are a voting member, please contact [donor@domlipa.ca](mailto:donor@domlipa.ca)

**Register:** You are encouraged to attend in-person or on Zoom by reserving a free ticket on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/dom-lipa-annual-meeting-sunday-may-24-2026-at-2-pm-tickets-1988335361591?aff=oddtcreator>

**Date:** Sunday, May 24, 2026 from 2 – 4:30 p.m.

**Location:** In person in the Edward Erčulj Auditorium at Dom Lipa, 52 Neilson Drive, Etobicoke or on Zoom.

You may also call the office at 416.621.3820 to reserve a ticket and/ or ask for a copy of the documents.

**Documents:** The financial statements and other Annual Meeting documents are available on Google Drive at: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1P5MbZUpmmAH\\_RYNI6MHDzz1U6V9pQMq8?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1P5MbZUpmmAH_RYNI6MHDzz1U6V9pQMq8?usp=sharing)

Thank you sincerely for your continuing generosity and support for Dom Lipa.

### LTC Criteria for Admission to a Cultural Home

We have heard from community members who are asking for more information about the placement of Slovenians into our Long-term Care Nursing area (LTC). As we reported in our last communication, we have approximately 65% occupancy of residents in LTC who are Slovenian or of Slovenian descent. There are 66 resident beds in LTC.

Our recollection is that 5 years ago, we had approximately 50% Slovenian residents in LTC. With the gradual move to electronic documentation over the last few years ago, we cannot quickly determine the percentage of Slovenian residents prior to approximately 2017.

The last admission was on April 6, 2026. This past year, we had four admissions to long term care with three Slovenians and one Croatian.

Dom Lipa has accepted residents into LTC only from the Crisis category since approximately 2017. This shows that all the LTC homes in the region are very full. Thus, the waiting list for non-crisis LTC applicants moves very slowly.

### **Current LTC Waiting List**

The current waiting list for our LTC beds is 227 people (this continually fluctuates). Four applicants are in Crisis category 1C which stands for “cultural” placement and have declared a Slovenian affiliation.

### **LTC Crisis categories**

Ontario Health atHome controls admission to the LTC area of Dom Lipa, and to all LTC homes. Based on our experience, and as also reported by other cultural homes, there is lack of clarity about the process, the scoring system, as well as inconsistencies in scoring by OHaH coordinators. The administration team at Dom Lipa is continually asking questions to clarify the process and advocating for Slovenian applicants.

Ontario Health atHome placement coordinators use a crisis category determination guide. Within the crisis framework, the crisis risk level ranges from 1 (least urgency for LTC placement) to 5 (highest urgency). Within each level are a variety of categories.

Those who are listed in the cultural crisis category (1C) are prioritized over regular crisis applicants in each level. So, the 1C designation allows the cultural applicant to “jump” over the waitlist date of applicants scoring in the same risk level.

For example, a candidate can be in 1C Crisis level 1 or in 1C Crisis level 2 and so on.

Due to long wait lists, an applicant must be 1C Crisis level 5 to reach the stage when they are placed in a home( because Crisis level 5 is higher than 1C Crisis level 4).

### **How is Crisis category determined?**

The Crisis Identification and Situational Improvement Strategies (CRISIS) algorithm categories a person based on their likelihood of being placed in a long-term care facility within 90 days of assessment.

CRISIS, is a 2-step process where a person is categorized into 7 distinct clinical groups and then, based on their attributes from the assessment, they are assigned a level of risk (between 1 and 5) for immediate placement in a long-term care facility. The highest risk and urgent level for placement is level 5 category.

The category and level assigned is determined using a range of criteria, for example:

- Cognitive skills for daily decision making
- Behaviour symptoms (wandering, verbal abuse, physical abuse, etc.)
- Neglected, abuse or mistreated
- Informal helper is unable to continue in caring activities
- Falls frequency
- Delusions, hallucinations

- Activities of Daily Living, and more.

Remember, the priority for placement is based on Crisis level of 1 to 5. Within each level, there are various categories. In each level, the 1C cultural category is given priority over all the categories.

One must be placed in 1C Crisis level 5 category to receive the most urgent placement to Dom Lipa. If there are two applicants in such category, the bed offer goes by the date of placement into the Crisis category by the OHaH coordinator.

## **2025 Cultural Homes Directive**

In 2024, AdvantAge Ontario proposed and championed a pilot project with the Ministry of Long-term Care to help LTC applicants with cultural affiliations go to appropriate LTC cultural homes.

See <https://www.advantageontario.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/AdvantAge-Ontario-Submission-Proposed-Amendments-to-Cultural-Homes-Pilot-Final.pdf>

Dom Lipa worked closely with AdvantAge Ontario to advocate for this cultural project. We are a member of AdvantAge Ontario, an association for not-for-profit LTC homes including many homes with cultural affiliations.

Following the successful pilot, the Ministry of LTC approved in 2025 a directive to Ontario Health atHome placement coordinators to assist applicants to be placed in their cultural home of preference.

According to the directive, a potential applicant (or their Substitute Decision Maker (SDM)) should be asked if they (or their spouse) self-identify with any cultural aspect (ethnic, linguistic, geographical). If the answer is affirmative, they are designated as 1C cultural crisis category in the appropriate level.

## **Reunification with Spouse or Partner**

A Crisis applicant may be eligible for a “Reunification Priority Access Bed” if they have a spouse or partner who is a current resident in a Long-term Care Home and the applicant wishes to be reunited with the spouse or partner at that specific Long-term Care Home.

## **Support when applying to LTC**

It is important that you reach out to our Executive Director, Jolanta Linde, and her team to work on clarifying the information in the application package, and specifically include a preference for Slovenian culture. The questions in the LTC application may not specifically ask about cultural preference.

We encourage applicants and families to explicitly inform the OHaH case worker or coordinator that they want to receive care at Dom Lipa.

We hope you enjoy the long Victoria Day weekend, and look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 24th!

Sincerely,

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

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