



A Farewell Message from Anna Pavan...

Being a part of Rose of Sharon has been a tremendous honour and privilege. When I started working in 2002 as a part-time Child Development Centre assistant, I could not believe they were going to pay me to hold and care for babies.

I want to thank the Board of Directors for their continued support over the years. I have learned many valuable lessons on leadership and perseverance from all of you. I'm grateful for your dedication and commitment in co-creating a sustainable agency that is based on the ever-changing needs and voices of our young families.

I want to acknowledge our dedicated community volunteers and generous funders; your commitment to Rose of Sharon has allowed us to continue our mission of empowering young mothers and children.

I also want to express my heartfelt gratitude to Rose of Sharon staff; it truly takes a village to support our families. You do this every day with compassion, empathy, love and within a strength-based model... thank you for all that you do!

It has been an honour to have journeyed this path of parenthood with so many young mothers. I have watched so many young women and their children walk through our doors, each woman unique, with her own story, and dreams for herself and her child. You invited us to witness and walk this journey with you and it has been a humbling experience every time. Thank you for the privilege to be a part of something so beautiful, so exciting, so amazing! Thank you to all the young mothers who each, in their own way, have touched my life.

I will really miss the relationships with the moms, babies, staff, board and volunteers as each of you have taught me so much about myself and I truly believe I am a better person for it. Thank you again for giving me a lifetime of memories and remember, "If you always love one another, if you always uphold one another, you will be capable of working wonders."

With open arms and an open heart I would like to welcome Deanne Kukulewich as the newly appointed Executive Director. I'm wishing her all the very best in this dynamic, fulfilling and rewarding role.

xo Anna