

Labdara Foundation President's REPORT to AGM
April 10, 2018 at Labdara

ELECTIONS AT THE LABDARA FOUNDATION AGM April 10, 2018:

The Labdara Foundation Members' Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place at Labdara Lithuanian Nursing Home on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 from 7-9:30PM. The following 4 Directors completed their terms of office: President Gabija Petrauskas, Secretary Daiva Vorps, Directors: Regina Masionis and Rymantas Petrauskas. There were two additional vacancies. Six new Directors were elected to the Board: Tony Businskas, Zita Bersenas-Cers, Zibute Janeliunas, Judy Kavaliauskas, Viktorija Paulionis-Cherko and Nijole Simonavicius. They will be joining the five Board Directors continuing to serve. Congratulations and welcome to Team Labdara!

YEAR-END REPORT BY BOARD PRESIDENT GABIJA PETRAUSKAS:

Pernai metų pranešimą Jums užbaigiau šiais žodžiais: "Kur du stos visados daugiau padarys...Ši Direktorių Taryba buvo "darbo bičių" taryba, kuri atsiraitojusi rankoves, dirbo kiek sugebėdama, mūsų slaugos namų gyventojų naudai. So first and foremost, sincere thanks to the members of the current Board of Directors for their professionalism, dedication and good humour. It's been great working with you...as you will see from the list I will present – we accomplished a lot, particularly, in this last year.

Galime pasidžiaugti, kad po šių metų Ministerijos inspekcijos Labdara vel gavo aukštą "A" lygio įvertinimą. Kovo 16d. pokalbyje su namų administracija, Ministerijos inspektoriai pagyrė Labdarą, kad ir vėl šiais metais 100-procentiniai įvykdė Ministerijos nustatytus slaugos namams standartus. O tai nėra lengva atsiekti. Labdara met all Ministry standards for Long-Term Care (LTC) at 100% compliance. Not an easy feat. Their interview with residents and families and our new Family Council, indicated they are happy with the care provided in the home. They observed that staff is very kind, approachable, caring and truly know the residents in their care. "It is very unusual to have such a good evaluation when other homes struggle a great deal. We are truly an "A" level home and we are very proud of it", reported the Director of Care, Beata Malizia.

Also, our Home oversight Manager, Assured Care Consulting's (ACC) President, Robert Berg, negotiated with the pharmacy providing prescription drugs to Labdara to waive the \$2.00 copayment fee per Ontario Drug Benefit prescription for our residents. This will provide some welcome financial relief to our residents and their families.

Labdara is a licensed, registered charity providing nursing care to 90 residents, 95% of whom are of Lithuanian descent. Mūsų lovų užimtumas siekia 99%. Laukiančiųjų vietos Labdaroj sąrašė, kasmet būna apie 60 asmenų (40% vyrų ir 60% moterų). Laukti vietos tenka tarp 2 ir 3 metus (vidurkis).

Quality indicator reports for our home from the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care, continue to show that our residents, on average, are doing well or above the average when compared to LTC residents in homes across the province on indicators such as: weight loss, incidents of falls, incidence of pressure ulcers, effectiveness of pain management, use of physical restraints, amongst others. This is thanks to the dedication and service provided by all the staff of our nursing home: the nurses, the PSWs, the Home's Management Team, the Pastoral Committee, the dietary staff, the environmental and grounds keeping staff, our Volunteers, as well as to the scrupulous oversight provided by ACC our Ministry-sanctioned oversight Manager of the Home.

Labdara's annual operating cost continues to be \$6.4M per year. As of December 31, 2017, we have a mortgage of \$4.5M. Servicing the mortgage costs the home just over 1/2M per year (\$557,367 = \$317,734 interest + \$239,633 principal). Our mortgage holder requires that we maintain a capital reserve fund and we are able to contribute to it at a rate of around \$60,000 annually from resident fees. This information is all laid out in the audited statements that were mailed together with your invitation to attend this meeting, to all Labdara Foundation members a month ago.

Focus in 2017 was Labdara's 15th anniversary year. The Board undertook 6 initiatives to mark this special year. 2017-tieji metai atžymėjo Labdaros slaugos namų 15-metų gyvavimo sukaktį. Ėmėmės ambicingų projektų – ir džiaugiamės, kad pasisekė juos įvykdyti.

1) **Modernizing our Website** – reikėjo atnaujinti Labdaros tinklapį. Dėka PARAMOS kredito kooperatyvui – mūsų tinklapio rėmėjui kuris finansavo atnaujinimo darbus ir toliau remia mūsų tinklapį. Thanks to PARAMA for funding the website renewal and for their ongoing sponsorship of the site (Rita Urbonavičius). Special thanks to our volunteer website manager Ed Kurak and Board Director Virginia Pečiulis who led the project. They put months of hard work into updating and modernizing our website. Thanks to the work of Virginia Pečiulis, donations can be made online through our website. It links to CanadaHelps which makes donating from home - even in your pyjamas, simple and direct. And you get our thank-you note and a tax receipt within minutes. Dėka mūsų išdininkės Virginijos Pečiulis pastangų, galima Labdarai aukoti neišeinant iš savo namų – pasijungiant Labdaros tinklapį ir atsiunčiant auką per kompiuterį. Tai didžiulė parama Labdarai.

2) Launched a new Labdara **Facebook page** – thanks to the volunteer efforts in setting it up and maintaining it to Board Director Virginia Pečiulis. Tai populiarus ir efektyvus būdas greitai pasiekti mūsų visuomenę.

3) **Signage** work completed on the outside of the Nursing Home and pixel message sign installed at roadside. All of this was funded by Resurrection Credit Union (RCU) (Jurgis Valaitis). Baigta įrengti slaugos namų užrašus iš lauko ant pastato sienų. Padėka Prisikėlimo Bankeliui už šio projekto finansavimą.

4) **15th Anniversary Fundraising Drive** for new resident dining room furniture – was launched by the Board in March 2017. The drive received tremendous and timely support from the Lithuanian community and the requisite \$75,000 was raised within 8 months. Bene didžiausias projektas atžymėti slaugos namų 15metų sukaktį – tai lėšų vėjus įsigyti naujus baldus slaugos namų gyventojų valgykloms. Per 8 mėnesius, dėka dosnių mus remiančių žmonių, pasisekė sukelti reikalingą sumą - \$75,000!!! Tai didžiulis mūsų visų bendras atsiekimas. AČIŪ! The Campaign ended the first week of November and new furniture was in place for Christmas. Sincere thanks goes out to our community – without you there would be no us – BE JŪSŲ NEBŪTŲ MŪSŲ!

5) **Open House & Plaque:** Labdara opened its doors to its first residents on June 25, 2002. To mark the 15th Anniversary of the nursing home, Labdara hosted an **open house and tea** for the community on June 25th. On this occasion our centenarian resident unveiled the **plaque** you now see in the main floor lobby by the elevators. It identifies the original founders of the Home – Lietuvių Namai; the Nursing Home; and, Labdara Foundation – the owners and operators of the Nursing Home. Our thanks go out to Resurrection Credit Union who funded the plaque. Namų priėngyje prie keltuvų dabar kabo bronzos lenta kur su pagarba atžymėjama Lietuvių Namų organizacija kuri įsteigė slaugos namus, slaugos namų emblema ir pažymimas Labdaros Fondas – slaugos namų savininkas. Nuoširdi padėka Prisikėlimo Bankeliui kuris projektą finansavo. (Jurgis Valaitis)

6) **EVENING OF THANKS DINNER:** in order to thank the founders of the nursing home from the LN organization, the long-serving staff of Labdara (folks who've been with Labdara continuously for the past 15 years), to recognize major donors and to thank the many many volunteers who generously donate their time and talents to the nursing home, the Board organized a dinner of thanksgiving. Direktorių Taryba šia proga norėjo atžymėti žmones kurie įkūrė Labdarą ir kurie ją per ilgus metus išlaikė: tai Lietuvių Namų nariai, slaugos namų organizatoriai ir steigėjai; slaugos namų štabo nariai kurie ištiesai per 15 metų dirba Labdaroj nuo pat jos įsteigimo; tai aukotojai kurie mus rėmė ir remia finansiniai; tai savanoriai kurie negaili savo laiko nei talentų ir jais dalinasi be jokio užmokėščio. Suorganizavome Padėkos Vakarienę kuri įvyko Prisikėlimo salėje spalio 14d. Nustebino gausus visuomenės dalyvavimas! Sincere thanks go out to Rauda Dickinson and her Committee, Genutė Kobelskienė's phenomenal caterers and VOLUNGĖS Princesės, without whom the evening would not have been the success that it was. And of course – who didn't want a piece of the wonderful Napoleonai donated by generous and talented community bakers for the Napoleonų konkursas.

Acknowledging the founders, donors, volunteers and staff continuously working in the Home since it opened its doors in 2002 raised awareness of how many people have contributed to Labdara's success over the past 15 years. We had over 160 names on the list of people to thank... It truly takes a community...

Other projects: Kiti projektai kuriuos įgyvendinome:

7) **OUTDOOR CHAIRS:** As part of refurbishment efforts for the nursing home to maintain our "A" level rating, we sought out sturdy outdoor chairs that would provide stability and comfort for the residents. Genovaitės Kuzmienės Fondas (administered by Kanados Lietuvių Fondas) funded the purchase of the first outdoor chairs that you now see in the portico area at the front entrance to the home. Additional funds for this project were raised by Labdara's TORONTO CHALLENGE TEAM organized by Activation Department staff and Volunteer Coordinator Nerijus Augutis and Board Directors Julija Šimonėlis and Virginia Pečiulis. Outdoor chairs are still needed for the two upper balconies, so the work continues. So join Team Labdara for the Toronto Challenge Walk organized by the City of Toronto to help agencies providing services to seniors in the city raise funds. The date is Sunday, June 10th. (Please don't confuse this with VILTIES BĖGIMAS organized the same weekend on the day before – their funds go to Lietuva; our funds stay here to work directly for our residents.)

8) **PRIORITIES & BUDGET:** Just as we did last year, so, at the start of the year, the Board set its operational plan priorities for 2017 and then developed the annual Labdara Foundation Budget. These two documents guide the work of the Board of the Foundation. Taryba pernai posėdžiavo 9

kartus (pertraukėm vasaros ir Kalėdų atostogoms). Vėliau, Išdininkė Virginia Pecčulis pristatys 2018m. biudžetą ir Vice-pirmininkas Raymondas Smolskis pristatys sekančių metų prioritetų planą.

9) In 2017, the **BINGO TEAM** raised \$44,273 for Labdara. This enabled the purchase of: Art therapy (\$7,932), Music Therapy (\$6,602), a Therapy Table (\$1,499), Tilt/shower chairs (\$6,768), ROHO Wheelchair cushions (\$1,589) and Dermaflow air mattresses (\$12,079) for the Home. Thanks to Sandra Burke, team lead, Birutė Batraks and Vidmantas Valiulis who work Bingo for Labdara every month and to Arūnas Morkūnas who works with the team and staff at Labdara, negotiates categories of approved funding with the City, and prepares all of the accountability reports to the City of Toronto for the expenditure of the funds raised through Bingo. Bravo and sincere thanks to Team Labdara – you have made a real difference to the care and quality of life of our residents.

9) **SCHOLARSHIPS:** The Board decided to grant scholarships every two years so that, given the low interest rates, the scholarship principal can accumulate enough to warrant granting of more substantial scholarships. Scholarships will be available again, towards the end of this year 2018. The new Board will need to form a Committee. Šių metų rudenį, nauja Direktojų Taryba, privalės sudaryti komitetą Labdaros Stipendijoms dalinti. Labdaros Stipendijos dalinamos kas antri metai.

10) **FAMILY COUNCIL:** A year ago, we were cited in the Ministry of Health's report for lack of a functioning Family Council. The Board is pleased that Labdara was able to recruit Laima Underys, Rasa Buškaitis-Wilkinson and Liucija Kaminskas as the new Labdara Family Council team. Pirmas šių metų Šeimų Komiteto susirinkimas įvyko sekmadienį, kovo 25d. Sekantis planuojamas rudenį. Sincere thanks to the "three amigas" for stepping up. We wish you every success. Thank-you sincerely for your work in engaging our resident families.

11) **MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT:** Labdara's Medical Director, Dr. Mikas Valadka, came to the Board in January 2018 and amongst other things raised the issue of aging physicians servicing our nursing home and the need for additional help in the future. The Board is in the process, together with Director of Care and ACC, of exploring the possibility of engaging a Nurse Practitioner to provide assistance in this area. It will all depend on our Mississauga-Halton LHIN's approval or denial of our request and their funding support.

12) **GALA 2016 FUNDS FOR VIDEO SECURITY CAMERAS project:** It took a while for it to take off, but that is because the selection committee needed to educate themselves first, to be able to assess bids from vendors and to then make an informed choice. Committee: Oversight Manager ACC president Robert Berg led the Committee made up of: Administrator Eric Harela, Director of Care Beata Malitzia, Board Chair Gabija Petrauskas, Vice-Chair Ray Smolskis. The successful bidder from a total of 5 bids, was SEQ Securities and the projected cost of the system is \$ \$70,000 (\$54,600 was raised by the GALA, the difference will be covered from Foundation funds). Work will begin later this spring.

13) **POLICY WORK:** The Board undertook to develop and adopt a **Privacy Policy** regarding our website and publications that is posted on Labdara's website. The Board also adopted a **Conflict of Interest Policy** for Labdara Foundation and the Board membership per government regulation requirements also to be posted on our website.

14) **REFURBISHMENT OF NURSING STATIONS & RECEPTION:** this is the next priority project to keep our "A list" rating of the home. Funds are already in place thanks to the generous

donations for this project by our credit unions: PARAMA, RCU and TALKA and some bequests. Implementation oversight will fall to the next Board of Directors.

GOING FORWARD:

To maintain the “A level” rating for our home – we need to continue with our refurbishing efforts - bit by bit, as funds allow. The range is from “A” to “D” and the rating affects licensing. It identifies the term of the license (number of years you can operate the home) or leads to termination of your license to operate.

CMI = Case Mix Index is an analysis used by the MOHLTC to evaluate acuity of care required in our home that then adjusts funding from the Ministry for nursing care. Our residents are 5% more acute than the average resident in LTC in Ontario. This means a 1.6% increase above the normal annual increase in our nursing funding = \$52,000 per year. Although the intensity of care required for Labdara’s residents has risen by 5%, yet funding increase to help cope with these increasing care needs was only 1.6%. With careful financial management and control thanks to ACC, we are able to balance our books within a \$6K to \$8K margin at year-end. For a \$6.4M operation - that is basically like “living paycheque to paycheque”. There is no additional flex and the Home must rely on community support through various donation drives. Ray Smolskis and Robert Berg will be speaking more about this in their reports.

Our parents’ generation is continuing to support the nursing home – but they are, sadly, passing away. The trend for future donors is not encouraging – the younger generation is not yet stepping up.

What Challenges does Labdara Lithuanian Nursing Home (the only one in all of Canada!) face going forward?

Declining community interest; low AGM attendance, difficulties in getting qualified people to serve on the Board of Directors; the need for greater commitment to and understanding of the need for a Lithuanian Nursing Home.

Kitataučiai už mus neišlaikys lietuviškų slaugos namų. Niekas iš Lietuvos neatsiųs lėšų mūsų slaugos namams išlaikyti kai lėšų pritruks. Labdarą išlaikyti galime TIK mes patys – mūsų Kanados lietuviška bendruomenė. Didėjant senstančių žmonių skaičiui, vietų slaugos namuose Ontario provincijoje, ateityje dar daugiau truks. Jei mes nepajėgsime išlaikyti lietuviškų slaugos namų, be problemos, tuojaus juos perims valdžia ir mes juos prarasime.

I invite you to invite the next generation – your kids and grandkids to value this institution and become involved in ensuring it survives into the future. Don’t be the gatekeepers always providing excuses for why your kids who are now grown professionals, are too busy or cannot participate as adults in our Lithuanian community affairs. Encourage them to begin taking over the reins now.

And remember: KUR DU STOS – VISADOS DAUGIAU PADARYS! Ir BE JŪSŲ – NEBŪTŲ MŪSŲ!!! WITHOUT YOU THERE WOULD BE NO “US”!!
Ačiū Jums visiems. Sincere thanks to everyone!
