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## *Winter 2022 Newsletter*

**Anne Luke**

**November 7, 1942 - November 7, 2022**

It is with great sadness that we share our founder Anne Luke has passed away.

Her family shared that she passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on her 80th birthday.

Anne so long ago understood the disparity and racism in our society and put everything on the line to do whatever she could to make a difference for families with young children, to work towards closing the gaps. Partnering with parents to provide meaningful programming and supports to empower the families to lift themselves up. Although she official retired about 15 years ago she continued to be a voice for social justice, leader for early childhood, and advocate for greater societal investment in the early years. Our RELC team will continue to ensure Anne's legacy is upheld in a good way by continuing to bring families with young children together, to nurture skills and development through parenting programs, high quality early childhood experiences, and culturally affirming practices.

We are so grateful we were able to capture a small piece of Anne's story [here](#):

Anne's family intend to hold a celebration of life next spring, we will share more details as they are available. Thank you to everyone who has made donations to the Regina Early Learning Centre (RELC) in her honour. Please keep her loved ones in your thoughts.



EMPOWERING • WELCOMING • INCLUSIVE  
COLLABORATIVE • RESPECTFUL

## From the Executive Director

It is hard to believe 2022 is almost coming to an end. It has been a tremendous year here at the Regina Early Learning Centre (RELC) and I would like to take a moment to formally introduce myself to all of you as the I have not yet had the opportunity to meet everyone in person. My name is Monica Totton and I was born and raised in rural Saskatchewan and completed my Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Operations after high school. After having my first child I began my path in early childhood working in as an educator in a childcare center. I quickly recognized my innate passion for the early years and strived to have a better understanding of early childhood development. I moved into the role of centre director while completing my early childhood certification. From there I worked as a Childcare Consultant with the Ministry of Education, Early Years Branch, where I was introduced to the work of the RELC.

Upon my first visit to the RELC I knew the place was special and I was always drawn to the space; when the opportunity to join the team full time was presented I could not resist. I started out as the Regina Early Years Family Resource Centre Coordinator then moved into the role of Assistant Director and to Executive Director January of this year.

I have spent the past 15 years in the field of early childhood and have had the opportunity to explore different perspectives at various levels and the RELC continues to demonstrate high quality in all their programs and interactions through a very reflective and curious lens. I am proud to lead this team who is committed to empowering each family and child by offering need-based supports to ensure healthy, secure attachments with their children to provide the best chance at lifelong success.

I am very humbled to be in this role and recognize the level of leadership and vision that has sustained the a RELC for the past 45 years. The leadership and teamwork along with meaningful community partnerships are fundamental in our success and will continue to be as we move forward. I am thankful to the staff, board members, parents, donors, and community members that have embraced me moving into this role and thank them for their continued support. I am excited to see what the future brings.

Investment in the early years continues to be of paramount importance for the success of our children, families and community. If you are in a position to support us in continuing this important work donations may be made directly by mail to:

Regina Early Learning Centre, 2115 Athol St. Regina, S4T 3E8 or online at [here](#).

For more information please feel free to contact me at 306-757-3744 or [mtotton@earlylearning.ca](mailto:mtotton@earlylearning.ca).

Best regards,

*Monica*

Monica Totton, Executive Director



Regina Early Learning Centre



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*The First Years Last Forever.*



## 2022 Highlights

Our leadership team, board of directors and some key community partners took part in Strategic Planning in April 2022. The leadership team continues to meet monthly to work on these set priorities which include:

1. Funding
2. Human Resources
3. Communication - Internal and External
4. Quality Service Outcomes
5. Cultural Competency

- Served over 3000 lunches and more than 7000 participants took part in programming with the Early Years Family Resource Centre.
- More than 200 families participated in over 2000 home visits with KidsFirst and Parents as Teachers .
- 83% of children attending preschool were meeting or exceeding developmental milestones based on the preschool evaluation scale at the end of June.
- Triple P Positive Parenting programming served more than 1200 participants.
- The Regina Perinatal Health Network provided supports to more than 1750 participants.
- Family Outreach hosted a variety of events and programs, both in person and virtually, to support families to build on their existing strengths.
- Completed renovations of the second floor at our new location at 3079 5th Avenue and landscaped the outdoor space.
- Check out the impact of our programs [here](#).
- Hosted our first Small Hands Big Dreams Fundraiser, check it out [here](#).
- We were able to honour our previous executive director, Mary Ann McGrath, with a well deserved retirement party in September. She was also honoured with the Friends of Children Award From the Canadian Association of Young Children.

Our organizational mission is rooted in the desire to effect social change. Our goal is to equalize opportunity for everyone.



reginaperinatalhealthnetwork



EarlyYearsFamilyResourceCentre



Regina Perinatal Health Network



Regina Early Years Family Resource Centre



[www.rphn.ca](http://www.rphn.ca)



[www.reginakids.ca](http://www.reginakids.ca)