



GETTING YOUR LIFE IN ORDER

Iggy Kaneff's philanthropy earns a provincial nod



Ignat Kaneff, whose courses include Lionhead and Royal Ontario, received the Order of Ontario from Lieutenant Governor David Onley in January.

A choral conductor, teacher and mentor, a world-renowned scientific researcher in regenerative medicine, the leader of World Vision Canada and the man behind Kaneff Golf are among 30 new appointees to the Order of Ontario.

Ignat Kaneff, a native of Bulgaria, arrived in Canada in 1951. He could barely speak a word of English. Over the decades, the chairman and CEO of the Kaneff Group of Companies, which includes

the six courses (Lionhead among them) that make up Kaneff Golf, has become one of the nation's leading real estate developers and philanthropists. Later this year, the new building at Osgoode Hall Law School will be named in his honour in recognition of his \$2.5 million donation.

The appointees to Ontario's highest honour were chosen for their contributions to the arts, justice, science, medicine, history, politics, philanthropy and the environment. The 84-year-

old Mississauga resident was singled out for his contributions that have supported education, the arts, and health and social services, especially community living for intellectually challenged children.

"It's a priceless honour," says Kaneff. "To come to this country with nothing, no money, no friends and not speaking the language and to be even with all these other great Canadians is an honour," says Kaneff who remains an avid golfer and tennis player. He sees it as his duty to help others, especially newcomers to this country, by giving them direction, shelter and getting them jobs.

Later this summer, Kaneff will start construction of a new 18-hole championship course near Caledon on land that he's owned for 10 years. His long-term vision for the Ted Baker design is to add a residential development along with a resort and convention centre. —**BRENT LONG**