

# ABC

## Head Start Society

### Life Is A Journey



Another school year is behind us. Another year of celebrating successes with children and families. Another year of learning. Another year taking us further down our journey and bringing new people in to join our journey. Every year I am so grateful to the families for opening their lives to [ABC Head Start](#) and entrusting us with their amazing little ones. It takes a leap of faith for parents to let go of their children into their first school experience, and I am always so honoured when they choose ABC Head Start to begin the journey.

A leap of faith is necessary. I envision the parents of ABC Head Start putting their 3-year-olds on the bus for the first time, feeling nervous and anxious, thoughts of “Am I doing the right thing.” But then at the end of the year they wonder how they could have ever doubted it. The growth they see in their children is outstanding and then they know - this is all part of the journey.

You may already have heard but I am about to take my own leap of faith. I am leaving my position as Development Manager at ABC Head Start. I have accepted a position at the City of Fort Saskatchewan which will allow me to spend more time with my loved ones.

I have enjoyed 6 incredible years at ABC Head Start but I had to look back to see when I first published this blog. The date was October 25, 2011. Close to three years of being able to share my love and passion for

this agency. I knew very little about blogging when I started but I remember thinking surely if I speak my truth it will be a success. And it was.

Thank you to all of you readers, who have tuned in weekly to read my thoughts.  
Thank you for allowing me to share my passion for early learning, family support and the non-profit sector.  
Thank you for your praise, encouragement and kind words.  
Thank you for allowing me to share my somewhat unconventional childhood stories.  
Thank you.

I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to thank Andrea & Kathy (Executive Director present & past), my colleagues, the Board of Directors and of course all of you wonderful community supporters and partners. It has been an honour to work towards a mission and vision I truly believe in and to be surrounded by incredible people who work so hard for children and families every day.

Thank you to the children and parents of ABC Head Start, because without you, there would be no program - you have taught me so much about compassion, love and grace and there are many of you whom I will never forget.

Thank you to my family & friends who have always supported me and the non-profit organizations I have worked for, but who also gave me much of the material for this blog. Who still answered the phone even though they knew I was probably going to be asking them to come to a fundraiser, give me blog topics, or put in some volunteer hours.

I can attribute much of my career growth and learning to ABC Head Start and to each and every individual I had the privilege of meeting along the way. This agency has allowed me to explore my own skills and talents, including this blog, and fostered my growth both personally and professionally. I am so grateful for my time here.

A wise friend once told me when I needed to hear it most, "Life is a journey not a destination," and I know my journey will always include ABC Head Start.

With sincere gratitude,

Christi Lein

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