

# Lakeshore General Hospital set for eighth annual gastronomic evening on Monday

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Mike Cohen

Since the *Bâton Rouge Steakhouse & Bar* ([www.batonrouge.ca](http://www.batonrouge.ca)) chain made its debut in Laval 26 years ago, it has grown to 29 locations, with a 30th set to open soon in St. Hyacinthe.

The trademark of each venue is giving back to the community. I dined at the Dollard des Ormeaux facility on Boulevard St. Jean last week, where owners John Frintzilas, Peter Gianopoulos and Jimmy Sotiropoulos are gearing up for their annual fundraiser next Monday, March 26 benefitting The Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation. This marks the eighth annual gastronomic evening. Some \$500,000 has been raised since its inception.

"A lot of Montreal establishments just don't have the philosophy that it is good business to be active in their community," says event chairman Dr. Fiore Lalla of the LGH's psychiatry department. "The owners of Bâton Rouge are true gentleman and caring human beings who really know what giving back to the community entails. The Bâton Rouge has become a real West Island institution. They look after their clientele and their staff as if they were family."

The objective for this year is to try and surpass last year's gain of over \$52,000. More than 50 auction items were generously donated for the event and they range



At last year's event DDO co-owners Jimmy Sotiropoulos and John Frintzilas, present LGHF Managing Director Heather Holmes with a cheque.

in value between \$50 and \$2,000. The Bâton Rouge menu features many tempting choices, notably the trademark famous BBQ baby back ribs and chicken, steaks, seafood, lobster in season, crisp salads, appetizers and, of course, decadent desserts. Guests on Monday will be treated to a cocktail hour, a four course dinner with wine and an open bar. This will be followed by a silent auction, presentation of the Humanitarian Award and a special draw. The Foundation is grateful to Frintzilas, Sotiropoulos, and Gianopoulos families for their hospitality and generosity. Thanks to their donation of food, alcohol and service, the proceeds of the event will be directly rein-

vested in health care in the West Island community.

Bâton Rouge brand Chief Operating Officer Stanley Goodman said that when it comes to the owners of the Dollard franchise, "these gentlemen are our greatest ambassadors."

In Vaudreuil, franchisee Billy Arvanitis has given a boost to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and countless others. The Complexe Desjardins location, under the watchful eye of Chris-Ann Nakis, a third generation Montreal restaurateur and a part of the Bâton Rouge family since 2001,

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