



### THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY



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### GREETINGS

**Carmine A. Zirino** Order Sons & Daughters of Italy President, Garibaldi Lodge



Buona sera a tutti! It is an honour and privilege to serve as the President of the Sons and Daughters of Italy-Garibaldi Lodge. I would like to personally welcome you to the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Sons and Daughters of Italy Gala. With your support over the last 40 years, we have been able to contribute to a variety of Manitoba charities and community initiatives. It is because of this dedication and generosity that the Sons and Daughters of Italy have donated over 4 million dollars to this community.

This year, we are honoured to present our charity of choice for 2024, The Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba. It is the mission and vision of the Children's Hospital Foundation to ensure that every child receives the best care and experience possible. Thanks to donor support, the Foundation has raised over \$165 million since 1971 in Manitoba, Ontario, and Nunavut. The incredible generosity of community members like you has funded health research and provided life-saving equipment and care to children each day.

The Sons and Daughters of Italy are grateful for your support at our gala tonight in honour of The Children's Hospital Foundation. The proceeds from this evening will make a significant contribution towards improving medical care for children in our community. We are also thankful to our title sponsor CentrePort Canada Rail Park and Focus Equities for their generosity in making this evening a success. As well as a note of gratitude to the Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Corporate sponsors for their continuing support of these worthwhile causes. Your commitment to local initiatives has been invaluable.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Gala Director, Frank Occhino for his innovation, expertise, and dedication to making each Gala a true success. This incredible evening has been planned and organized by the Gala Dinner Committee, chaired by 1st Vice President Mark Scaletta and 2nd Vice President Travis Giavedoni. We are truly grateful for the brothers and sisters of the Sons and Daughters of Italy for their hard work in leading up to this event. Congratulations to Joe Leuzzi, the recipient of the 2024 Heart of the Lion Lifetime Achievement Award. This prestigious award recognizes an individual who has tirelessly given of themselves and has made significant contributions to the community. As a devoted member of the Sons and Daughters of Italy for over 30 years, and the youngest president in the Lodge's history, Joe is truly deserving of this award. His contributions to local charities and organizations have impacted the lives of so many and his legacy is felt by all here this evening. We are fortunate to have such a trailblazer in our community. Please join us in celebrating Joe Leuzzi.

Once the formal part of the evening is over, please ensure you make your way out to the lobby to enjoy the beautiful desserts, gelati, and espresso bar. We look forward to seeing you all on the dance floor with Big City All Star Band later this evening!

A presto,

Carmine A. Zirino

#### Order Sons of Italy Board—2023

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### A LONG TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESSFUL INNOVATIVE FINANCIAL STRUCTURES

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Focus Equities is currently developing over \$5 billion USD of projects in North America and has a long track record of successful innovative financial structures.





### GREETINGS

**Chris Reiter** CentrePort Canada Rail Park Senior Development Manager



Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good evening and welcome to the 36th Annual Gala, a night filled with grace, glamour, and giving, proudly brought to you by CentrePort Canada Rail Park, the Title Sponsor for this remarkable event.

As we gather here for this beautiful evening, we are not just celebrating elegance and culture but also embracing the opportunity to make a lasting impact on the community we hold dear.

Tonight's Gala is more than just a celebration; it's a symbol of compassion, a beacon of hope, and a testament to our collective commitment to a cause, The Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba, that truly matters.

At CentrePort Canada Rail Park, a master planned rail served industrial park by developer Focus Equities, we believe in the power of coming together to create positive change. It is an honour to be part of an event that supports the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba. The Foundation is dedicated to ensuring that every child treated at HSC Children's Hospital in Winnipeg has the best care and experience possible. Funds raised by the Foundation support capital improvements, life-saving equipment, programs that bring comfort to sick children, and health research to improve the lives of children everywhere.

Together, we are not just sponsors; we are advocates for a brighter, better future, supporters of dreams, and contributors to the well-being of those who need it the most, our children. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for joining us on this philanthropic journey. As we enjoy this evening of fine dining, entertainment, and camaraderie, let us also take a moment to reflect on the impact we can create when we unite for a common goal. Your presence here tonight is a testament to the strength of our community and the belief that, together, we can make a significant difference.

Thank you for being a part of the CentrePort Canada Rail Park Sons and Daughters of Italy's 36th Annual Gala and thank you for your commitment to Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Better Futures Campaign.

Salute to a night of shared purpose, shared joy, and shared impact. May this evening be a testament to the incredible things we can achieve when we come together. On behalf of CentrePort Canada Rail Park and Focus Equities, thank you for being here and for being a vital part of making a positive change in the lives of the children we aim to support.

Buona serata,

**Chris Reiter** 





## **Congratulations!**

PROUD TO SUPPORT THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION OF MANITOBA AND THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY.





### GREETINGS

**Carmine Filice** 



Order Sons & Daughters of Italy of Canada National President

Dear Brothers and Sisters, and friends of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy of Canada.

It is with great pleasure that I address you from Winnipeg and extend warm greetings on behalf of our members across Canada.

The journey of Italian immigrants in Canada was marked by challenges and adversities, yet through mutual support, they forged a strong community. Our Order, rooted in inclusivity, emerged as a beacon of support and camaraderie, fostering a culture of belonging for all.

Our collective success is remarkable. From humble beginnings, we have evolved into a national organization dedicated to serving the needs of our communities across the country. To date, OSDIC has contributed over \$10 million to various charitable causes, thanks in part to the significant contributions and leadership of the Winnipeg Lodges over the past three decades.

Profound gratitude goes to the Winnipeg OSDIC for your tireless efforts and volunteerism in making Canada a better place for all.

As the descendants of Italian immigrants, we have transitioned from identifying as Italians to proud Canadians of Italian descent, with a deep commitment to honoring our heritage. If you share our passion for Italian culture and community service, consider joining the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy of Canada and help us continue to make a difference. Who knows, you might even share a glass of fine wine and a delicious meal at one of our events, forging friendships that last a lifetime. Congratulations to Joe Leuzzi, who is receiving the Sons and Daughters of Italy "Heart of The Lion" award. This prestigious accolade recognizes individuals who have selflessly contributed to their communities, embodying the spirit of service and dedication. On behalf of all our members across Canada, thank you for your service and dedication.

In closing, I extend heartfelt appreciation to the gala committee for upholding the tradition of supporting those in need and for choosing to donate to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba. Your commitment to improving the lives of children treated at HSC Winnipeg Children's Hospital is truly commendable. Here's to many more years of success and impact.

Fraternally yours,

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CASPIAN

Carmine E. Filice National President Order Sons & Daughters of Italy of Canada



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### THE JOHN AND BONNIE BUHLER FOUNDATION

IS PROUD TO BE A SUPPORTER OF THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY ANNUAL GALA AND CONGRATULATE JOE LEUZZI ON RECEIVING THE HEART OF THE LION LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD











### PRIME MINISTER . PREMIER MINISTRE

#### Message from the Prime Minister of Canada

It is with great honour that I send my warmest greetings to the 36th Annual Sons and Daughters of Italy Gala.

Italian Canadians have made countless contributions to our country and continue to do so to this day. These contributions can be seen on every sector and have shaped Canada for the better. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to everyone here today for helping make Canada the greatest place to live in this world.

Canada and Italy have a long and strong relationship built on deep people-to-people ties, strong trade, and robust partnerships in global organizations. This Gala serves as a reminder of the importance of this relationship and the accomplishments made when our two countries work together on shared priorities.

I would also like to thank those who helped organize this Gala for successfully organizing an event that showcases the rich culture of Italy and the accomplishments that Italian Canadians have made to our country.

Please accept my very best wishes.

Ottawa 2024





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### **GREETINGS The Honourable Wab Kinew** The Premier of Manitoba





#### PREMIER OF MANITOBA

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of all Manitobans it is my honour to extend greetings to all attending this year's Annual Gala Dinner hosted by the Sons and Daughters of Italy, Garibaldi Lodge, and the Canadian Italian Business and Professionals Association in support of our province's Children's Hospital Foundation.

The Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba does valuable work to ensure that every child has access to the best care and support. Our province appreciates all they do to advance research and improve children's healthcare.

The Sons and Daughter of Italy, Garibaldi Lodge, plays an important role in our province by representing our vibrant Italian community and providing cultural and philanthropic support which all Manitobans can benefit from.

Thank you to the Sons and Daughters of Italy, Garibaldi Lodge, and the Canadian Italian Business and Professionals Association for all your hard work towards putting on this event and thank you to all attending for supporting this great cause.

The Honourable Wab Kinew Premier of Manitoba



Proud supporter of the Sons and Daughters of Italy and the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba





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**GREETINGS** His Worship Scott Gillingham



The Mayor of Winnipeg



### Mayor's Message

On behalf of the City of Winnipeg, I would like to welcome everyone to the 36th Annual Sons and Daughters of Italy Gala.

This year, Winnipeg celebrates 150 years as a city. It is an opportunity for us to reflect on our past, and look ahead to our future. Winnipeg's Italian community has played an important role in building our city and continues to shape Winnipeg's future.

For 36 years the Sons and Daughters of Italy, Garibaldi Lodge, have demonstrated their organization's generous spirit by supporting a range of deserving charities with their annual Gala. This year is no exception with tonight's proceeds supporting Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba's Better Futures Campaign.

Congratulations to Joe Leuzzi on being presented with the Sons and Daughters of Italy's Heart of the Lion Lifetime Achievement Award. Joe is well-deserving of this recognition.

I would like to thank the sponsors, staff and volunteers for their hard work and dedication putting together this annual event. By supporting worthy causes like this you are helping to strengthen our community.

My best wishes to all attendees for a wonderful evening filled with food, friends and fun!

Sincerely,

Mayor Scott Gillingham City of Winnipeg





### Proudly supporting Sons & Daughters of Italy

### and

### THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION OF MANITOBA



Mark Scaletta Vice President, Industrial mscaletta@shindico.com Robert Scaletta Senior Vice President, Industrial rscaletta@shindico.com

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VINCE BOVA Memorial Award



In 1997, one of our beloved brothers, Vince Bova, passed away after a long battle with cancer. To know Vince was to know a man who exemplified the spirit of the Sons and Daughters of Italy. He was committed to the club in a manner that was beyond compare. He could always be found at social functions, volunteering his time and energy. He was a man who never asked for any credit, but he was always willing to lend a hand and share a smile. In Vince's memory, we now present this annual award to a member who works diligently behind the scenes as a dedicated participant in the Sons and Daughters of Italy.

The past recipients have selected a deserving recipient and the award will be announced this evening.

### Past Recipients:

- 2023: Franco Petrelli
  2019: Tat Liang Fabio Cheam
  2018: Angelo Costantini\*
  2017: Alex Baksina
  2016: Lou Caci
  2015: Justin Bova
  2014: John Giavedoni
  2013: Salvatore Infantino
  2012: Cosmo Racano
- 2011: Robert Scaletta 2010: Reno Augellone 2009: Joe Bova 2008: Rocco Bueti<sup>\*</sup> 2007: Joe Leuzzi 2006: Vincent Bueti 2005: Tony Cesario 2004: George Sotiriadis 2003: Armando Nasuti
- 2002: Ted Nocita 2001: Lino Rutigliano 2000: Randy Hapin 1999: Pat Potenza\* 1999: Rocco Macchia 1998: Terry Ferraro 1998: Reno Molinari 1997: Peter Mignacca







## ASPER FOUNDATION

Proud to sponsor the Sons and Daughters of Italy Gala in support of the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba.

Congratulations to Joe Leuzzi on receiving the Heart of the Lion Lifetime Achievement Award.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." - Winston Churchill

### GALA CHAIRS Mark Scaletta & Travis Giavedoni





Benvenuti a tutti! On behalf of this year's co-chairs and the Sons and Daughters of Italy Garibaldi Lodge, we are honoured to welcome everyone to our 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala event. This evening we are proud to be supporting The Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba.

The Children's Hospital Foundation is dedicated to ensuring that every child treated at HSC Winnipeg Children's Hospital has the best care and experience possible.

Funds raised by the Foundation support capital improvements, life-saving equipment, programs that bring comfort to sick children, and health research to improve the lives of children throughout Manitoba.

We would like to recognize and congratulate this evening's Vince Bova award recipient and the Legacy Award winners; Vincenzina Conia and Emma Posillipo.

We are honoured to present this year's recipient of the Sons and Daughters of Italy "Heart of the Lion" Lifetime Achievement Award to Joe Leuzzi. This award recognizes an individual who has tirelessly given of themselves and has made significant contributions to the community. Joe has worked endlessly in the Italian community as a Past President and guiding voice for the many projects and fund-raising efforts the Sons & Daughters of Italy have been apart of. Please join us in congratulating Joe Leuzzi on this prestigious award. Auguri!

A very special thank you once again to our new partner and Title sponsor, CentrePort Canada Rail Park. Their commitment and generous financial support have allowed us to continue to work with worthy causes around the city. We look forward to your continuous support for many years to come. We would also like to recognize the support from all of our sponsors, as this evening would not have been a great success without all of your generosity.

We would like to say thank you to our brothers and sisters for their endless hours of hard work to ensure that this evening's Gala will contribute to profound and meaningful change in our community.

This evening, we invite you to be part of our extended famiglia, gathering around the table to enjoy great Italian food, fine wine and an entertaining atmosphere. We are thrilled to have a very special performance by Frank Moyo and Flatland Famous Band. After the show, DJ Anto from Capital Sound & Entertainment will have you dancing the night away in the Main Ballroom and in the Carlton Lobby.

Buona serata e divertimento a tutti,

Mark Scaletta and Travis Giavedoni Gala Chairs

#### SDOI Gala Committee—2024

Chair:	Mark Scaletta
Chair:	Travis Giavedoni
Gala Director:	Frank Occhino
Gala Coordinator:	Joe Strazzullo
Gala Treasurer:	Michael Maccaluso & Vince Mariani
Remo Aiello	Tom De Nardi
Carmelo Alongi	Mario Posillipo
Gianfranco Leuzzi	Mike Conia
Sonya Muraro	Tat-Liang Fabio Cheam
Berardino Petrelli	John Giavedoni
Franco Petrelli	Claire Giavedoni
Tony Sacco	Lisa Montebruno
Reno Augellone	

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### HONOURARY CO-CHAIR

Dan & Ina Potenza



Good evening and benvenuti a tutti, to the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Sons and Daughters of Italy Garibaldi Lodge Gala Dinner!

As Honourary Co-Chairs, we are extremely honoured and proud to be part of such a wonderful event. Tonight, we celebrate the philanthropic accomplishments of the Sons and Daughters of Italy in true Italian fashion, with great food, beverages, friendships and entertainment!

This evening, we are honoured to support the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba. The Children's Hospital and The Foundation played an integral role during a difficult time in our lives. We are eternally grateful to have had their support when we needed it the most.

"Do you believe in miracles? ...Because you'll need one." We will never forget these words from our oncologist.

It was a fateful day in October 1998 when we received a cancer diagnosis for our daughter Larissa. She was 4 months old. It was a very rare form of leukemia that, at that point in time, only had a 20% survival rate. Oncologists gave us an option of whether or not to treat her. As a parent, the only option was to fight this terrible disease. Larissa's best chance of survival was with chemotherapy, and ultimately a bone marrow transplant. Larissa underwent 2 rounds of chemotherapy, each 1 week long followed by 6 weeks

of recovery. During these times, the hospital essentially became our home and we never left her side.

There was a 1 in 4 chance that a sibling would be an exact bone marrow tissue match. After a series of blood tests, our miracle finally came. Our son Daniel (then only 2) was found to be a perfect match.

The light, at the end of a long dark tunnel, came April 23, 1999. Bone Marrow Transplant Day – where the doctors harvested a small amount of Daniel's bone marrow, and like the countless blood transfusions Larissa received, the bone marrow transfusion was the last one.

We prayed for a miracle, and God answered. April 23, 2024, Larissa will celebrate 25 years of being cancer free!

We are so grateful for the treatment, support, and compassion we received from the amazing doctors, nurses and support staff from the Children's Hospital and The Children's Hospital Foundation. Thank you to the Sons and Daughters of Italy, and to all of you attending this evening, for supporting such a wonderful organization that continues to improve children's health care in Manitoba.

Grazie Mille!

Ina & Dan Potenza

### HONOURARY CO-CHAIR Nancy Cipryk & Kirsten McConnell







Leading the way to #GiveBetterFutures:

Two mothers, five kids and one dream to transform child health care and research in Manitoba. Nancy Cipryk and Kirsten McConnell are leading the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba's Better Futures campaign as committee co-chairs and have very personal reasons for joining the initiative.

Kirsten and her husband, Dan, have triplets and two of the three children were born with cleft lip and palette. They have needed support from HSC Children's Hospital their whole lives, including for over a dozen major surgeries between them both.

Nancy was also inspired by her family's experiences at the hospital. She and her husband, Greg, have two girls and they both have needed HSC Children's including for emergency care, surgery, a broken arm, asthma, allergies and more.

Both Nancy and Kirsten say they are honoured to be part of the campaign cabinet helping #GiveBetterFutures and grateful for donors, like the guests of the Sons & Daughters of Italy gala, who continue caring for kids who need Children's Hospital.

"It is a chance to work with passionate and dedicated individuals who share a common goal of improving the health and well-being of children. It is not only a fulfilling role, but also a responsibility to help create a better world for the next generation." – Kirsten McConnell

"Our job is to give these children a voice and to take that and show potential donors the urgent needs these children have. It is an honour and a privilege to work with this team. Children need the very best care possible, so we say thank you to all our current donors." – Nancy Cipryk

Nancy and Kirsten welcome all guests at the Sons & Daughters of Italy gala to have a wonderful evening, and thank you as you generously #GiveBetterFutures to kids.

Nancy Cipryk & Kirsten McConnell







JOE LEUZZI Lifetime Achievement Award HEART OF THE LION

**Always Forward** *By Bernard Kruchak* 

In 1993, Joe Leuzzi accepted an invitation to join the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy (SDOI), Garibaldi Lodge. He was 22 years old, a self-described novice in community service, but what he lacked in lived experience, he made up for in everlasting enthusiasm. Over the next 31 years, Joe continually raised his hand whenever the organization asked for help, all the while setting the bar higher for himself and others when it came to volunteering.

One of Joe's first roles with SDOI was as a member of the gala organizing committee. Since then, he's helped shepherd the annual event into one of Winnipeg's premier social evenings and fundraising functions. Joe says working on the committee has been rewarding and inspiring.

"It's been an intense 31 years, for sure, but I learned so much about giving back to the community from my SDOI brothers and sisters," he explains. "Volunteering my time and energy is an investment, and the returns have been immeasurable. I've acquired a skill set I can use anywhere and friendships that'll last forever."

### "VOLUNTEERING MY TIME AND ENERGY IS AN INVESTMENT, AND THE RETURNS HAVE BEEN IMMEASURABLE."

Volunteering is a passion for Joe. Ask for help, and he'll raise his hand. Call his name, and he'll step forward. Many

organizations throughout Winnipeg have received Joe's generous assistance over the years — for instance, Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church, Dante Alighieri Society, Kids Etc Youth Movement Company, Charleswood Broncos Football Club, Bruce Oake Recovery Centre, and, of course, the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy, Garibaldi Lodge.

Joe joined SDOI's board of directors as recording secretary in 1994 and then, at 27 years of age, became the organization's youngest president, serving throughout 1999 and 2000. He currently sits as a member of SDOI's senate.

While Joe is content to contribute his volunteer time and expertise to executive-level tasks, he's most comfortable rolling up his sleeves and helping out at the many community-centred activities that fill out SDOI's annual events calendar. For Joe, functions such as the Christmas Eve Feast for inner-city youth and their families, CancerCare Manitoba Foundation's Challenge for Life walk, and any summer fundraiser that needs a porchetta cooked reflect the true spirit of SDOI and reveal the group's benevolent heart.

"As Italians, we're proud of our heritage, and through the Sons and Daughters of Italy, we celebrate our culture, but more than that, we engage in philanthropic causes that raise funds for the greater Winnipeg community," Joe explains. "It's rewarding to know that the results of our good works reach the hearts of people who most need it."



## HEART OF THE LION AWARD

Joe won't use the word legacy as he still considers himself a young man with many years of giving ahead of him, but he's incredibly proud that his volunteer efforts are encouraging to younger people, including his two sons, Gianfranco and Mickey. He credits his wife, Elizabeth, for providing a solid foundation upon which the Leuzzi family can continue contributing to the community.

"I have no plans to slow down," Joe says. "My motto is Sempre Avanti, or Always Forward, so whatever the future holds, there'll be some measure of volunteering involved."

To Joe, moving forward also means giving back. It's what 31 years of brotherhood and sisterhood have taught him, and he's proud to keep raising his hand whenever someone asks for help.



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### SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY HEART OF THE LION LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD















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### LEGACY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Sons & Daughters of Italy, Garibaldi Lodge



The Lodge annually gives two awards of \$2,000 each to students of Italian origin entering or attending post-secondary education and one award of \$1,000 to students entering a trade program.

Each year we are faced with the difficult task of assessing numerous qualified and successful Italian students. We have been gratified and excited to realize the number of Italian students who every



LEGACY AWARD-Vincenzina Conia

Vincenzina (Zina) Conia graduated with honours with distinction from Shaftesbury High School in 2023. She was chosen as the Valedictorian by her peers and teachers and represented her class at the convocation ceremony through her valedictory address. Furthermore, Vincenzina was awarded the Shaftesbury Industrial Arts Award of Excellence and a Graphic Arts medal for achieving the highest grades in the 40S course. Currently, she is enrolled in the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Science, majoring in genetics. She hopes to pursue a career in this field, becoming a medical geneticist or a genetic counsellor.

Vincenzina is prevalent within the Italian community and she is very proud that she can represent her heritage in any way possible. She has volunteered with the Sons and Daughters of Italy for multiple years, involving herself with the SDOI Gala, Christmas Eve Feast, and the Rossbrook House Graduation Dinner. Vincenzina is also a 2023 graduate of the Dante Alighieri Italian School after completing 12 years of learning the Italian language. She also found a way to carry her Italian pride through what she loves; Dance. Vincenzina has danced with the Splendore D'Italia Folk Dancers for 13 years, performing annually in Folkorama to represent Italy.

Vincenzina is honoured to be the recipient of the SDOI Legacy Award and would like to formally thank the Sons and Daughters of Italy, her family, and her friends for all of the continuous support and recognition of her studies. year achieve high grades and involve themselves in the Italian and Winnipeg communities. They are a credit to the Italian community and to our city.

In 2018 we partnered with the Winnipeg Foundation to ensure that our student awards would continue in perpetuity, so they are now given through our Legacy Fund.



LEGACY AWARD-Emma Posillipo

Emma Posillipo graduated from Linden Christian School in 2023 with Honours of Great Distinction. She received a volleyball, basketball, and soccer athletic award. She was also the recipient of the 2022-2023 Female Athlete of the Year. Emma is continuing her education through the Direct Entry Program at the University of Manitoba in the Faculty of Kinesiology. She is currently pursuing her Bachelors of Kinesiology and will continue on with her Masters in Physical Therapy, with high aspirations of one day owning her own physiotherapy clinic.

Emma has volunteered for four years through coaching school volleyball, basketball and soccer. She enjoys encouraging fellow female athletes to pursue interests in athletics, teamwork and leadership. She has also volunteered in the community, serving at the annual Christmas Eve Feast and volunteering at the Gala Dinner. Emma is immensely proud of her Italian heritage which has been passed down through her time spent with her Nonna and extended family.

Emma would like to thank The Sons and Daughters of Italy and all those who were involved with honouring her with this award. She is proud to be one of the recipients of the Sons and Daughters of Italy Legacy Award. She looks forward to continuing her education and involvement in the Italian community and one day becoming a member of The Sons and Daughters of Italy Garibaldi Lodge.



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- Patient safety and privacy can be enhanced and spaces need to be flexible to address diverse needs
- Pediatric research at Children's Hospital Research Institute of Mantoba (CHRIM) needs on-going support for clinical trials, investigations on emergency department preparedness, resources on Translating Emergency Knowledge for Kids (TREKK), and other life-saving research dedicated to child health



### You can #GiveBetterFutures for kids like Greysen.

Greysen's rib cage was collapsing with every breath. He was brought into Children's Emergency by ambulance.

"The whole time was such a whirlwind" - Greysen's mom, Michelle.

Greysen needed specialized pediatric care, and testing revealed he has a rare disease. Now, thanks to the team at Children's Hospital, Greysen is thriving.



Please donate to help kids like Greysen.

## OPENLANE AUCTIONS

## Supporting the community, one bid at a time.



### **OPENLANE** AUCTIONS

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## PAST CHARITIES SUPPORTED



Order Sons and Daughters of Italy, Garibaldi Lodge has given generously to a wide range of organizations over the years, including community charities, arts groups, sporting organizations and education for our youth. The following list represents over \$4,000,000 donated to the Manitoba community through the tireless efforts of our members and the many generous corporations and individuals that support us in what we do.

### CHARITIES SUPPORTED

### **Community Charities:**

Addictions Foundation of Manitoba Amadeus Steen Foundation Bruce Oake Recovery Centre Camp Quality Manitoba Canadian Hero Fund Canadian Museum for Human Rights CancerCare Manitoba CancerCare Manitoba Foundation Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Children's Wish Foundation Clan Mother's Healing Village **Conifer House** Health Sciences Centre Foundation Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba Rossbrook House Seven Oaks General Hospital Foundation St. Boniface Hospital Foundation - CITEL St. Boniface Hospital Foundation - Women's Heart Health Thalassemia Foundation of Canada UAS Eastern European Adoptions Inc. United Way Variety. The Children's Charity Victoria General Hospital Villa Rosa Winnipeg Harvest "Hunger for Hope" Winnipeg Humane Society Winnipeg Police Service Endowment Fund

### **Arts Organizations:**

Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre Italian Cultural Organizations: Centro Caboto Centre Dante Alighieri Cultural Society Holy Rosary Parish Italian Canadian League of Manitoba Inc. Knights of Columbus Lupa di Roma Lodge Sons & Daughters of Italy Splendore D'Italia Folk Dancers Suore Adoratrice Del Sangue Di Cristo Villa Nova Seniors Centre

### **Sports Organizations:**

FC Winnipeg Lions Soccer Club

### **Educational Organizations:**

Students entering University (annual) Students at University of Manitoba (annual) Students entering a trade (annual) St. Paul's High School Bursary Fund University of Winnipeg Opportunity Fund



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### **PROFILE** SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY GARIBALDI LODGE

### Order Sons and Daughters of Italy of Canada

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy of Canada is an organization of men and women who are devoted to the celebration of Italian heritage, community service and charitable good works. The first lodge in Canada was established in Ontario in 1915. Currently, there are fifteen Lodges in Canada and over 650 Lodges in the U.S.A. It is the largest Fraternal Order of Canadians and Americans of Italian origin.

In Manitoba, there are two Lodges: Garibaldi lodge and Lupa Di Roma Lodge. Together, these lodges under the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy are making a difference in the greater Manitoba community.

#### Garibaldi Lodge

The Garibaldi Lodge was the first lodge of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy of Canada to be founded in Manitoba. Over the past 36 years we have donated over 4 million dollars to a number of worthwhile charities. The Garibaldi Lodge membership requirements has recently become gender neutral, inviting any Canadian-Italian to become a member to further support our many worthwhile initiatives. To become a member, you must be of Italian descent or married to a person of Italian descent. If you are interested, please talk to one of the members in the room or visit www.sonsofitaly.ca. This year witnessed our 36<sup>th</sup> annual gala fundraising dinner. Each year members celebrate giving back to the community in conjunction with the Canadian Italian Business Professional Association by donating significant funds to a charity of choice. As a guest of our 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Sons and Daughters of Italy Gala Dinner, you might be wondering, "What does Sons and Daughters of Italy do the rest of the year?" Great question!

Certainly the Gala is our major fundraiser, providing funds not only for a very large donation tonight, but it also allows us to support other groups throughout the year.

#### We support the community...

The Charity of Choice for our annual Gala has for many years been a community-wide charity, benefiting all in our community. This year's charity, the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba, is an excellent example.

Of course, there are many other activities throughout the year, such as our annual Christmas Eve Feast at Rossbrook House, where we provide a full dinner, pictures with Santa and presents to 400 new immigrants and those less fortunate. We also provide and serve the dinner at the Rossbrook House graduation ceremony/dinner each June. Our members and their families take part in the annual Challenge for Life walk, where we have raised over \$500,000 in the past seven years for CancerCare Manitoba.









#### We support Italian culture...

One of the guiding principles in our mission statement is to promote and preserve the Italian language, culture, and traditions. In this regard, we support the Sons and Daughters of Italy Splendore D'Italia Folk Dance Group, who teach and perform traditional Italian dances, and the Dante Alighieri Cultural Society, who provide Italian language lessons for children and adults.

Through our scholarship programs, we provide financial assistance to students of Italian heritage, including two

\$2,000 scholarships to students advancing to post-secondary institutions and a \$1,000 scholarship to students advancing to a trade program. We also sponsor the annual CIBPA awards that recognize Canadians of Italian descent who have excelled in a professional or entrepreneurial capacity.

#### ... and we have fun!

All work and no play is not the Italian way! We also have fun events for our members, including go-cart racing, winter sleigh-rides and social events designed to teach our younger members some of the Italian cultural traditions.





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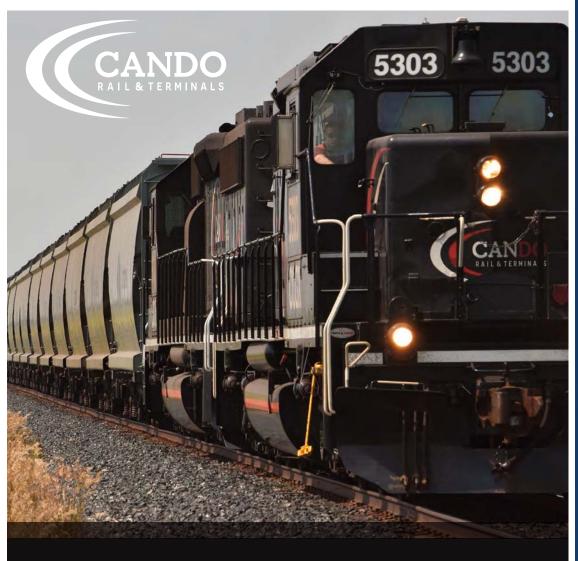
### MASTER OF CEREMONIES



Joe Aiello is a veteran radio personality who can be heard weekday mornings on 92.1 CITI FM on the Philly, Joe & Kirby Show. He is also a partner at Frankie's Italian Kitchen & Bar. He is a proud member of SDOI and is always willing to give his time to charities and organizations in our community.







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# MENU



### Antipasto

Prosciutto di Parma, Genoa salami, Capocollo, artichokes, roasted peppers, olive medley and provolone cheese with mixed field greens and grilled eggplant brushed with extra virgin olive oil

### Insalata

Butternut squash, Swiss pickled apple & arugula salad with toasted pumpkin seeds with an apple cider vinaigrette

### **Primo Piatto**

Vegetarian Lasagna with ricotta and spinach

### Secondo Piatto

Rosemary and garlic rubbed roasted fillet of beef with a marsala & onion demi, truffle cauliflower puree, pecorino potato galette, roasted oyster mushrooms, glazed carrots, and broccolini

### Dolce

Lemon Mousse Cake

**Coffee and Tea** 

### Vino Rosso (Red)

Zenato Valpolicella Classico Superiore

### Vino Bianco (White)

*Giusti Sant Eustachio Bianco* 

### Dessert, Gelato & Espresso Lounge

Carlton Lobby

presented by



# PROGRAM

### **Master of Ceremonies**

**Joe Aiello** 92.1 CITI FM

### **Toast to Italy and Canada**

**Dr. Marcello Venditti, M.D.** Member, Sons & Daughters of Italy, Garibaldi Lodge

### Grace

Father Sam Argenziano Pastor, Holy Rosary Church

### President's Message

Carmine Zirino President, Order Sons & Daughters of Italy, Garibaldi Lodge

### Vince Bova Memorial Award

Presented by Carmine Zirino, Carmine Filice & Michael Polo National President, Order Sons & Daughters of Italy Canada & America

### Presentation by CentrePort Canada Rail Park

### Greetings

The Honourable Wab Kinew Premier of Manitoba

### The Honourable Terry Duguid

Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister Member of Parliament. Winnipeg South

**His Worship Scott Gillingham** *Mayor, City of Winnipeg* 



### Greetings

Mr. Michael Polo & Mr. Carmine Filice

### Heart of the Lion - Lifetime Achievement Award

Joe Leuzzi Presented by Carmine Zirino, Carmine Filice & Michael Polo

### **Greetings from the Charity of Choice**

**Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba** Stefano Grande, President & CEO, Nancy Cipryk & Kirsten McConnell, Honourary Co-Chairs & Pacey Wall, Manitoba Champion Child

### 2024 Sons & Daughters of Italy Live Auction

**OPENLANE Auctions** *Gregg Maidment* 

### 2024 Sons & Daughters of Italy Raffle Draw

Father Sam Argenziano and Michael Macaluso Treasurer, Sons & Daughters of Italy, Garibaldi Lodge

### **Presentation To**

**Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba** 

### **Closing Remarks**

Mark Scaletta and Travis Giavedoni Gala Chairs

### **Musical Entertainment**

York Ballroom—Frank Moyo, Flatland Famous and DJ Anto

### **Espresso Bar, Gelato and Pastries**

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# Celebrating Our Own: Joe Leuzzi

THE MAN, THE MYTH, THE LEGEND.

Through dedication, passion, and an unwavering commitment to our community, Joe Leuzzi has embodied the spirit and values that the Sons and Daughters of Italy stand for. His relentless pursuit of excellence and his efforts for others have not only earned him the Heart of the Lion Award but have also inspired those around him to strive for greatness. As Joe often says, 'Unity in diversity strengthens our community.' Let's honour a man whose actions speak louder than words, and whose legacy is as impactful as the history we cherish.

Ti amiamo, Joe.

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# FRANK MOYO

Fiercely rooted in the classics, Frank Moyo is a Canadian-Italian singer-songwriter and guitarist who serenades like a modern day storyteller and romancer of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Some of his latest releases "Nonna" and "Toronto to Milano" have already garnered a reputation in his hometown of Toronto. Describing the singer as dark and smooth with a sultry voice is an understatement, as there are a multitude of rich deep layers that define him as a performer.

Discussing feelings with the artist is more candid. "I want people to imagine they are on a beach in Italy listening to my music or driving down a dirt road in a classic pick up truck dreaming about love and life"

Growing up in Toronto, Moyo first learned chords on guitar as a small child. He has since tapped into his Italian upbringing, incorporating Italian into his music and lyrics. Opening for Diodato (Sanremo 2020 Winner) and Umberto Tozzi have been some of his career highlights so far.. Moyo is passionate about exploring his southern Italian roots and plans to continue exploring Italian culture through his music.

With a taste that zig zags and curves from Johnny Cash and Coldplay, to Italian icons like Lucio Dalla and Toto Cutugno, Moyo's sound is hard to pin down but undeniably remarkable and unforgettable.

In an industry that is fast paced and ever evolving, Frank brings a certain pureness that is rare and unique in today's music scene.



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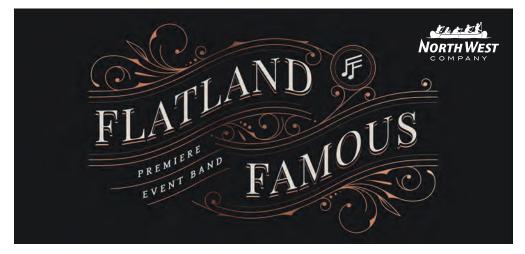
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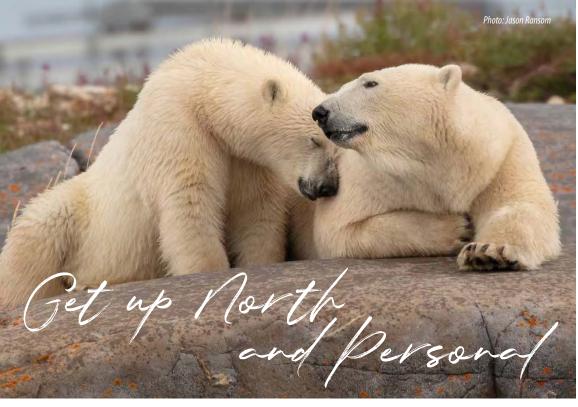
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### SPLENDORE D'ITALIA FOLK DANCERS





The Sons and Daughters of Italy Splendore D'Italia Folk Dancers is comprised of young women of Italian descent from our Winnipeg's Italian Community. These talented young dancers span from the ages of 16 to 20 years old, who are strong, enthusiastic and devoted to our Italian Culture of Folk Dance.

A few of our dancers have been dancing since their early youth, while others have joined our family in recent years. Our wonderful teachers are past SDOI Splendore D'Italia Folk Dancers continuing to share the love of Italian Folk Dance.

Our Performing Group is proud to perform throughout the year at events within the Italian Community and Multi-Cultural Celebrations throughout Winnipeg. We have been invited to perform annually at Folklorama, the world's largest and longest running multi-cultural festival exclusively at the Italian Pavilion.

The group has also made a name for its altruistic approach toward volunteering in the community at large and continues to be invited to take part in community events which help support numerous good causes.

For information regarding performances and registration, email SplendoreDItalia@gmail.com.

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### THE DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY OF WINNIPEG





The Dante Alighieri Society of Winnipeg has been providing Italian language classes for over 40 years. Our foremost objective is to keep our vibrant Italian heritage alive by maintaining and promoting the Italian language and culture in Manitoba.

Our objective is aligned to the mission statement of the Sons and Daughters of Italy which also strives "to promote and preserve the Italian language, culture, and traditions in our country".

We offer classes at the Centro Caboto Centre to children from pre-school to Grade 12 and also classes for adults. Our program for children is unique! Our students are organized by school age groups what makes for an easier interaction and learning process.

At our older levels, Dante students are provided with training for oral and written language exams to obtain high school language credits. Classes run from late September to early May. Our adult programs offer the opportunity to learn the Italian language in a relaxed environment with excellent instructors from Beginner to Advanced, flexible and ideal to those planning to travel.

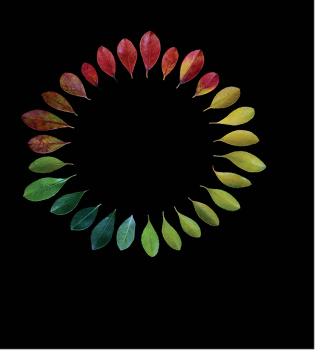
Please see www.dantewinnipeg.com for a complete listing of course offerings and class start dates.



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Thank you for all the important work you do in our community!

Congratulations to Joe Leuzzi on receiving the Heart of the Lion Lifetime Achievement Award!

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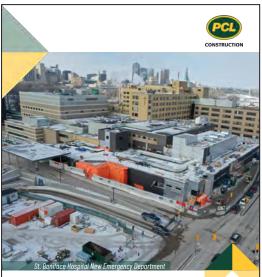
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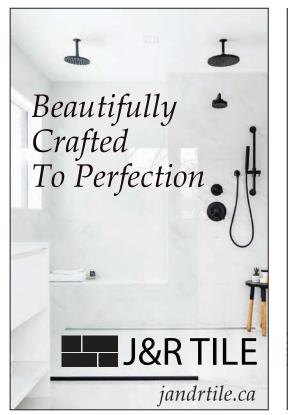
Nearly 50% of visits to Children's Emergency are from rural communities, as far away as Nunavut and Northwestern Ontario.

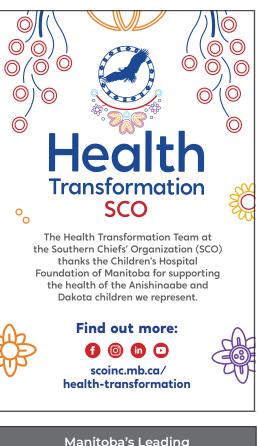
The Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba is home to Translating Emergency Knowledge for Kids (TREKK).

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Congratulations to our own Joe Leuzzi on being selected as the 2024 Sons and Daughters of Italy Heart of the Lion Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.



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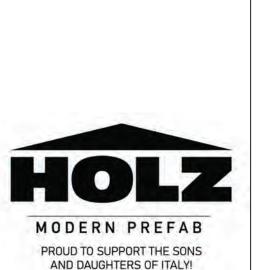
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### Congratulations Joe Leuzzi 2024 Heart of the Lion Lifetime Achievement Award

At the heart of every community, you'll find committed people taking action on their ideas to build a better future for us all. We are inspired by **Joe Leuzzi** and his continuous efforts and volunteer contributions to make Winnipeg a better place to live.



90780 (05/2023)



Missinippi Air is proud to support the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Sons & Daughters of Italy Gala along with this year's "Charity of Choice" the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba.

Congratulazioni also to Joe Leuzzi on receiving the Sons & Daughters of Italy "Heart of the Lion" Lifetime Achievement Award!

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Congratulations

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GREG WILSON B.SC., M.D., C.C.F.P.

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### Congratulations Joe - well deserved!



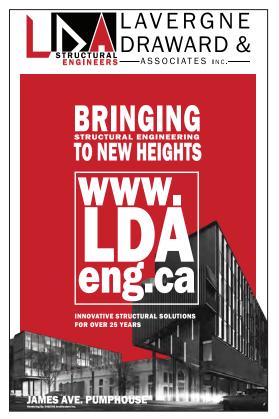


# CONGRATULATIONS

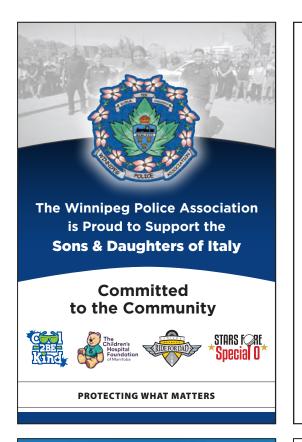
We have so much pride and respect for you, Joe. You truly deserve this lifetime achievement award.

Through supporting youth with daycare centers, to hosting in-person and virtual community events — thank you for everything you do for the Winnipeg community, Joe!!











Congratulations to the Sons and Daughters of Italy Garibaldi Lodge for another great year!

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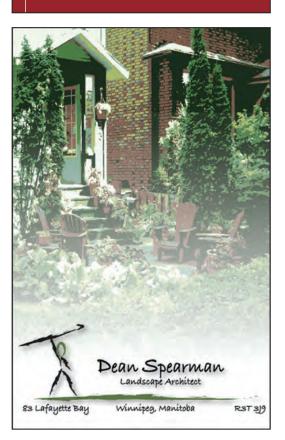
### Congratulations to the Sons & Daughters of Italy Garibaldi Lodge on their 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala Dinner

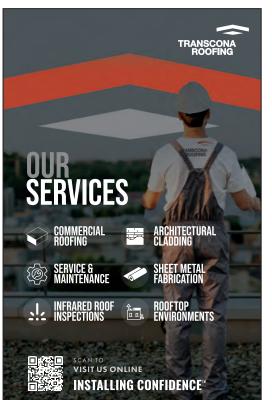


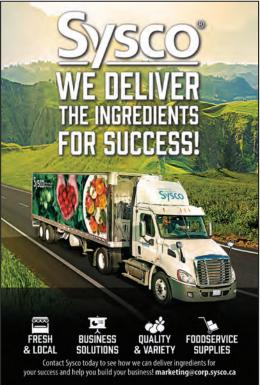
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Congratulazioni Sons and Daughters of Italy - Garibaldi Lodge on 36 Years of Giving!

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Congratulations to Joe Leuzzi for being recognized as the recipient of the Sons & Daughters of Italy Heart of the Lion Lifetime Achievement Award.

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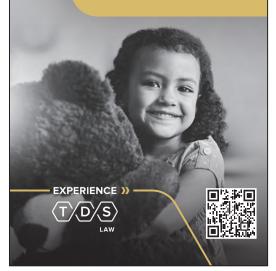
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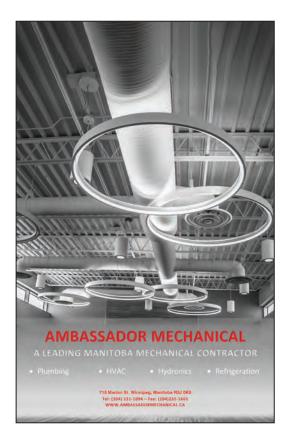
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Gariba**l**di Lodge Winnipeg Membership is open to men and women over the age of 18 years old who are of Italian descent or who are married to a person of Italian descent.

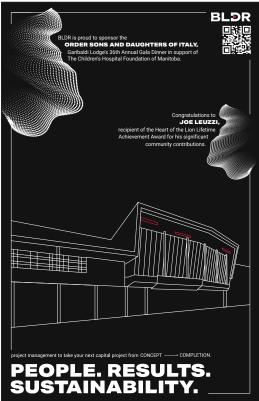
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