

June 1, 2022

Dear Dom Lipa Families, Friends, Employees and Supporters,

In this communication, we thank Moya Financial for their donation, welcome our new Food Services Manager, and update you on the various Covid-19 outbreaks at the home.

### **A BIG thank you to Moya Financial**

Dom Lipa received a \$20,000 donation from Moya Financial on May 25<sup>th</sup> to help pay for a wheelchair washer. We are so grateful for the continuing and dedicated support of Moya Financial! Here is a photo of the BIG cheque presented by Andrew Rovansek to Jolanta Linde, Executive Director and Rozika Nesich, Director of the Board.



### **Welcome to our new Food Services Manager**

We are pleased to welcome Oksana Bomchyk to the position of Food Services Manager. She began her work at Dom Lipa on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

Oksana started as a Dietary Aide, progressing to Manager at various Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes and gained valuable experience as her career developed. She has also completed some courses in Dietetic Knowledge. You may see her walking to Dom Lipa from her home nearby. Be sure to say 'Hi' to Oksana and welcome her to the Dom Lipa team.

### **Covid-19 Outbreak Declared Over**

The Covid-19 outbreaks declared in various resident areas on April 20<sup>th</sup> were declared over on May 31, 2022. Continuing outbreaks in various resident areas delayed the final resolution of cases. Now, Dom Lipa is free of Covid-19, and we recognize it is inevitable that there will be more Covid-19 outbreaks.

There were 31 residents, who tested positive for Covid-19 during this period. All residents have now resolved their minor symptoms or are asymptomatic.

There were 23 staff members affected by Covid-19. Most of these staff have now returned to work.

We continue to work closely with Toronto Public Health, and staff and residents are tested regularly.

### **Key learnings from this Outbreak**

There are three key learnings from this recent outbreak:

- We strongly encourage all staff to maintain good hand hygiene and masking practices, including not touching the front of a contaminated mask and following IPAC guidelines to ensure Dom Lipa remains a safe place to live and work.
- Vaccination has demonstrated its ability to reduce the severity of illness and communicability.
- Follow rules about safe break room spaces and room capacity limits to make sure staff unmask only when physically distanced from other staff members.

While restrictions have eased outside of the hospital and people resume pre-COVID activities, COVID is still very much present in our communities and remains a part of our day-to-day lives. Residents at Dom Lipa are more vulnerable and at higher risk of serious negative outcomes. We must continue to remain vigilant in protecting ourselves and our residents from illness.

### **Keep protecting Yourself and Others**

As summer approaches, we are seeing a decrease in COVID-19 testing and positivity rates, indicating that we are heading in a good direction. This is like what we saw and experienced last summer. As people spend time outdoors in the warmer weather, transmission decreases. While this is good news, we want to stress that COVID-19 is not gone. We are still seeing it in the community and inside Dom Lipa.

Many of our patients are vulnerable – getting COVID-19 does not mean the same thing for them as it does for us. Vaccination is still the best strategy to protect ourselves and residents and we strongly urge all eligible individuals to get their third and fourth doses when they can, if they have not already done so.

We also encourage staff to maintain vigilance in hand hygiene and masking practices and specially to avoid touching the front of a contaminated mask.

Finally, as you step outside to enjoy this lovely weather, please remember that the risk assessment and mitigation strategies that you learned over the past two years are a wonderful way to keep you and your families safe, keep the risk of transmission low and hopefully keep COVID-19 out of Dom Lipa.

The Directors, Administration team and staff wish you a lovely Springtime!

Sincerely,

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

The Slovenian Linden Foundation – Dom Lipa

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