

INSIDE: MESSAGE FROM THE CEO/PURIM ACTIVITIES/SPIRITUAL CORNER & MORE

APRIL 2024 | ISSUE NO. 31

Snider

Schmooze



Marvelous Myla

Dive into the heartwarming journey of Myla, our vibrant Companion Program Coordinator at the Snider Campus, as she shares her transformation from private companion to advocate for eldercare. Discover her passion and her unwavering commitment to our residents and their families!

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Purim 2024
Costume and
Dance Contest

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dr. David Keselman

Hello and welcome to this edition of the Snider Schmooze. It is April and it is finally time to enjoy longer days and warmer weather! First and foremost, I want to express my sincere gratitude to every Louis Brier Home & Hospital and Weinberg Residence staff member for their hard work, dedication and resilience. Over the past months, we have faced challenges and celebrated successes together. The commitment to excellence and teamwork continues to inspire me and I am honoured to lead such an exceptional team.

The Purim celebration in March was memorable! From creative costumes to delicious treats and lots of laughter, it was the perfect time to come together as a community and spread joy. A big thank you to the Recreation Team for decorating the building, planning the Purim costume and dance contest and getting everyone in the Purim mood. Let us carry the spirit of joy, unity and celebration with us throughout the year.

As we approach Passover, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to the Snider Campus community. Passover is a time of reflection and remembrance, as we commemorate the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery in ancient Egypt and the journey towards freedom. Passover serves a powerful reminder of the enduring values of justice and resilience, which resonate deeply in our lives and work. May this Passover bring you and your loved ones joy, peace and blessings. Chag Pesach Sameach!

The Brier Fire Dragon Boat Team has been practicing rain or shine. Coach Carl Mendoza and Steering Coach Rommel Zapanta are getting the team ready for the VESSI 500 Championship and the Concord Pacific Dragon Boat Festival, where the team is aiming to hit the waves, paddle hard and bring home the gold medal. If you have a chance, head out to the False Creek Community Centre to see them practice and cheer them on every Monday and Thursday evening.

Continued on next page

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Continued



ABOVE: *The Louis Brier Running Team*

BELOW: *Brier Fire Dragon Boat Team*

The Louis Brier Running Club is excited to be participating in the Sun Run 2024. The members are looking forward to setting new records and challenging themselves on April 21st. The ten members representing Louis Brier will be running through a beautiful scenic course that highlights Vancouver's downtown core, starting at Burrard and Georgia, going through the West End and finishing at the BC Place Stadium. From all of us at the Snider Campus, we are proud of you and we are with you every step of the way.

If you have any thoughts, suggestions or simply want to connect, please do not hesitate to reach out: info@louisbrier.com. We value your input and cherish the connections we have built. Your support fuels our passion and drive to continue being a centre of excellence that provides exemplary resident and family-centred care.

Happy April!



**DR. DAVID KESELMAN, MN, DHA, CHE, RN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**





LOUIS BRIER JEWISH AGED
FOUNDATION

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THE FOUNDATION 2023-2024 CAMPAIGN

GIVE TODAY

Visit: thelouisbrierfoundation.com
or e-mail us at foundation@louisbrier.com





RECREATION

LOOK BACK

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH

We decided to celebrate International Women's Day all March long. We hope everyone was able to catch the beautiful features of the many lovely, strong, and brilliant women who live at Louis Brier on our social media as well as our in-house poster displayed in the Homeside lounge created by dedicated Recreation Therapy assistant Maria. Special thank you to communications coordinator Jordan for all the gorgeous photos and features.



KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

In collaboration with Volunteer Coordinator Renan Passatore, Recreation hosted students from grade 11-8 from King David High School over the week of March 12-15. The students helped Residents make groggers, decorate boxes for mishloach manot, assist with active games, Israeli folk dancing, and Shabbos Music. Special thank you to Renan for organizing such a wonderful experience for residents and staff to connect with the Jewish youth in our community.



PURIM

Recreation hosted our third annual Purim Costume Contest/Dance Party in March and we are so appreciative of all those who dressed up, danced, and participated in the festivities, what a turn out! We'd like to give a big shout out to DJ LBLT for once again for lighting up the dance floor with his electric tunes. Thank you to our panel of judges and congrats to all the winners!

Chaplain Rob and Rabbi Rosenfeld hosted the Purim service on Sunday with a lively Meghilah reading filled with the jeers of resident made groggers followed by a Purim Tea! After, Recreation hosted a Mesachim Event where Jewish children and young families of Schara Tzdeck volunteered their time to spend with the residents by performing and showing off their costumes.

UPCOMING

Passover – Eve of Monday, April 22nd to nightfall of Tuesday, April 30th

The early spring Jewish holiday of Passover occurs in the Hebrew month of Nissan. This year the holiday begins on the eve of Monday, April 22nd and lasts until nightfall on Tuesday, April 30th. Although this holiday lasts eight days, the most important days for observance are the first two and the last two days. These days are considered Yom Tov or Holy Days, where the same prohibitions and guidelines as Shabbat are observed. The days in between are called, chol hamoed, which mean semi-festive or intermediate days, where most forms of work are permitted and restrictions are lifted.

The Passover story takes place in Ancient Egypt, where the Israelites (Jews) were enslaved by the Pharaohs and made to endure great hardships and toil. G-d witnessed the plight of the Israelites and sent Moses to the Pharaoh requesting that the Israelites be set free. G-d's wishes were not heeded and as punishment he sent 10 devastating plagues upon the Egyptian people. The last plague ordered the death of all the first born children of Egypt. The Israelites sacrificed a lamb to G-d and sprinkled the blood on their doors so that G-d knew to pass over their houses sparing their own children, which is where the holiday gets the name Passover. Egypt experienced such devastation that the Pharaoh begged the Israelites to leave.

They lost no time in fleeing Egypt, leaving so quickly they did not wait for their bread to rise, before their journey to Mount Sinai. In the weeks leading to Passover, it is tradition for Jews to do a thorough spring cleaning to rid their houses of any chametz, which is any grain that has been leavened. This includes cakes, cookies, breads, pasta and most alcoholic beverages.

Matzah is eaten during this time instead, a flat unleavened bread, which can be enjoyed throughout the holiday and during the Seder.

The most important observance during Passover is the Seder, a ritualistic feast. This ritualistic feast is traditionally held in the home and includes eating Matzah, bitter herbs, drinking four glasses of wine or grape juice, and reciting the Haggadah. The Haggadah recounts the story of the Exodus of the Jews from slavery in Egypt.

Passover Services will be held on the following days in the Synagogue:

Tuesday, April 23 at 9:30am

Wednesday, April 24 at 9:30am

Monday, April 29 at 9:30am

Tuesday, April 30 at 9:30am

This year the seder will be held on Monday, April 22nd at 2:30pm in the Homeside Lounge.



Visit louisbrier.com/recreationcalendar for this month's Recreation Activities schedule
For questions and concerns, contact us: recreationleaders@louisbrier.com

For more photos and videos of our Resident activities, follow us on our social media channels:



@LouisBrierBC



Louis Brier
Home and Hospital



@LouisBrierHome



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#LouisBrierSpotlight

What do you do? Your department/program?

I started my role as the Companion Coordinator for Snider Campus on December 2017. I administer, monitor and coordinate all aspects of companion services within the program, in consultation with residents, families, and the inter-professional team. I respond to requests for companions and I assist in aligning the resident's needs with the companion's responsibilities.

I also assist residents/families with the selection of companion to match the resident's needs and personality to ensure that the companion is able to meet those needs. I also screen potential companions and ensure prospective companion meets qualifications as outlined in the Companion Policy and Procedure, which includes criminal record check. I facilitate provision of education and training for companions, some of which are funded by the families/residents in the program. Currently, we have 102 residents availing the companion services and a pool of 65 active companions within Louis Brier Home and Hospital (LBHH) and Weinberg Residence (WR).

First impressions of Louis Brier?

Good place to work. People know each other just like family.

How did you start your Louis Brier journey?

I started my journey in 2008, working as a part time private companion of Mr. Reed at Weinberg Residence. In 2013, I decided to resign from my fulltime office job and worked full time as a private companion. When Mr. Reed passed away in 2016, I worked with few other residents in Louis Brier. I love helping and caring for the residents and I advocate for them, too. When the opportunity opened in December 2017, I applied for the position and became the Companion Coordinator. I love my job and I'm passionate and dedicated to what I do.

What do you enjoy the most about working here?

I love the residents and the people I work with. Louis Brier and Weinberg Residence is like my second home. I feel fulfilled when I see the residents are happy and comfortable with the companions and when they are getting what they need from the companions. The family comes back to me happy and satisfied with the companion placement and with the services the companions provide to their loved ones. They appreciate it when I am able to match the companion and the resident really well. I even jokingly say to the family, "My next job will be a match maker", and they laugh.



Myla

Companion Program Coordinator

It's the best feeling knowing I did my best to fulfill the requirement of the family and residents. Having good relationship with the residents, their family members, companions and staff makes my job so much easier.

I was also invited by Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) to do a presentation on the LBHH/WR Companion Program in an inter-professional meeting because it's a program that is unique to LBHH/WR. We are the only Long Term Care facility that has in-house companion program. Most of the individuals who attended the meeting were amazed and also wanted to have a companion program in their facility.

I was given a chance to be part of the trip to Israel in 2019. There were 5 of us from Louis Brier who participated and we were there for 2 weeks. It was an amazing experience that I will never forget. Learning the culture, visiting different parts of Israel, visiting museum and religious sites, and meeting different partners of the Jewish Community of Vancouver. We tried different kinds of food and I loved it so much that I stayed for another 1 week. If I'm given the chance, I would love to go visit Israel again.

I'm also part of the Louis Brier Dragon Boat Team from the beginning. I'm proud to say that this year will be my 5th year on the team and I have collected 6 medals over those years, 1 gold, 4 silver and 1 bronze.

Last February, I received a Perfect Attendance certificate from HR. It's a testament that I love coming to work, with smile on my face.



M. G. La

Human Resources



Loren Tisdelle, CPHR
Director,
Human Resources



18th of Every Month!

#LouisBrierLIFE Day

The "Louis Brier LIFE Day" is intended for everyone to demonstrate their pride in Louis Brier Home and Hospital & Weinberg Residence and everything that we stand for - our Mission, Vision and Values - and to celebrate CHAI (LIFE)!

We will be celebrating "Louis Brier LIFE Day" on the 18th of every month!

CHAI HONOURS Recognition Tree

Acknowledge individuals within our community that embody the LBHH&WR "CHAI" Values, visit: bit.ly/recognitiontree



CLICK HERE!





EMPLOYEE REFERRAL PROGRAM

SEND IT!

SEND A QUALIFIED APPLICANT'S RESUME TO HR@LOUISBRIER.COM & YOU COULD RECEIVE A REFERRAL BONUS OF UP TO \$1,000!

\$1000

"Hard to Fill Positions"
Nurses, Allied Health Professionals

\$200

Care Aide, Food Services, Housekeeping, HCSW, etc.

The Employee Referral Program (ERP) is open to all Employees, Companions, Volunteers, Residents, and Family.



Volunteer Program



Bring joy and make a meaningful impact! Join our volunteer program at our Long-term care facility and support our beloved residents. Your contribution is vital in creating a vibrant and caring community.

By becoming a volunteer, you'll create priceless moments of companionship and brighten the lives of those we cherish. It's a chance to give back to our community and make a lasting difference. Gain personal fulfillment and build connections that warm your heart.



Step forward, be the light that illuminates lives! Sign up now and become a valued member of our volunteer family. Together, let's create a world of love, laughter, and support!



Sign up now by visiting louisbrier.com/volunteer-program or by sending an email to our Volunteer Coordinator, Renan Passatore, at rpassatore@louisbrier.com



FAMILY COUNCIL

The Family Council at Louis Brier Home and Hospital

Established in 2016, Family Council is an independent and voluntary body of family members, caregiver friends, and legal representatives of residents. Our primary focus is to advocate for the delivery of quality resident and family centered care.

Family Council is governed by an elected Executive Council guided by its Terms of Reference. It provides family members leadership opportunities in several capacities. It works in collaboration with the Louis Brier senior leadership team to review and discuss relevant opportunities to enhance the residents' experience. Family Council meets monthly to provide updates from senior leadership, Louis Brier Home and Hospital committees, educational workshops, and works together as a solution-focussed advocacy group.

Connect with us: lb.familycouncil@gmail.com

Check out our Family Portal: <http://louisbrier.com/family-portal>

We welcome all families and hope that you will take the opportunity to get involved.

Family Council



Family Council Minutes from March 21 meeting and notice of April Meet and Greet

Thank you to everyone who attended our March 2024 Family Council Meeting!

Our Next get together will be a casual “Meet n Greet” (see invitation attached)

You are invited:

Date: Sunday, April 14

Time: 4:00-6:00 PM

Place: The Boardroom (Straight ahead inside the front door)

SAVE THE DATE!

- Take a break and enjoy something to eat
- Come and mingle with others who have lived experience with their loved ones and friends at Louis Brier
- Meet the Family Council Executive
- Have your questions answered
- Have a chance to win a gift card

Documents attached:

[Telephone Directory for Families](#)

[LBHH Organizational Chart](#)

[March 21 2024 Minutes](#)

[Invitation to our April Meet n Greet](#)

[Invitation to the VCAFC Lunch and Learn April 9](#)

Family Council encourages sharing of our collective experiences. Many well-thought-out ideas and solutions emerge. In turn, we are able to bring these suggestions to Senior Leadership for their consideration.

“Peer Support Corner”

Dying with Dignity Canada Series*:

Metro Vancouver Chapter: <https://www.dyingwithdignity.ca/about-us/local-chapters/vancouver-local-chapter/>

1. Advance Care Planning in LTC webinar held on February 28th

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H5v3h2mFYGI>

Resources: <https://fco.ngo/resources/february-28-2024-advance-care-planning-in-long-term-care-webinar-slides>

Slides: <https://fco.ngo/resources/february-28-2024-advance-care-planning-in-long-term-care-webinar-slides>

2. End-of-Life Options in LTC webinar held on March 6th

Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyE_VriCYw0

Resources: <https://fco.ngo/resources/march-6-2024-discussing-end-of-life-options-in-long-term-care-resource-list>

Continued

Family Council Minutes from March 21 meeting and notice of April Meet and Greet

\3. Medical Assistance in Dying webinar held on March 13th

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysOP4mwS3ac>

Resources: <https://fco.ngo/resources/march-13-2024-discussing-medical-assistance-in-dying-in-ltc-resource-list>

* This series may have specific reference to information only applicable in Ontario but, for the most part the definitions and information is Canada wide

Please share a resource that has helped you: lb.familycouncil@gmail.com

Continue your advocacy and support for improved long-term care in BC:

Get to know your regional association of family councils: Vancouver Coastal Association of Family Councils (VCAFC)

<https://www.facebook.com/VCAFC> Email: vcafc.regional@gmail.com

Get to know your provincial association of family councils:

Independent Long-Term Care Councils Association BC (ILTCCABC) <https://iltccabc.ca/>

Consider volunteering to support the movement for improvement in long-term care across BC.

We look forward to seeing you IN PERSON Sunday, April 14, 4-6 PM

Family Council Executive

Lisa Dawson, Co-Chair

Fran Harrison, Co-Chair

Cassandra Siebel, Co-Chair

Evan Sahmet, Vice Co-Chair

Rahim Meghji, Treasurer



SPIRITUAL CARE CORNER

HAZZAN ROB MENES

April is the month of Redemption. April is the month when seeds are free to sprout, redeemed from the slavery of the cold winter. It is a time of freedom. On Pesach - Passover - we retell the story of our slavery in Egypt and redemption to freedom. It is also the time when we pray for the redemption of the captives. Once upon a time, the psalmist wrote about the redemption from Babylonia, "By the rivers of Babylon, we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion." And now we have been taken captive again and we pray for the release of hostages.

The Passover seder recalls a shared experience: we were there, it is our experience. When we share an experience, we can empathize with those most affected. I can share the experience of aging with our residents - it gets easier to do every day! Sometimes getting older itself feels like slavery, being prevented from doing the things we used to do. But then I remember the captives, the Israeli hostages for whom we pray for redemption. I don't want to feel that kind of suffering, but that is currently our shared experience.

This April, think about how important freedom is. Consider how the process of redemption from slavery is ongoing and very real. The shared experience of slavery can be transformed into a shared experience of freedom. Make this Passover be truly a Passover of Redemption.

Chag Pesach kasher v'same'ach



HAZZAN ROB MENES
CHAPLAIN



IMPORTANT ADVANCES IN THE COMPANION PROGRAM

Thanks to the leadership of Lunadel Daclan and Myla Carpio-Pelayo, the family-funded companion program is reaching new heights!

- Recent implementation of automated time capture, financial planning, tracking and reporting process has been completed.
- A new Companion training program started on March 18th and will be continued throughout the year.

This could not have taken place without:

Myla Carpio-Pelayo, Companion Coordinator

Lunadel Daclan, Infection Control/Quality and Risk

Ben Crocker, Finance Director

Keren Gertsman, Co-Chair (along with Myla) of the Companion Advisory Committee

Lisa Dawson, Co-Chair of the Family Council

...and all the dedicated companions who have come forward to provide extra care for our residents and become so important to so many families.

THANK YOU!

Submitted by the Louis Brier Family Council



We are very pleased to share with you the results of our recycling projects and initiatives at **Louis Brier Home & Hospital** and the **Weinberg Residence** and its impact to the environment, in partnership with **URBAN IMPACT**.



CERTIFICATE OF DIVERSION

LOUIS BRIER HOME & HOSPITAL
1055 W 41 Ave, Vancouver BC V6M 2W6

2023 DIVERSION RESULTS

Weight 52,918 Kilograms
Carbon Saved 178.4 Metric tonnes

CONGRATULATIONS, YOU HELPED SAVE



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TREES**



**1,431,011L
WATER**



**221,419KWH
ELECTRICITY**

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THE DR. IRVING & PHYLISS SNIDER CAMPUS FOR JEWISH SENIORS, SITE OF THE LOUIS BRIER HOME & HOSPITAL AND WEINBERG RESIDENCE



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ART VANCOUVER CONTEMPORARY ART FAIR

We are thrilled to announce that the Weinberg is one of the sponsors of the Vancouver Art Fair. Founded by the Vancouver Visual Art Foundation (VAAF), a non-profit organization, Art Vancouver is a celebration of the global art community's diversity and talent.

Show Dates: Thursday, April 11 to April 14

Friday, April 12th: 1 PM – 9 PM

Saturday, April 13th: 12 PM – 9 PM

Sunday, April 14th: 11 AM – 5 PM

To learn more about the Art Fair or to attend our sponsored event please visit:
www.artvancouver.net/event-details/art-vancouver-2024



**VANCOUVER
JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL**

Weinberg Goes To The Movies!



The 35th annual Vancouver Jewish Film Festival takes place April 4th - 14th.

The Weinberg Residence is proud to announce that we are one of the sponsors of the movie **Rose** featured in the 2024 VJFF. *Rose* is an all-encompassing celebration of Jewishness, infused with warmth and authenticity, making it a sure-fire crowd-pleaser.

To attend the festival visit:
www.vjff.org

For more information or to book a tour:

Call us at 604.261.9622

www.weinbergresidence.com

Thurs, April 11th at 1pm

Fifth Avenue Cinemas



weinbergresidence



NOW ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
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Family & Friends Fun Night

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
7 TO 8PM

LOUIS BRIER HOME SIDE LOUNGE





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STARS
of
VANCOUVER
2024
BEST SENIORS
RESIDENCE

TOP 3
Best Seniors Residence
WINNER!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



April

Abad, Carolie	LDRY
Asuncion, Aileen	CA
Barbaza, Cheryl	REHAB
Bhatthal, Devinder	CA
Bucknor, Carol	CARADM
Burrell, Beresford R	FS
Chhina, Navjot	FS
Cikatricis, Ludmila	STAFFG
Compendio, Nesreen	CA
Cruz, Arceli	LPN
Duraisingh, Jivithal	HCAP
Esguerra, Allyn	LPN
Heldsinger, Kyle	CA
Inderpreet, Inderpreet	QRM
Jackson, Kemba	RECEP
Kaur, Ramandeep	RECEP
Khomenok, Olena	RN
Kwok, Ying Bik Konica	REHAB
Lee, Sunwoo	HCAP
Molon, Rachel Dolores	CA
Ninalga, Charmagne	CA
Patenio, Jackylou	CA
Randhawa, Manpreet Kaur	CA
Reid, Hailey	LPN
Respes, Princess	CA
Rosales, Ricardo	HSKP
Salazar, Erich	LPN
Sandhar, Narinder	FS
Santiago, Ehlgine	BUSOFF
Simon, Emma	FS
Soriano, Editha	CA
Sundar, Kamal	HSKP
Suthiyuth, Parsiri	FS
Yiu, Joyce	CA





COMPANION PROGRAM

We are here for you!

Did you know that Louis Brier Home & Hospital and Weinberg Residence offer an in-house Companion Program? We understand the needs of your family and loved-ones and we are here to assist in enhancing their personal and social well-being. Our in-house companion program provides added quality support at a reasonable rate. For more information, please contact:

Myla Carpio-Pelayo

Companion Coordinator

Ph: 604-267-4688

E: mpelayo@louisbrier.com

VIRTUAL VISIT

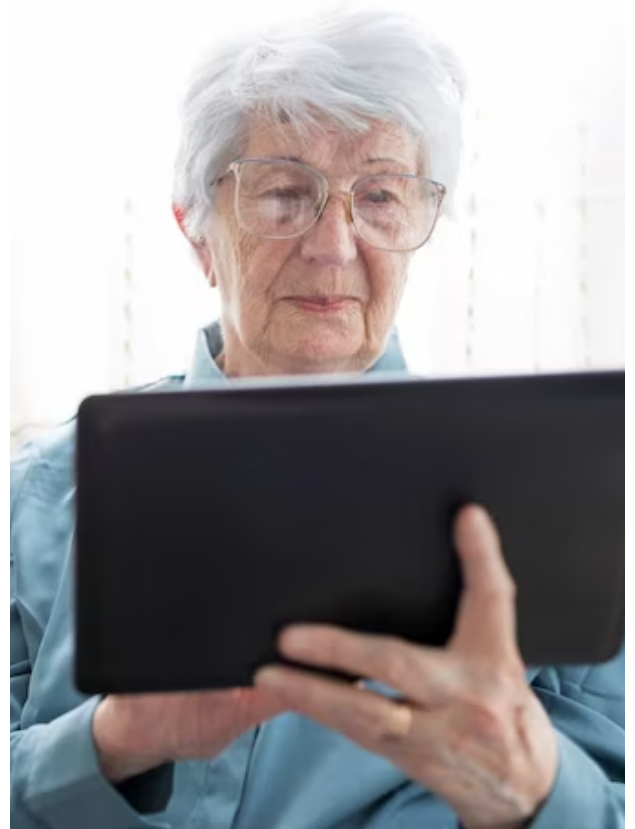
Book your Virtual Visit

Please, use the link <https://louisbrier.com/virtual-visit/> and follow the instructions on our website. We encourage families and friends to visit their loved ones in person at LBHH, and the Virtual Visit Program is focused on supporting those living in faraway cities, provinces and countries.

Each Virtual Visit is 15 minutes long with 5 minutes in between so staff can relocate between rooms and nursing units.

The program runs every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 09:30 am to 11:15 am. It does not run during Holidays, weekends and long weekends.

Please, do not hesitate to contact us at info@louisbrier.com or call +1 604-261-9376 if you have any questions or concerns.



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Want to contribute to the newsletter?

Email communications@louisbrier.com for details.



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