



A Year in Review

GRATITUDE REPORT

December, 2025 - Issue #19

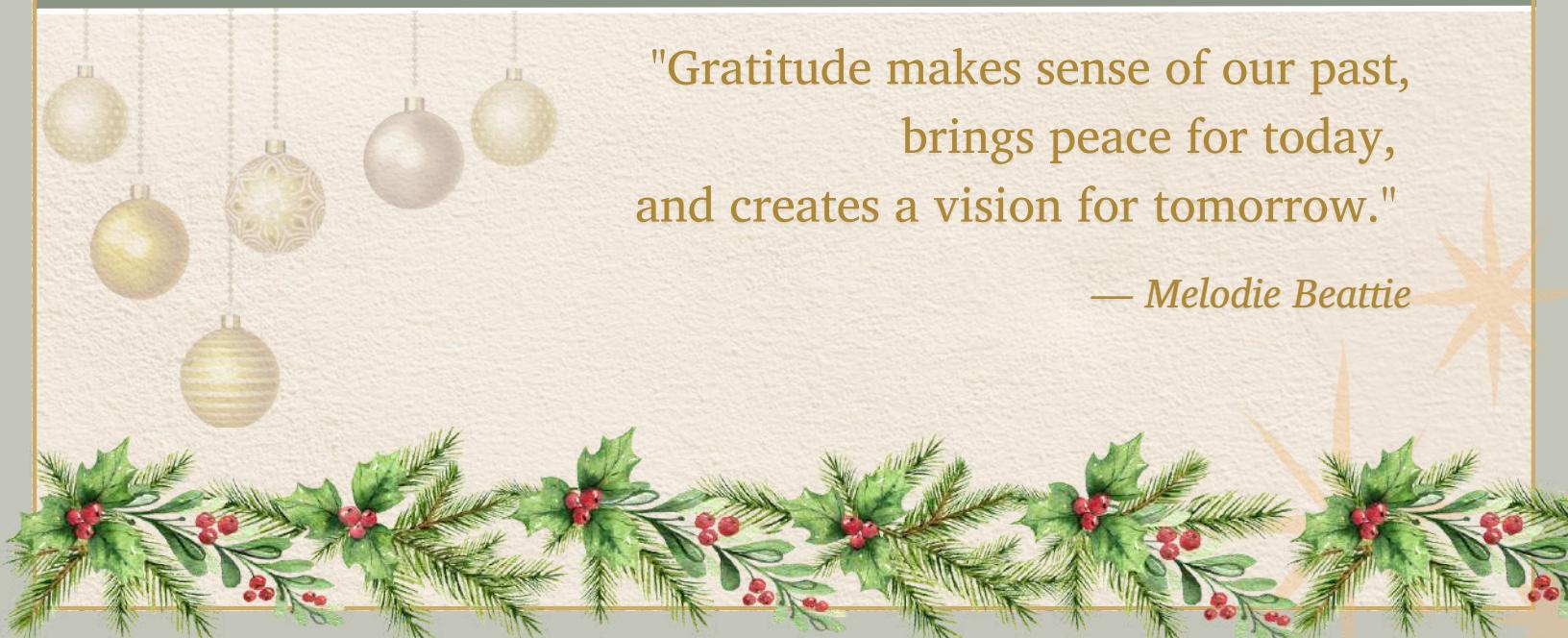
A WORD FROM OUR CEO



Olya Vovnysh, Chief Executive Officer

"Gratitude makes sense of our past,
brings peace for today,
and creates a vision for tomorrow."

— Melodie Beattie



A WORD FROM OUR CEO

Dear Friends,

As the year draws to a close, we often set new goals, make plans, and share messages for the year ahead. Yet perhaps the greatest gift we can give ourselves is a moment to pause, to reflect, to breathe, and to fill our hearts with gratitude.

Looking back, I am deeply thankful for each of you. For those whose lives have touched Ivan Franko Homes this year, whose moments and memories have intertwined with ours. Your presence has made all the difference.

From our hearts to yours, thank you for being part of this journey, for sharing in our community, and for helping us create a place where care, connection, and kindness flourish.

To our dear Residents: Thank you for choosing our Homes, and for the privilege of caring for you. Thank you for bringing your creativity, wisdom, new ideas, support, and encouragement into our community.

We are sincerely grateful to each of you for the warmth and generosity you share with us every day. Thank you for your understanding, your honest feedback, and for making our Homes truly feel like home.

To our Families and Guardians: Thank you for the trust you place in us every day. It is a true privilege to walk alongside your families, care for your loved ones, and share in their daily lives.

Together, we aim to create a place where your loved ones are not only cared for, but genuinely known, respected, and treated with the dignity they deserve.

A WORD FROM OUR CEO

To our Employees: Through your care, patience, responsibility, and compassion, you give the best of yourselves to our residents. Much of what you do is quiet and unseen, yet it is exactly what makes Ivan Franko Homes a place where residents feel safe and respected. I feel truly blessed to work alongside each of you, and I thank you for the care, dedication, and humanity you bring into our Homes every day.

To our Volunteers: Thank you for being a source of support and joy for our residents and staff through your care and service. This year has not been an easy one. Many of you have recently come from areas affected by war and continue to carry concerns for loved ones far away, especially those connected to Ukraine. My heartfelt wish this Christmas is for peace, for families to be reunited, and for strength and hope to remain present even in uncertain times.

To our Board: Thank you for the time, care, and thoughtful attention you dedicate to Ivan Franko Homes. Your commitment to thoughtful governance, your courage in tackling difficult questions, and your shared vision for making IFH a better place, for our residents and our staff, have a profound and lasting impact.

You are helping shape not only the future of our new Centre for Aging and Longevity but also the values with which it will open its doors.

Your efforts are part of a purpose that will leave a meaningful legacy, touching the lives of thousands for years to come.

A WORD FROM OUR CEO

To our Supporters: Your commitment touches lives in ways that are both profound and lasting. Every day, the impact of your generosity is felt, often quietly but deeply, by residents, families, and staff alike. In a world that continues to feel uncertain, your willingness to give, to stand with us, and to invest in care and community speaks volumes. It reflects a shared belief in looking after one another and in building something meaningful together. Thank you for being part of the Ivan Franko Homes growing community, and for your continued trust and generosity.

Dear All, this year has tested us, bringing unanswered questions and challenges, moments of light followed by clouds once more, changes on the political stage, and worries for the health and well-being of those we love. In the midst of this, moments of kindness, connection, and compassion matter even more. They remind us of what truly holds us together.

We wish you and your families a Christmas season filled with warmth, peace, and meaningful moments. May this time bring comfort, reflection, and hope, and may the year ahead offer health, strength, and gentle days. Wishing you and your loved ones peace, joy, and all the very best in the year ahead.

With this perspective, we give thanks for all that the past year has brought, trusting that every experience unfolds with purpose.

With my deepest gratitude and on behalf of everyone at Ivan Franko Homes,

Olya Vornysh

Chief Executive Officer



UPDATE ON THE IFH BUILDING CAMPAIGN

We are pleased to share continued progress on the construction of our new Centre for Aging and Longevity, and we extend our sincere appreciation to everyone involved in advancing this important project. Despite the seasonal transition, work across the site continues at a steady and encouraging pace, with many key milestones achieved.



George Horhota,
Chair of the Board of Directors

Exterior work has progressed well, with siding advancing where conditions allowed and significant completion of curbs, sidewalks, and asphalt paving prior to the seasonal pause.

Landscaping is also underway, with tree planting initiated, setting the stage for a welcoming and thoughtfully designed outdoor environment.

With the majority of concrete work completed, exterior activities are well-positioned for a smooth and efficient restart in the spring.

Inside the building, finishing work is moving strategically from the upper floors downward, allowing teams to maintain momentum and coordination. On the ground floor, drywall and ceiling finishes are complete in common areas, millwork has arrived on site, and ceiling grid installation has begun in hallways. Framing and mechanical/electrical rough-ins are well advanced in office, kitchen, and laundry areas, and elevator installation is now underway following successful delivery.

UPDATE ON THE IFH BUILDING CAMPAIGN

The second and third floors continue to see strong progress. On the west side, final finishes are taking shape with lighting, electrical components, and plumbing fixtures being installed, while hallway ceilings are complete. On the east side, bedrooms are well advanced with flooring in place and millwork installation ongoing, and common spaces are moving through with drywall and finishing stages.

Mechanical and electrical systems continue to advance throughout the centre areas, ensuring a solid foundation for the next phases of construction. Overall, the project is advancing with clear focus and coordination.

Final finishes are progressing on the west side, while east side areas are transitioning smoothly into taping and finishing. Attention is now centered on completing drywall across all remaining divisions and advancing the central areas to maintain forward momentum.

As we look ahead, the work completed to date positions us well for a strong spring and early summer push, including the completion of remaining exterior elements. Each milestone achieved reflects the dedication, collaboration, and expertise of our construction partners and project team.

We are deeply grateful to everyone contributing to this remarkable build. With each passing week, we move closer to opening a space designed to support dignity, comfort, and community for generations to come. Together, we are not just constructing a building - we are shaping the future of care.

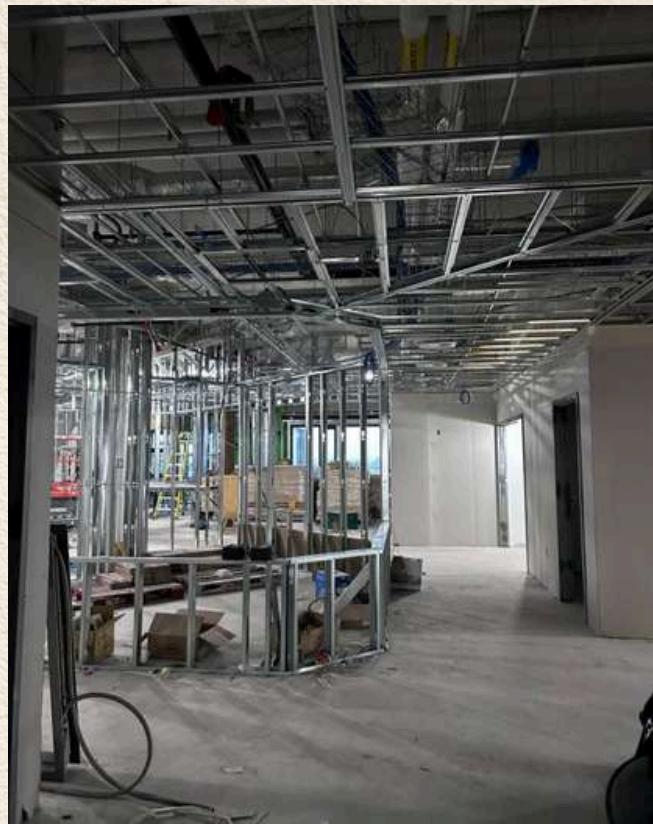


UPDATE ON THE IFH BUILDING CAMPAIGN





UPDATE ON THE IFH BUILDING CAMPAIGN





BUILDING FUND:
\$415,391.00



GENERAL FUND:
\$98,812.00

*The data presented here reflects the status as of December 22, 2025.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND FUNDRAISING

As we reflect on another remarkable year at Ivan Franko Homes, we extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who makes our community strong: our dedicated staff, compassionate volunteers, cherished residents, supportive families, Board of Directors, valued partners, and the broader community who stand with us every step of the way.

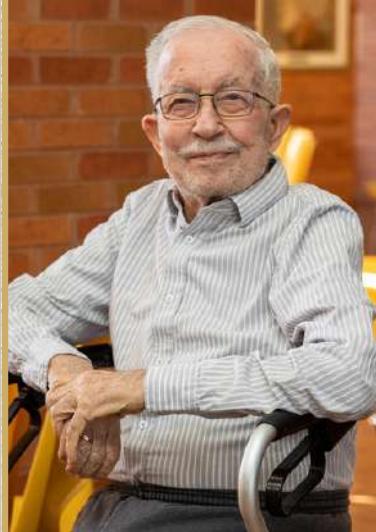
This past year has been shaped by your commitment, generosity, and belief in our mission. Together, we have continued to create a home rooted in dignity, care, and connection, while taking meaningful steps toward an exciting future.

As we look ahead, we are inspired by the progress of the Centre for Aging and Longevity and all that it represents: innovation, resident- and family-centred care, and a renewed commitment to excellence for seniors in our community.

The journey forward is filled with promise, and we are deeply grateful to have you alongside us.

Thank you for joining us on this journey, for believing in our vision, and for helping us shape the future of care. We look forward to all that is still to come, together.

YEAR AT A GLANCE



HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS AT IVAN FRANKO HOMES



Our residents also enjoyed a wonderful Carols and Readings Christmas Concert, organized by our resident James Carswell and his honoured guests.

Heartfelt thanks to the musicians James Carswell and Raylin Marcotte for their beautiful performance. The carols and readings created a meaningful Christmas moment, shared by all in attendance.



We were pleased to welcome the students of Carswell Music Studio for a Winter Music Showcase that brought music, energy, and seasonal cheer to our home.

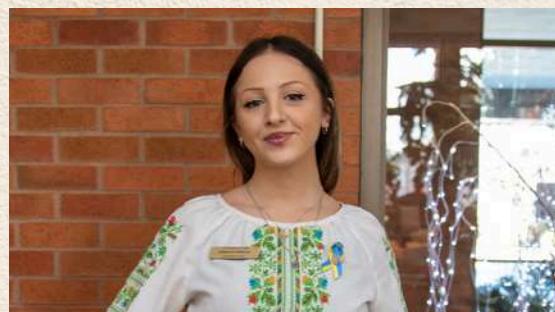
Our sincere thanks to Zoriana Kilyk, owner of Carswell Music Studio, for organizing the event, and to the Vanguard Concert Band for a wonderful performance.



On December 13, 2025, we extended a heartfelt thank you to the IFH Mississauga Family Council for organizing an engaging activity for our residents. The event included bingo, refreshments, complimentary raffle tickets, and beautiful ornament prizes, creating a festive atmosphere that was enjoyed by all.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

We were thrilled to welcome community members, families, and friends to our Christmas Bake Sale Fundraiser and St. Nicholas Concert on December 5, 2025 at Ivan Franko Seniors' Residence in Mississauga. The day was filled with festive cheer, beautiful music, and the warmth of tradition, as guests enjoyed a delightful array of homemade treats, sacred icons, and a charming collection of vintage Christmas decor thoughtfully prepared and shared by our community.



A GENEROUS GIFT FOR THE FUTURE

We are honoured to share that during our Christmas Bazaar, we received a generous \$100,000 donation from the BCU Foundation, presented by Bohdan Leshchyshyn. This marks the first contribution toward the pledged \$250,000 gift to name the Chapel in our new Centre for Aging & Longevity, set to open in 2026.



This gift is a powerful reminder of how deeply our community cares for its elders. It brings us one step closer to creating a Home where future residents will feel supported and surrounded by love. The Chapel will serve as a lasting testament to the generosity of the BCU Foundation.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the BCU Foundation for believing in our mission and helping us bring this vision to life. Your support ensures that Ivan Franko Homes continues to be a place where seniors are celebrated, cared for, and cherished.



GIVING TUESDAY

On Giving Tuesday, we were thrilled to witness the incredible generosity of our donors and community partners, who helped raise nearly \$9,000 in support of the construction of our new Home. These contributions will directly fund the creation of the Centre for Aging and Longevity, a state-of-the-art home designed to provide a modern, welcoming, and supportive environment where residents can thrive, engage in meaningful activities, and enjoy a strong sense of community and belonging.



Every gift, whether large or small, brings us closer to realizing our vision of a vibrant campus of care where innovation, culture, and compassion intersect. We are deeply grateful to everyone who participated in Giving Tuesday, helping us transform a bold vision into reality. Your support not only advances the construction of this vital new space but also leaves a lasting legacy that will benefit residents, families, and the broader community for generations to come.

A MEANINGFUL VISIT FROM UKRAINIAN CREDIT UNION

We were pleased to welcome the Board and leadership team of the Ukrainian Credit Union (UCU) for a tour of the Centre for Aging and Longevity. The visit offered an opportunity to share progress on a project that reflects our shared commitment to dignity, care, and community for seniors.



We are grateful to UCU for their generous \$10,000 Kolyada donation in support of Ivan Franko Homes and the new Centre. This support is a powerful expression of shared values: caring for our elders, strengthening community bonds, and building a lasting legacy for future generations. We thank Ukrainian Credit Union for standing with us and for helping turn this important vision into reality.

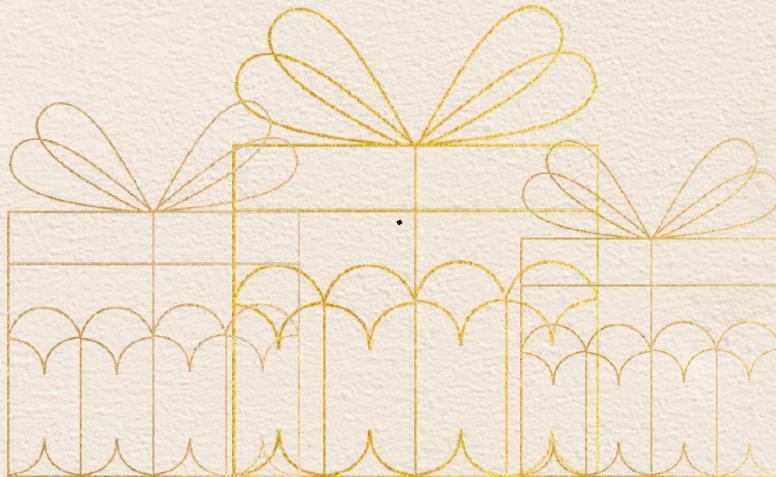


HONOURING THE GENEROSITY OF OUR DONORS

With countless donors lending their support, we are deeply thankful for each and every contribution.

Each gift, no matter the size, plays an essential role in helping us achieve our mission. Every penny given in support of our work goes a long way, enabling us to continue to provide exceptional care, meaningful programs, and a vibrant community for our residents, and for our new Centre for Aging and Longevity. Your generosity and unwavering commitment make a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve.

Together, you help ensure a strong, caring, and inspiring future for the Ivan Franko Homes community for generations to come!



ADVANCING CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE SENIOR CARE

On December 10, 2025, Hon. Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, Ontario's Minister of Long-Term Care, announced Ontario's commitment to expanding access to



culturally appropriate long-term care.

Olya Vovnysh, CEO of Ivan Franko Homes, was honoured to represent our organization at this important announcement, standing alongside leaders who share a commitment to improving the quality of care for seniors.



On AdvantAge Ontario Advocacy Day, Ivan Franko Homes had the honour of joining MPP Sheref Sabawy at the Advocacy Day Reception.

The event provided an opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogue with policymakers, community leaders, and fellow advocates, highlighting the priorities of seniors in long-term care.

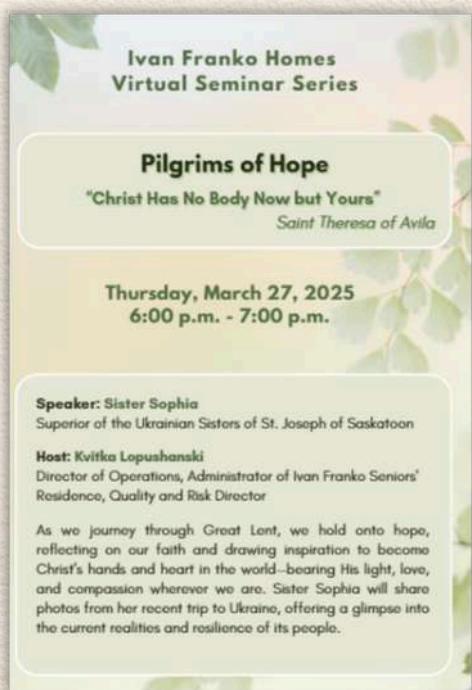


IVAN FRANKO HOMES' WEBINARS & PRESENTATIONS

Ivan Franko Homes has continued to offer a robust series of virtual seminars throughout the year, reflecting our ongoing commitment to education, connection, and community engagement. These thoughtfully curated webinars have addressed a wide range of topics, from practical guidance and professional expertise to spiritual reflection and emotional well-being.

Through these sessions, residents, families, caregivers, and supporters have had the opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogue, gain valuable insights, and stay connected regardless of physical distance.

The webinar series continues to serve as an accessible and enriching platform that supports learning, reflection, and shared values within the Ivan Franko Homes community.



On Thursday, March 27, 2025, the 16th webinar, "Pilgrims of Hope: 'Christ Has No Body Now but Yours'". Sister Sophia, Superior of the Ukrainian Sisters of St. Joseph of Saskatoon, inspired participants to bear Christ's light and love in the world.

The session was hosted by Kvitka Lopushanski, Director of Operations and Administrator at IFH Seniors' Residence.

IVAN FRANKO HOMES' WEBINARS & PRESENTATIONS

On Thursday, October 30, 2025, the 18th webinar “Smart Tax Planning That Empowers You, Protects Your Family, and Strengthens Your Community” offered practical strategies on legacy giving and year-end tax planning.

Presented by Janine Kuzma, Associate Director of Gift Planning at St. Joseph's Health Centre Foundation, and Lukash Woychyshyn, President & Head Investment Advisor at Monthey Capital Group, the session emphasized how thoughtful planning can safeguard loved ones while supporting the community and Ivan Franko Homes.

CEO Olya Vovnysh hosted the event, providing guidance on creating lasting impact through financial stewardship.

Through this ongoing virtual series, Ivan Franko Homes continues to foster learning, spiritual growth, and community engagement, offering residents and supporters meaningful ways to connect, reflect, and take action in their lives.



SMART TAX PLANNING

THAT EMPOWERS YOU, PROTECTS YOUR FAMILY,
AND STRENGTHENS YOUR COMMUNITY

Hosted by Ivan Franko Homes

[VIEW ALL WEBINARS](#)

HOLIDAY GIFTS FROM OUR COMMUNITY



Residents at Ivan Franko Long-Term Care Home were delighted to receive holiday cards and gifts from @holidayhopecards, a charitable initiative dedicated to spreading warmth to seniors in our community during the holidays.

The Helping Hands Club, Best Buddies, and Chaplain Kerkos-DeSouza from Bishop Allen donated beautiful holiday cards and warm wishes. Your kindness brought so much joy to our residents, brightening their days with thoughtful messages and creativity. Thank you for making this holiday season special!



We are grateful to Ukrainian Canadian Social Services Toronto for once again bringing the spirit of St. Nicholas to our residents! Their generosity, kindness, and care brighten our halls and remind seniors they are truly cherished, year after year.



SACRED BEAUTY FOR A CAUSE: ICONOGRAPHY EVENT

From November 28 to 30, Ivan Franko Homes was honoured to partner with iconographer Marianna Savaryn in presenting Sacred Beauty for a Cause, a meaningful iconography exhibition that brought together faith, art, heritage, and community. Hosted in the artist's personal studio and gallery, the exhibition welcomed members of the Canadian-Ukrainian community to experience sacred art.



Sacred Beauty for a Cause featured four curated iconographic themes: the Mother of God, Angels, Saints, and scenes from the life of Christ.

This rare behind-the-scenes perspective offered visitors a deeper appreciation for iconography as both sacred expression and living tradition.

The exhibition was initiated by Marianna and Gregory Ciupka, a respected member of the Board of Directors of Ivan Franko Homes, and was made possible through the dedicated support of Olya Vovnysh, CEO of Ivan Franko Homes.



SACRED BEAUTY FOR A CAUSE: ICONOGRAPHY EVENT

The exhibition was honoured by Most Reverend Bishop Brian Bayda. His reflections highlighted the profound spiritual depth of Marianna's work, emphasizing how her icons embody faith, tradition, and the enduring strength of Ukrainian cultural heritage.



MPP Sheref Sabawy, a prominent advocate for the Ukrainian-Canadian community, attended the exhibition and offered heartfelt praise for the rich tradition of Ukrainian iconography.



He presented Marianna with a certificate of appreciation, acknowledging not only her extraordinary talent and dedication but also the profound impact her art has on preserving cultural heritage and inspiring the Ukrainian-Canadian community.

Gregory Ciupka and Marianna with their father,
Mr. Jaroslaw Ciupka

SACRED BEAUTY FOR A CAUSE: ICONOGRAPHY EVENT

In addition to its artistic value, the exhibition served as a fundraiser for the Ivan Franko Homes Centre for Aging and Longevity, scheduled to open in August 2026. Half of the icons were sponsored, and the event raised nearly \$300,000, with all proceeds contributing directly to the construction of the new Centre. Visitors could sponsor icons, purchase reproductions, or make donations, supporting a modern, culturally rich environment for residents and future generations.



Ivan Franko Homes extends its deepest gratitude to Marianna and to all who supported Sacred Beauty for a Cause. This remarkable event was a testament to the power of art, faith, and community to inspire good and build a meaningful legacy for generations to come.

THE UCC XXVIII TRIENNIAL CONGRESS



The Ivan Franko Homes team proudly volunteered at the UCC National Ukrainian - Canadian Congress XXVIII Triennial Congress in Toronto, held November 13–16, 2025.

It was an honour to hear from inspiring leaders, innovators, and changemakers shaping the

future of the Ukrainian-Canadian community. We are especially proud that our CEO, Olya Vovnysh, was invited to speak at the Rethinking Community Spaces workshop, a thoughtful discussion on creating inclusive, connected, and resilient environments for all generations.

VOLUNTEERS HONOURED AT PROVINCIAL AWARDS

Three volunteers from Ivan Franko Homes were recognized at the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards, hosted by the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism. The awards, presented on September 10 at the Mississauga

Convention Centre, celebrated Walentina Rodak (20 years of service), Larissa Tkachenko (10 years), and Raya Shadursky (10 years). The nominations reflect the deep appreciation of the IFH team for their years of commitment, compassion, and service to the community.



ONTARIO SENIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

James Carswell, nominated by Ivan Franko Homes, was honoured this June at Queen's Park with the Ontario Senior Achievement Award, joined by IFH CEO Olya Vovnysh and Director of Operations Kvitka Lopushanski.



James continues to uplift residents through piano performances, community concerts, and intergenerational music programs. He also launched a piano learning app for children and held his first art exhibition, donating proceeds to support the new Ivan Franko Homes Centre for Aging and Longevity.

ANOTHER YEAR OF CARF ACCREDITATION!



We are proud to announce that Ivan Franko Homes has successfully passed the CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) survey with a perfect 100% score! This marks another year of CARF accreditation and reflects our long-standing commitment to excellence in care and service.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our entire Ivan Franko Homes family. This achievement is a testament to your hard work, commitment, and shared vision of providing a safe, supportive, and enriching environment for our residents. Together, we continue to set the standard for quality, innovation, and compassionate care.

STAFF APPRECIATION CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We are deeply grateful to our generous donors who made the Staff Appreciation Christmas Lunch at Ivan Franko Homes so memorable. Special thanks to the Carswell and Szcsesny Family for providing thoughtful thank-you gifts recognizing our staff's dedication, to Sean Al-Qazazi of Green Bay Pharmacy for sponsoring the delicious Christmas lunch, and to our residents, families, and business partners for contributing additional gifts.



CELEBRATING OUR RESIDENTS' COUNCIL

Residents at both Ivan Franko Long-Term Care Home and Seniors' Residence came together to celebrate Residents' Council Week, a special time to recognize the voices, leadership, and contributions of our residents. The week highlighted the important role that Residents' Councils play in fostering collaboration, promoting engagement, and ensuring the dignity and rights of those we serve.

Residents were presented with certificates in recognition of their dedication and contributions, celebrating the meaningful impact they have on our Homes.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of our residents, who are at the heart of everything we do, and to the Ontario Association of Residents' Councils (OARC) for their ongoing support and resources that empower our Councils and their leaders.



CELEBRATING LTC FAMILY ENGAGEMENT:

We also recognized the dedication of our Long-Term Care Home family members: Suzanna Podsiadlo, Irene Solomon, Ryszard Fedorowicz, Ronald Mirka, and Thomas Schreiber, whose ongoing support and care enhance the lives of their loved ones and strengthen the fabric of our community. Joining in the celebration, CEO Olya Vovnysh reflected on the personal stories behind these awards, highlighting how each gesture, each interaction, and each act of participation captures the true spirit of Ivan Franko Homes.



We are deeply grateful for every resident and family member who contributes to our Homes. Your energy, kindness, and engagement remind us every day of the profound difference you make in the lives of everyone here.

HONOURING HOLODOMOR AT IVAN FRANKO HOMES

Both Ivan Franko Homes came together to commemorate the Holodomor on November 21. We were deeply moved by the presence of Holodomor survivor Mykola Latyshko and other descendants, who shared their powerful stories.

Their courage and testimony remind us of the importance of remembering this tragedy.

We were honoured to welcome George Horhota, President of the Board, MPP Sheref Sabawy, alongside our leadership team, residents, families, staff, and volunteers, all gathered to mark this solemn day.

The Chaplain of the Seniors' Residence, Fr. Jaroslaw Buciora, along with Fr. Wolodymyr Dacko, led the Panakhyda in memory of the Holodomor victims, adding a profound spiritual dimension to the commemoration.



A SPECIAL VISIT: HIS EMINENCE MYKOLA CARDINAL BYCHOK

On September 10, Ivan Franko LTC Home had the privilege of welcoming His Eminence Mykola Cardinal Bychok, the youngest member of the College of Cardinals. His visit was marked by genuine warmth and connection as he spent time with residents and staff, engaging in thoughtful conversation and sharing moments of reflection. He was joined by Most Reverend Bishop Bryan Bayda, Eparch of Toronto and Eastern Canada, and Right Reverend Volodymyr Yanishevsky, Vice Chancellor and Archivist, whose presence added to the sense of community and reverence. A particularly special moment came when Cardinal Bychok signed the Holy Gospel used during the Liturgy in our Chapel, a meaningful keepsake for our home. Residents honored him with sunflowers, an Ivan Franko Homes shirt, and an IFH baseball cap to take back to Australia.



A SPECIAL VISIT: HIS EMINENCE MYKOLA CARDINAL BYCHOK



Cardinal Mykola Bychok signs
IFH LTC's Holy Gospel



Bishop Brian Bayda with IFH LTC
resident Ganna Zamulyanets



A warm welcome from
Robot Ivan



Meeting our
Residents

A SPECIAL VISIT: HIS EMINENCE MYKOLA CARDINAL BYCHOK

Just days later, the Cardinal and Eparchy leadership gathered again for the First Annual Bishop's Dinner - Eparchy Annual Appeal, an evening celebrating faith, family, and community. Cardinal Bychok delivered a heartfelt and inspiring speech, while Bishop Bayda shared his vision of supporting and strengthening families through faith and community. Right Reverend Yanishevsky offered spiritual guidance and encouragement to all in attendance. The dinner also marked the launch of the Eparchy Annual Appeal, an initiative to support programs such as the Family and Life Office, helping families stay strong in love and faith.



Cardinal Mykola Bychok with
Olya Vovnysh



Ivan Franko Homes was proud to be represented at this meaningful event.

Both the visit and the dinner served as powerful reminders of the importance of connection, care, and shared values, leaving a lasting impression on all who experienced these moments.

HONOURING HERITAGE: VYSHYVANKA DAY



Ivan Franko Homes was proud to mark Vyshyvanka Day, a special occasion dedicated to celebrating Ukrainian culture, identity, and tradition. On this day, residents and staff across our Homes wore traditional vyshyvankas, creating a beautiful and meaningful display of shared heritage and unity.

Vyshyvanka Day is observed internationally as a way to honour the rich history of Ukrainian embroidery, a centuries-old art form passed down through generations. Each vyshyvanka tells a story through its patterns, colours, and symbols, often representing family roots, regional identity, protection, and well-being. More than clothing, the vyshyvanka is a powerful expression of cultural pride, resilience, and belonging.

At Ivan Franko Homes, the day was marked in a simple yet heartfelt way, with residents and staff coming together to recognize the traditions that connect us.

HONOURING HERITAGE: VYSHYVANKA DAY

For many of our residents, the vyshyvanka carries deep personal meaning, evoking memories of home, family traditions, and celebrations from earlier chapters of life. Seeing these garments worn throughout our Homes created moments of connection, sparked meaningful conversations, and offered an opportunity to share stories across generations, reinforcing the strong sense of community that defines Ivan Franko Homes.

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who participated and helped make Vyshyvanka Day a meaningful moment of reflection and celebration. Your involvement honours the past, strengthens our community today, and ensures these traditions continue to be cherished for years to come.



WHERE GENERATIONS CONNECT: INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAM

At Ivan Franko Homes, moments of connection are at the heart of daily life, and few initiatives capture this spirit as beautifully as our Intergenerational Program. Designed to bring together seniors and children, the program creates opportunities for shared experiences, learning, and joy across ages.



Through organized visits, activities, and special events, children and youth spend time with residents, engaging in conversations, creative projects, games, and celebrations. These interactions spark laughter, curiosity, and genuine connection, transforming ordinary days into memorable moments. For residents, the presence of children brings energy, warmth, and a sense

of continuity between past, present, and future. For children, the program offers valuable lessons in empathy, respect, and understanding, while building relationships with elders who have a lifetime of stories to share.

The beauty of the Intergenerational Program lies in its simplicity. A shared smile, a story told, a song sung together. These small moments foster belonging and enrich the lives of everyone involved. The program strengthens our broader community, reminding us that care, compassion, and wisdom grow stronger when generations come together.

At Ivan Franko Homes, we are proud to nurture these connections and to create spaces where relationships flourish across ages. The Intergenerational Program is a true reflection of our values: bringing people together, celebrating life, and building a community rooted in love and respect.

CREATING, CONNECTING, AND CELEBRATING: WORKSHOPS AT IVAN FRANKO HOMES

At Ivan Franko Homes, creativity plays an important role in daily life. Throughout the year, residents are invited to take part in a variety of hands-on workshops that encourage self-expression, connection, and joy. From painting sessions and wreath making to candle making and seasonal crafts, these workshops offer meaningful opportunities to create, share, and engage.

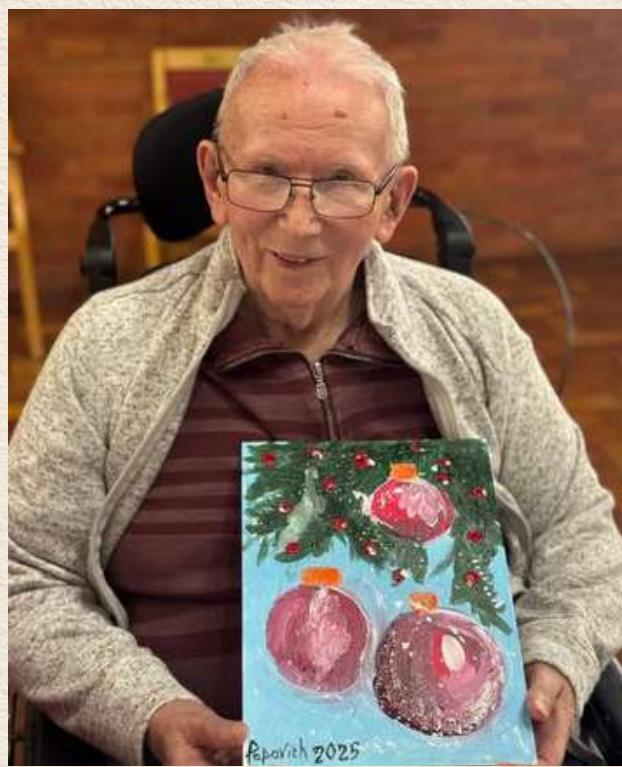


CREATING, CONNECTING, AND CELEBRATING: WORKSHOPS AT IVAN FRANKO HOMES

Painting workshops allow residents to explore personal expression, and craft-based activities bring a sense of purpose and accomplishment, especially when the finished pieces are proudly displayed or gifted to loved ones. Each workshop is thoughtfully designed to be accessible, welcoming, and enjoyable for participants of all abilities.

Beyond the creative process, these workshops foster connection. Demonstrators, facilitators, and volunteers help create a relaxed and supportive environment where creativity becomes a bridge to community and belonging.

These moments of creativity enrich daily life at Ivan Franko Homes, supporting well-being while adding beauty and warmth to our shared spaces. Through art and hands-on experiences, our workshops continue to inspire, uplift, and bring people together in meaningful ways.



WHERE KINDNESS BLOOMS

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Cris and Randy (@calligraphythyme on Instagram) for their continued visits to our LTC Home and for their generous donations of fresh flowers. Their presence is always warmly welcomed, and our residents look forward to seeing them return time and time again.



Through their ongoing generosity, Cris and Randy have helped keep our LTC Home filled with beauty. The fresh flowers they so thoughtfully donate create a cheerful atmosphere that brings moments of joy to residents, staff, and visitors alike. Their contributions are a meaningful tradition of care and connection that has become a valued part of our community.

In addition to their kindness, Cris's talent as a calligrapher adds a unique and artistic touch to her contributions. Together, Cris and Randy generously give their time and effort, reminding us how powerful continued community involvement can be.



We are deeply grateful for their unwavering support and for the many ways they help make Ivan Franko Homes a warmer, more beautiful place to live. Thanks to their thoughtfulness and dedication, our Home is always in bloom.

TRACING OUR ROOTS

Information taken from

Chronicle of The Ivan Franko Homes - Toronto - 1963-1983

As we look ahead to the opening of the Centre for Aging and Longevity in August 2026, we are also mindful of the deep roots that have shaped Ivan Franko Homes over generations. Our story is one of vision, community commitment, and an enduring promise to care for seniors with dignity and respect.

In the fall of 1981, the construction of the third Ivan Franko Home had begun on Winston Churchill Boulevard in Mississauga, marking a significant milestone in the expansion of senior care within the Ukrainian community. Designed by respected Ukrainian architect, I. Stetsura, the new Home was envisioned as more than a residence, it was planned as a vibrant community space.



This ambitious project came with a price tag of about \$4 million, and by 1981 the Ukrainian community had already contributed \$1.5 million, along with countless volunteer hours. It was a powerful demonstration of collective effort, generosity, and belief in caring for elders as a shared responsibility.

That same spirit is guiding the development of today's Centre for Aging and Longevity, part of the broader Campus of Care, a state-of-the-art environment designed not simply as a place to live, but as a thriving community where seniors can age with dignity, comfort, and purpose. The Campus reflects Ivan Franko Homes' long-standing vision: to provide resident-centred care in spaces that support independence, connection, and well-being.

TRACING OUR ROOTS

Every element of the Centre has been thoughtfully designed with residents in mind. Modern amenities, enhanced safety features, specialized dementia living areas, and advanced medical care will ensure comfort and security, while welcoming communal spaces, activity areas, and cultural and spiritual programming will foster meaningful engagement and continuity of traditions. When the Centre opens in August 2026, it will stand as the next chapter in a legacy built decades ago, rooted in community, guided by compassion, and focused on the future of aging with dignity.



The story of Ivan Franko Homes has always been written by those who believed in caring for elders as a collective responsibility. As we move toward the completion of the Centre for Aging and Longevity, we welcome the continued involvement of those who wish to help shape its future. Every contribution, large or small, helps turn this vision into a reality where seniors will continue to be supported, respected, and truly at home.

DONATE TODAY : GIVE BACK TO THOSE WHO ONCE CARED FOR YOU!

Donating to Ivan Franko Homes is more than a generous act - it is a powerful investment in the well-being and joy of our cherished seniors. Every contribution opens doors to meaningful programs, enriching experiences, and trips that bring smiles, laughter, and connection to residents' daily lives. Your support helps create environments that are not only safe but truly feel like home, with renovations that enhance comfort and accessibility. You can easily donate through our website's direct donation link - please visit our website to contribute and help us continue our mission.



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Legacy or Planned Giving



Donate in Memory of a Loved One



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Bee the Change Fundraising Campaign: Campus of Care



General Donation



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MY WAY HOME: SOFIA MAKAREWYCH

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to share stories from the Ivan Franko Homes publication My Way Home: Residents' Stories (2018). These narratives come from residents of our Seniors' Residence in Mississauga, and we are deeply grateful for their presence, as well as their contributions to our Ukrainian community and to our Homes.

Sofia Makarewych (née Tarnavska) was born in 1926 in Stryj, Lviv Oblast, Ukraine. Her mother, Parania, worked as a cook at a fire station, and her father was employed at the courthouse. Sofia grew up with two sisters and one brother. After her father's passing in 1932, she was placed in a Polish orphanage, where she remained until the age of fourteen, receiving her education and helping care for younger children.

As a teenager, Sofia moved to Germany to work as a caregiver and later joined her sister in Bratislava, Slovakia. Having shown an early talent for music and movement, she began working as a dancer at the National Theatre Opera House.

During this time, she met her future husband, Wolodymyr Makarewych, in Germany. They married in 1944. In 1946, their first daughter, Vera, was born while they lived in a U.S. refugee camp in Berchtesgaden.

In 1951, the family immigrated to Toronto, Canada, where they built a new life through hard work and dedication. Sofia worked as a seamstress and later in food services at Hillcrest Rehabilitation Hospital. She and her husband raised three daughters and, in 2004, moved to Ivan Franko Homes, where Sofia continues to enjoy her retirement in a Ukrainian cultural environment, staying active, social, and engaged.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH: MAMA SHADURSKY'S FISH

BY RAYA SHADURSKY

This cherished fish recipe from Raya Shadursky's mother is a true comfort dish rooted in home cooking. Made with simple ingredients and an abundance of slowly caramelized onions, it proves that the best meals don't need to be complicated. Patience is key, as the flavours deepen and come together beautifully when the dish is left to rest overnight — just the way Mama intended. A timeless classic meant to be shared and savoured.



Ingredients (6-8 servings):

- 2 lbs firm white fish
- 5-6 onions – cut in half and sliced
- Flour (enough to cover fish)
- Safflower oil – about 4 tbsp or more to taste
- 1 large tin of diced tomatoes – more to taste
- 1-2 garlic cloves finely diced
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp sugar or more to taste
- 1 tbsp vinegar
- 1 bay leaf



RECIPE OF THE MONTH: MAMA SHADURSKY'S FISH

BY RAYA SHADURSKY

Instructions:

1. Pat the fish dry with paper towels.
2. Season the fish on both sides with salt and pepper.
3. Preheat a large pan over medium heat and add oil.
4. Lightly dredge the fish in flour, shaking off any excess.
5. Fry the fish until lightly browned on both sides and fully cooked.
6. Remove the fish from the pan and place it in a deep dish or container.
7. Without cleaning the pan, add the onions.
8. Season the onions with salt and pepper and sauté until caramelized, being careful not to burn them.
9. Add the tomatoes, sugar, vinegar, bay leaf, and garlic.
10. Simmer the sauce for about 30 minutes.
11. Pour the sauce over the fish and allow it to cool.
12. Refrigerate overnight for best flavour.

Notes

- The key to this recipe is the onions — take your time caramelizing them.
- Sugar, vinegar, and diced tomatoes can be replaced with ketchup. Use as much as desired, adjusting to taste.

Смачного!





December 2025 - Issue #19



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