March 2024



# NEWSLETTER

### Growing a Caring Community



#### A LETTER FROM PAMILA

During my time here, I have come to appreciate the people who generously give. They volunteer their time on the Board, serve as Associates to the Sisters of Providence, and assist our residents by sitting with them to help them eat or having a friendly conversation. We are also grateful for the trust placed in us by donors like you, who enable us to provide respectful and compassionate care. Thanks to your generosity, we received \$90,000 in donations from November to December in 2023.

Your contributions not only ensure our residents enjoy life to the fullest, but also honor their diverse backgrounds and rich histories. Many of our residents have worked in the city's major corporations, contributing significantly to our community. Take, for instance, Keith, a former project manager who played a key role in the development of our city's infrastructure. Or Lucy, who lent her skills to our Fall and Christmas mailout. Their stories are a testament to the vibrant lives they've led, and your generosity helps us celebrate and honor these lives every day.

This is part of what motivates me to continue my work here, knowing that should I ever need affordable senior care provided with dignity, there will be a place like Father Lacombe Care Society.

Thank you for being a part of our journey, and for making a difference in the lives of our residents every day.

Philanthropy Leader



## We love our volunteers

Our volunteers help in so many ways from our newsletter mailout, visiting with residents, and helping with recreational activities. Their time and talents are very appreciated by both the staff and residents.

"We rise by lifting others." ~ Robert Ingersoll

# The Associates of the Sisters of Providence

Providence Associates are lay women and men who desire to share the mission and spirituality of Providence but do not seek vowed membership. These are dedicated individuals who hold Gospel values as the compelling force in their lives and want to make a difference in their world and the world others.

The Associates come by four times a week and help ensure that residents who want to attend are brought to mass.

## An exciting update!

We have received an initial approval for a grant from the Province of Alberta to build a new building that will house approximately 140 residents adjacent to Providence Care Centre. We are in the beginning stages of planning the new care facility which will be designed using a "small home" concept that provides a greater sense of connectedness, facilitates socialization, and ultimately, happiness.

### Resident Spotlight on Cheryl



Meet Cheryl, a retired kindergarten teacher and passionate musician. She recorded an LP called "Come Home" that reflects her love for music. Cheryl's life transformed when she got engaged to her true love after just two weeks of dating, a love-at-first-sight story that still holds true today.

Family is at the core of Cheryl's heart, as a proud mother of two sons and a delighted grandmother to four grandchildren. Today, Cheryl can still be found savoring the magic of music.









Thank you for helping us make Christmas Special at Father Lacombe and Providence Care Centres!





### **HUMBLE BEGINNINGS**



The cottage where it all started in 1910



The original four sisters at the cottage

Father Albert Lacombe's last mission, the building of the Lacombe Home in Midnapore at 82, was the "most beautiful dream" of his life. With support from friends like Senator Patrick Burns and Lord Strathcona in the form of land and a financial donation, the dream turned into reality.

In 1909, Father Lacombe journeyed to Montreal, urging the Sisters of Providence to establish a home for the aged, homeless, and orphaned in Calgary. Responding to the call, Sisters Georgia, Louise de Gonzague, Maxima, and Marie Clarissa arrived.

Initially in a small cottage, the Sisters, cared for a blind man and orphaned child Philomene Strong, leaving a lasting legacy. The cottage, now part of the convent property, witnessed the humble beginnings of caring for those in need.

On October 3, 1910, the Sisters moved into the Lacombe Home, marking the start of a century of dedicated care. This historical journey reflects enduring compassion and service by Father Albert Lacombe and the Sisters of Providence.

#### ALTERNATE WAYS TO DONATE

If donating online is a more convenient option for you, head over to our website **www.flccfoundation.ca** and click the "Donate Now" button. We greatly appreciate your generosity.



A gift of securities to Father Lacombe Care Foundation eliminates the steep capital gains tax you would incur if you were to sell these assets and donate the proceeds. To learn more about how you can donate your publicly-traded securities, please email Pamila at pfonseka@fatherlacombe.ca or call 403-254-6280.

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