

Annual Report

Report from the Board Chair

One year ago, our lives changed. In all parts of the world, people were faced with living in isolation with no social gatherings. There were many challenges, moments of sadness, and disappointments. There were also blessings and opportunities that were embraced, resulting in life-changing moments.



Welcome to the Lubov SSMI Foundation Annual Report highlighting moments of the past year. When the year began, there were so many unknowns, like how to manage the Foundation while being closed to the public. The Foundation was still able to respond to the needs of the ministries and engage donor support. There were some physical changes to the Foundation's operations that happened in order for staff to work remotely, but it all came together.

In our lives the Heavenly Father permits various things to happen to bring about a greater good. As discovered during the pandemic, the blessings continued to flow throughout the year.

We are incredibly grateful for the new initiatives that were created to help promote the ministries and raise dollars for programs and equipment. More details can be found in this report.

This past year the Foundation lost a very dear friend and founding Board member Mary Wladyka who passed away July 20, 2020. For one year, she battled cancer and yet managed to attend Foundation meetings up to a few weeks before her passing. "When I stand before God at the end of my life, I hope I don't have a bit of talent left. I want to be able to say, Lord, I used everything you gave me" Author unknown. These are words that describe the life that Mary lived. Her contribution to establishing the Foundation's financial management is only one of many of Mary's legacies. May Mary's memory be eternal.

In closing, we want to also recognize Jean Piché for his vision and commitment to help establish the Lubov SSMI Foundation. In June 2020, Jean retired as CEO for Holy Family Home, where he dedicated 20 years of service. Thank you, Jean, for your support in helping create and shape the Foundation, especially in our early years as an organization.

On behalf of the Lubov SSMI Foundation Board of Directors, Staff, and the Sisters, thank you to all who have embraced the important work of the Sisters, especially through your generous contributions of resources, professionalism, talent, and time.

We pray, through the intercession of Blessed Josaphata Hordashevka (the Cofounder of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate), that your hearts be filled with joy and your life filled with many blessings as we journey together in achieving our mission.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sister Jean Zemliak". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Sister Jean Zemliak
SSMI – Chair, Board of Directors

Light of Faith Blazing the Trail

In 1902, four Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate accepted the challenge to travel to Canada to begin their new mission.

These Sisters became a light to many Ukrainian immigrants helping them adjust to their new homeland, especially in working with the children. The Sisters taught the children and the parents to read and appreciate and love their rich spiritual and cultural heritage. Through this, they lived and shared their faith.

It was not an easy journey, but those first Sisters came with the desire to serve and love all those in need. They shared their "Light of Faith" that helped them overcome many challenges in those first years of getting established on Canadian soil.

Today the Sisters continue to share that "Light of Faith", never afraid to take a risk so that they can continue to help:

- » Educate the young
- » Provide spiritual comfort to those in need
- » Nurture the lonely
- » Care for the sick
- » Provide comfort to the elderly

Online Ministry

The Sisters' website www.ssmi.org continues to be a resource to share stories and announce news about events in their communities across Canada. It also is a place where Sisters unite in prayer for those who submit requests. The Foundation manages the website and receives the support of donors in which the gifts are then shared with the designated Sisters Servants community.

→
Sister Anne with
Shelley Mackie,
SSMI Candidate



THE MANITOBA 150
WOMEN

Trailblazers

Manitoba 150 Women Trailblazer Award

This past year, the Lubov SSMI Foundation submitted a nomination for the Manitoba 150 Women Trailblazer Award set out by the Nellie McClung Foundation. The Award recognizes the spirit of Nellie McClung's life's work being advanced by women leaders of today or throughout Manitoba's history. The Sisters were selected and received recognition as one of the Manitoba 150 Women Trailblazer award recipients. This recognition endorsed the outstanding contributions our Sisters have made over the years in the Province of Manitoba.

Bringing a Chance of Hope

Each year, the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada, in collaboration with Lubov SSMI Foundation, presents an annual breakfast event to raise necessary operating dollars for the Home of Hope. We could not gather together this past year, but we still received a positive response from past supporters. The Foundation is grateful for all those who generously helped the Sisters in Ukraine with their Home of Hope ministry. The Sisters can continue to ensure that their home is a place that brings safety, love, forgiveness, and a chance for hope – one girl at a time.



Sisters'
PERSPECTIVE

This past year has been a difficult one at the Home of Hope. It was hard as a community of 20 to be isolated for months at a time. But we managed, finding ways to cope through baking, praying, exercising and appreciating the gifts of each other.

Sister Eronima Vovchak,
SSMI Director – Home of Hope
Lviv, Ukraine

HOLY FAMILY HOME

Life Love Legacy Continues to Grow

The importance of Sisters' long-term care ministry continues to be affirmed by donors that choose to be a part of the *Life Love Legacy* Campaign for Holy Family Home.

The expanded facility is completed and residents are settled into the new buildings despite a difficult year of living under public health restrictions. We are grateful for the steadfast support from the community.

This past year the campaign raised **\$237,794**. Thank you to all those that have helped bring us closer to our *Life Love Legacy* Campaign goal of \$10 million. To date, **over \$8.9 million** has been secured for capital initiatives at Holy Family Home.

Life+Love
Legacy

A campaign to expand
and revitalize Holy Family Home

New “Pop-Up” Campaign Responds to Pandemic Needs

**\$30,000+
RAISED!**



Coming together as a community, especially during difficult times, is a sign of deep commitment. When people come together, great things can be achieved. The Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Manitoba

Provincial Council, working with the Lubov SSMI Foundation in support of Holy Family Home and the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, introduced the Well Being Campaign in May 2020. This initiative was in response to helping one of the most vulnerable groups at risk early in the pandemic of COVID 19. The Well Being Campaign focused on seniors at risk, especially those living at Holy Family Home.

The response to the Campaign was amazing, raising over \$30,000 enabling Holy Family Home to purchase two Nocospray Disinfection Systems along with supplies for the system. The Well Being Campaign was also able to provide increased comfort for residents and staff during this difficult and challenging time. Thank you to all those that took a moment to support the well-being of those living and working at Holy Family Home.

New Website Launched



The past year revealed how the internet is so very important as a communication tool to connect with families and friends. The timing to introduce a refreshed website for Holy Family Home

happened to coincide with when the pandemic was starting to impact Manitoba. The Holy Family Home website quickly became a meaningful way to share current information. Through the Foundation staff working with a team of experts, the site is a place to check out the latest news, photos, and videos of activities at the Home.

Some of the feedback that has been received from family members who do not live in Winnipeg was that they were grateful to be kept informed through the website www.holyfamilyhome.mb.ca



Sisters'
PERSPECTIVE

I will always remember the experience of serving during Holy Family Home's COVID outbreak...putting on the gown, the gloves, the face shield, special shoes, head cover and N95 mask, like all of the staff. They were at work around me, caring daily for the residents with love, courage and dedication. It was very clear that "heroes work here."

And the residents. What could we do, as their loneliness grew from being isolated in their rooms so as not to contract COVID? We visited and prayed, and held them in our hearts. We mourned for those who didn't make it.

After months of isolation, there was the great joy of seeing residents reuniting, moving freely once more! I have witnessed both agony and ecstasy by helping out during the COVID pandemic.

- Sister Ruth Aney
SSMI



Lighting up the Campus – Bringing Joy to Residents

This year presented challenges unseen before, through the onset of the pandemic. Life for the residents at Holy Family Home quickly changed drastically in order to ensure their safety. With restrictions in place especially around socialization with groups and visitations with loved ones it impacted the well-being of the residents. The annual Festival of Lights Campaign and its events, had to be adapted. Launched in November 2020 the Campaign focused on funding therapeutic recreation activities to help increase the comfort and structure of the daily lives of the residents.

Thank you to the community of supporters for their tremendous response, the Campaign raised over **\$109,000**. Dollars raised from Festival of Lights has helped to:

- » Create an evening and weekend recreation worker position allowing for the opportunity to increase recreation and socialization for residents.
- » Ensure that funding continues to be in place for the Music Therapy program.
- » Assist with funding for new special entertainment events for residents such as live bands, movies in the park, dance groups and petting zoos just to mention a few exciting new events.
- » Establish a Fall Prevention program to help residents improve and/or maintain mobility and independence. This will be important for ensuring resident safety, reducing the number of falls, and thereby reducing the risk of injuries that are associated with falls.

To celebrate the response from the community for this Campaign, Holy Family Home decorated its facility both indoors and outdoors with festive light displays for residents and those passing by to enjoy.



Back to School – A Different Experience

Attending any school this past year was a different experience. This was also true for Immaculate Heart of Mary School. Last Spring, classes were moved online, with computers replacing chalkboards. Then in September, students were welcomed back into the classroom with a difference. The School had added enhanced safety measures, including signage for floors, walls, and sanitization stations. Students now were limited to interaction with each other in select groupings. Throughout all of this, managing this new way of learning, the students at Immaculate Heart of Mary School continue to receive the highest quality of education.



To help with enhancements at the School, the Foundation launched a “Back to School” Campaign to address the necessary upgrading and expansion of the School’s technology.

Thank you to Alumni, past parents, and friends of the School. The Campaign raised **over \$20,000**.



Letters were written for each alumni group.



I love being with the Kindergarten children, experiencing their silly humor, and watching them learn. The moment of seeing the students grasp new concepts is life-giving.

This past year has shown how resilient the children are. They manage to find fun and joy in a situation where even the adults are struggling. Perhaps it is a lesson for us to embrace.

My experience with remote and blended learning has been amazing. The young students respond to the classes attentively and get their work done. There are great moments of joy when I watch just how excited they are to see their friends online.

The pandemic has provided opportunities that would otherwise never be there such as a “virtual” field trip for the Grade 1 and 2 classes to the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller Alberta – the dinosaurs were a big hit for this group.

I am grateful that I can be a part of this ministry of educating the young.

Sister Emily Schietzsch,
SSMI

Connecting – From the Heart

When the Sisters Servants began their education ministry at St. Nicholas School in 1905, they probably did not imagine that the roots that were planted for the first school would continue to flourish for over 115 years. Many young children and youth passed through the halls of St. Nicholas, Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy, and Immaculate Heart of Mary School with one thing in common – the love and commitment of the Sisters to provide these young minds with opportunities.

Today, the Foundation continues to work on ways to connect Alumni to share memories of the past and help invest in the future of our school. Each year the Foundation produces two issues of the From the Heart Newsletter. The editions are printed and distributed as well as emailed and made available on the website www.ihms.mb.ca

Foundation Helps IHMS Launch a Super Spring

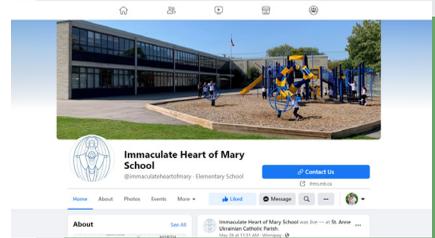


With the restrictions on socializing in place because of COVID 19, the Foundation working with the Sisters' ministries has had to pivot fundraising plans to try and maximize opportunities.

Some of the traditional activities like selling raffle tickets became a challenge with no social gatherings. The Foundation initiated a project for the School to be the beneficiary of a new venture, an online raffle event. The Foundation team working with a local online raffle company provided the raffle management, including promotions through social media.

Families of the School were encouraged to promote the sale of tickets, and that they did. The IHMS Super Spring 50/50 Draw sold **\$26,300** worth of tickets, enabling the grand prize winner to receive **\$13,150**, and IHMS and the students were also winners receiving the net proceeds.

The Foundation team was pleased to be a part of this new fundraising initiative for the School.

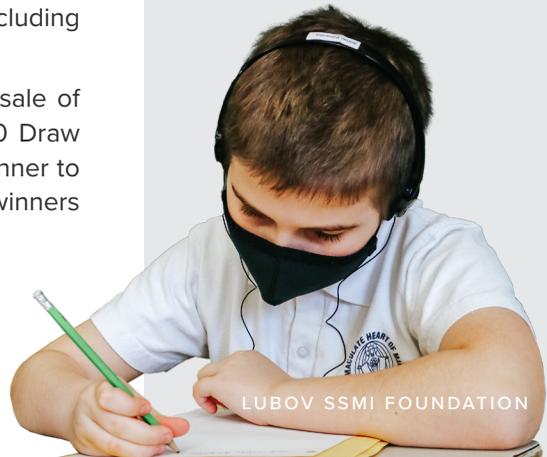


Enhanced Online Presence

The Foundation has stepped up to provide more social media support for the School. A new virtual School tour video was produced and posted online to engage new families. Facebook also became an important tool to communicate the latest news from the School especially with no public interaction to see the good work of the students.



↑ Watch the virtual tour on the Lubov Foundation YouTube channel.



Lubov SSMI Foundation – Donors

Thank you to all those who have supported the work of the Sisters through the Lubov SSMI Foundation Inc. for the fiscal year April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021. The listed donors are those that contributed directly to the Foundation. We are fortunate to have a lengthy list of donors who designated their contributions to Holy Family Home, Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Home of Hope (Lviv, Ukraine), the Orphanages in Ukraine and the Sisters. These donors are being recognized through the ministries. **Thank you!**

Endowment Funds

Archbishop Michael Bzdel
William and Dorothy Lacey
Lubov SSMI Foundation
Operations
Lubov SSMI Ministries
Stefania Karpa and Family
Terry John Prychitko FCPA FCA
Family Fund
Mary A. Wladyka

In memory of Metro, David & Constantine Bodykevich

Margaret E. Didenko

In memory of Sam Gerbasi

Helen Stanchuk

In memory of Robert Harasym

June Dutka

In memory of Alexandra Hwozdulych

Mary Pidkowich

Alexander, Adrian Karpa
Peter and Anna Korbutiak
Paul Kochan

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Tania Ruday
Mr. and Mrs. Shawarsky
Michael Stoyko and Family

Foundation Donors

All Charities Campaign
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Hanko Cholod
Doug Fosty and
Violet Newediuk-Fosty
Helen Korban
Jane Luchak
Marian Moshansky
Yurij and Maria Nosyk
Randy and Julie Skromeda

In memory of Stefania Karpa

John and Martha Baluta
Dr. Taras & Mrs. Patricia Babick
Anna Banera
Ken and Dolores Bielak
Don and Gayle Cilinsky
Marlene Cooke
Halia Dmytryshyn
Gaylene and Wayne
Dutchyshen
David Erenberg
Myrosia Foga
Ronald Friesen
Doug Fosty and
Violet Newediuk-Fosty
Mark and Sonya Galarnyk
Tamara Hawryshkiw
Dr. Mark, Shelley, Orycia,

Tribute Donors

The following loved ones were remembered by friends and family by donations made in their memory or in their honour.

In memory of Helen Korban

Theresa Antoniuk
Linda and Paul Bailes

THANK YOU DONORS

Vasyl and Irka Balan
Oksana Baluta
Cheryl and Ray Berendse
Ken and Dolores Bielak
Margaret E. Didenko
Les and Caroline Dubowits
Mark and Sonya Galarnyk
Bruce and Lori Huchko
Deacon Victor and
Mrs. Mary Humniski
John and Mary Hykawy
Joyce Kolach
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Marie Kostiuk
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Andrew Serray and
Claudia Kuryk-Serray
Terri Shaw
Tina Shipman
Stephen and Donna Sumka
Olga Szutiak
Albert and Pat Turkula
Irene Wilson
Mary A. Wladyka

In memory of Michael Kowpak

Dennis and Pat Steer

In memory of Jean Krisko

Mary Kohut

In memory of Sister Hilary Lenyk, SSMI

John and Mary Hykawy
Mary A. Wladyka

In memory of Michael Lohaza

Michael Stoyko and Family

In memory of Helen Lorimer

Stephen and Donna Sumka

In memory of Mary MacLean

John and Mary Hykawy

In memory of Olga Nakonechny

St. Michael's Catholic School
(Woodstock, ON)
Nestor and Alice Zemliak

In memory of Irene Poworoznyk

John and Mary Hykawy

In memory of Father Len Ratuszniak, C.Ss.R.

Marie Kostiuk
Kathy Monaster

In memory of Myron Washchyshyn

Eileen Kuzanko

In memory of Evelyn Zaboroski

John and Mary Hykawy
Stephen and Donna Sumka

In honour of Peter & Joan Washchyshyn - 50th Anniversary

Eileen Kuzenko

We apologize for any errors or omissions. If you have any questions please contact the Foundation office at 204-942-0443

Remembering Mary Wladyka

Mary Wladyka is someone that truly lived her life graciously sharing all her talents with the community. On July 20, 2020, Mary passed away peacefully after a year-long battle with cancer. Her legacy lives on because she cared about making a difference. Mary's commitment to the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate over the years was demonstrated through her gift of time, resources and financial generosity. She willingly stepped up and gave many hours to help create and serve as one of the first Directors of the Board for the Lubov SSMI Foundation. Her contributions to establish the financial management of the Foundation is one of many legacies that she will be remembered for. Prior to the Foundation Board, Mary served on the Board for Holy Family Home.

She is missed, but her legacy lives on especially her vision to help create a Foundation for the Sisters so that their ministries will always be supported. May her memory be eternal!



Lubov SSMI Foundation – Leadership

Board of Directors

Sr. Jean Zemliak, SSMI (Chair)
Sr. Ruth Aney, SSMI
Sr. Darleane Pelechaty, SSMI
Karen Leggat
Maryann Lee
Myron Pawlowsky
Terry Prychitko, FCA
Randal Skromeda
Stephen Sumka
*Mary Wladyka
Jason Brennan (Chair, Immaculate Heart of Mary School Board)
Peter Washchysyn (Chair, Holy Family Home Board)
Sr. Christina Syrotynsky, SSMI - Provincial Superior

*Passed away 2020

Ex-Officio Members

Lesia Sianchuk - Chief Executive Officer
Lubov SSMI Foundation Inc.
Tara-Lee Procter (Maciuszonek) - Chief Executive Officer
Holy Family Home Inc.
Rod Picklyk - Principal
Immaculate Heart of Mary School

Staff

*Matt Lozynyc - Marketing & Communications Assistant
Tanya Pokeza - Donor Relations/Office Assistant
Lesia Sianchuk - Chief Executive Officer
Nadiia Yarosh - Finance Clerk
**Raisa Baluta - Marketing/Communications Officer

**Joined January 2021*

***Resigned October 2020*



Thank you to the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba for their emergency assistance during this past year.

The Foundation was able to continue its operations due in part to receiving the:

- » Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)
- » Manitoba Bridge Grant

LUBOV | SSMI Foundation



1085 Main St., Winnipeg, MB R2W 3S1
204-942-0443
info@lubovfoundation.ca
www.lubovfoundation.ca

