



Hello everyone.

*This is my last newsletter as I will officially retire on **June 30th, 2022.***

I look back very fondly over my last 33 years as Supervisor/Executive Director at Kinderplace Childcare Centre. The Centre started as a workplace Childcare at the Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital with a small enrollment. It has grown to offer full-day childcare for thirty-two children infant to preschool and fifty before and after school children at our Vance location and fifty-six afterschool children at our Ecole Gron Morgan site.

Over the years I have worked with many dedicated Childcare Educators/Staff who have developed lasting relationships with the children and families who have brought their next generation of children to Kinderplace. This is a testament to the excellent quality of care that the children have received.

I would like to personally recognize the hard- work of all our Educators/ Staff at both our Vance and Ecole sites. Their dedication to the Centre, children and programs offered is commendable. They have worked through many changes and challenges with Covid-19 policies and have shown flexibility and patience. I feel every staff has done a wonderful job making an environment at Kinderplace that was enriched while

maintaining social distancing, cleaning protocols while we worked through this Pandemic.

They embraced the principles of “How does Learning Happen” following the lead and interests of the Children. They recognized that children are Competent, Capable, and curious in potential. Educators continue to develop goals and implement them into their programs regularly.

My position at Kinderplace has allowed me to learn a variety of skills and I have had the opportunity to be challenged as an Early Childhood Educator and Supervisor/Executive Director. I have always believed in life-long learning and have participated in many professional development opportunities over my career in Early Childhood Education and I have seen many changes over all these years.

I have worked with Agencies such as Dilico, Children’s Centre, Children’s Aid, Confederation College, Lakehead Public Schools, TBDSSAB, Ministry of Education- Licensing division, Autism Ontario, Thunder Bay District Health unit to support Children and their families.

I would also like to acknowledge the partnerships that we have established with the School Principals and Staff at the Schools that we are located in. Both our Agencies have common goals to support Children that we work with daily.

Many of the Volunteer Board of Directors have had their own children at our Centre. They have brought different life and work experiences to their positions and have made decisions based on what is best for the overall operations of Kinderplace. They have always offered their support and assistance to me, and I appreciate all their guidance.

I would also like to send a big thank-you to Tina Jameus who I worked with closely during this pandemic. It was great to have someone to talk to and share the ever-changing procedures during covid-19. I retire

knowing the Centre is in great hands and I know Tina will work tirelessly to continue to ensure Kinder place's success moving forward.

I would also like to thank my family who have always shown me love and support.

Special thanks to Tina, Rossana, Joan, and Chloe for their hard work in organizing and helping at my tea on August 23rd, 2022 as well as Katrina for assisting with clean-up. It was also great to see the families and Agencies that joined in to celebrate this milestone event.

*We will also be saying goodbye to Joan Fenelon who has worked at Kinderplace for 17 years with all age groups. She will be joining me on June 30th, 2022, to the **retirement club**. The children, families and team members will certainly miss you. You have demonstrated a strong commitment and passion to your work every day!*

We also say farewell to long-standing Board member Brandy Oldale who was on our Board of Directors for 10 years. She served as Secretary to the Board and assisted by taking minutes, editing Policy and Procedures, and helped to coordinate 360 evaluations for Tina and myself.

Finally, there will always be a special place in my heart for the Children, Families, Educators and Board members that I have had the pleasure to work with over these many years. I wish everyone at Kinderplace a wonderful future as I move on to the next chapter in my life.

Good-bye for now.

Brenda Sas

Executive Director



