

Child Care Related Experience

- 1984 – 1994** Operated a highly successful family dayhome for ten years in Calgary, AB; Windsor, ON; and Canal Flats, B.C.
- Provided child care for a large number of children and families on a full-time, part-time, casual basis.
 - Children ranged in age from 6 months to 12 years.
 - Provided a quality learning environment including a well-rounded curriculum activities and learning times.
- 1985 - 1987** Co-founded the City Wide Babysitting Service in Calgary, Alberta. Partner owned and operated a daycare centre.
- Assisted over 200 parents in locating quality child care.
 - Hired and trained child care providers.
 - Developed a child care manual for providers based on research of similar agencies.
 - Inspected providers' homes for safety, availability of space and equipment.
 - Hosted monthly meetings for caregivers. Meetings offered ideas on arts, crafts, general child care issues, etc., and provided a support network for the providers.
- 1988 – 1990** Research, wrote, and published *The Daycare Alternative – How to Find Good Child Care*.
- Conducted in-depth research into child care, what parents should look for before choosing a facility or caregiver, the different types of child care, the pros and cons of each form of care, how parents should interview prospective caregivers, background checks on individuals, etc.
 - Edited the book a number of times updating with more research, ensuring information was current and industry-standard, and setting up the book in a format useful to parents.
 - Marketed the book to libraries, bookstores and to parents through direct, promotions and publicity.
- 1992 – 1993** Researched and wrote *Start & Run a Profitable Home Day Care* for Self-Counsel Press Int.
- Gathered material, licensing requirements, etc. from each province and state.
 - Conducted intensive research on:
 - The business end of running a child care
 - Conducting a needs assessment
 - Daycare licensing requirements
 - Setting up a curriculum
 - Daycare programming
 - Child development
 - Setting up learning environments
 - Child health, safety and nutrition
 - Behaviour management

- Child care policies, contracts, setting up rates, etc.
- Working with parents
- And so on.
- Conducted interviews with daycare and dayhome operators, visited a number of centres, etc.

1991 – 1994 Published a bi-monthly child care newsletter – *Parents Care: Your Child Care Newslite* which was subscribed to by child care agencies, parents, and child care providers across North America. Researched and wrote articles on:

- Child development, behaviour management, parent/provider communication, curriculum ideas, child care issues of all kinds, health, safety, nutrition, child care/daycare agencies, family resource centres, etc..

Researched, conducted interviews for and wrote the following child care and family articles for various newsletters and magazines:

- Day Care Solutions – *The Canadian Nurse* re: child care options for Canadian nurses
- Choosing the Best Child Care – *Family – The Magazine for Military Wives* (U.S.)
- Television as a Learning Tool – *Windermere Valley Shopper's Guide*
- Colds, Flu and Your Child's Medicine - *Windermere Valley Shopper's Guide*
- Keeping Child Care Safe - *Windermere Valley Shopper's Guide*
- Latch Key Kids - *Windermere Valley Shopper's Guide*
- A Week Long Series on the Family for the International Year of the Family – *The Daily Townsman* – (B.C.)

Wrote child care related Letters to the Editor that were published in:

- McLean's Magazine
- The Calgary Herald
- B.C. Woman

Child care articles were accepted by Fotopress International for possible syndication in newspapers around the country.

Set up and operated a children's library and twice weekly reading and crafts group in Canal Flats, B.C.

Wrote a series of children's books. Presented the stories to the Grade 2 class at Martin Morigrau Elementary School in Canal Flats. Stories were very well received.

Volunteered as a parent helper at Martin Morigeau. Worked as Lunch Hour Supervisor. Was secretary of the Parent Advisor Council.

1994 – 1996 Published a catalogue of child care products developed from works produced in Parent Care. These included:

- Brochures
- Safety tip cards
- Business Forms
- Publications produced from through the inception of the Child Care Information Centre noted below.

1995 – 1997 Owned, operated and set up the Child Care Information Centre in Calgary, Alberta. The centre offered a variety of services for parents and child care providers and was visited by the Head of the Family and Social Services Child Day Care Division and various other agency operators who found the quality of our information very good and informative for both parents and caregivers.

- Conducted workshops for parents and child care providers based on those I researched, wrote and published.
- Published and sold the workshops to numerous child care agencies across the continent.
- Purchased, studied, researched and taught the following courses:
 - Being Home Alone Safely – Lethbridge Community College
 - Can You Babysit Tonight? – Independent Order of Forresters
- Developed a Nanny Consulting program and interviewed, checked references and recommended appropriate nannies to parents looking for in-home child care on an individual basis.
- Developed a Daycare Evaluation program in which my staff and I would go into a daycare centre, interview the staff and director, do a complete safety and general checklist, summarize our findings and present these to parents.
 - The Calgary Herald did an undercover story on this service using a bogus parent. They could find no fault with our services or our checklist. The only storyline they could offer was whether or not parents should pay for this service
- Began studying and researching a brand new program to the Calgary community called Phone Friend. The program would be a call-in resource for latch-key kids who did not have access to their parents when they returned home from work.
- Developed a brand new Web site devoted to child care and related issues called **child care online** – <http://www.childcare.net>. Have maintained and redeveloped the site continuously since its inception.
- Conducted presentations on child care related issues at a variety of local organizations and child care support groups.

1998 – present Continue to write articles for and update **child care online**, and to constantly keep abreast of the child care field-reading articles in agency newsletters and publications, research on the Internet, etc.

Membership over the years consist of of:

- The Canadian Child Care Federation
- Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs
- Early Childhood Professional Association of Alberta
- Child Care Action Campaign (U.S.)
- NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children – U.S.)
- U.S.A. Toy Library Association

- Currently a member of the Windsor/Essex County Home Child Care Providers Support Group (supported by St. Clair College and the Drop-in Centre)

Books and Workshops

How To Recruit, Screen and Monitor Daycare Centres and Child Care Providers

- ***Child Care Interview & Reference Checking Kits***
(For interviewing and checking references of daycare centres, family dayhomes, nannies, or our complete package that cover all three forms of child care.)

The Daycare Alternative, How To Find Good Child Care

Choosing Child Care Workshop and Workbook Series

- Child Care - Making The Right Choice
- How To Choose a Family Dayhome
- How To Choose a Daycare Centre
- Hiring An In-Home Caregiver

Beyond the Search

Succeeding in Child Care - 101 Child Care Tips For Parents

- What to Look For in Infant Care
- Saying Goodbye - Dealing With Separation
- Monitoring Your Child Care Arrangement
- The Warning Signs of Poor Child Care

The Book Shelf

- Books For Caregivers & Directors
 - Start & Run a Profitable Home Day Care
 - Caregiver Aids: Business Forms For Caregivers & Parents
 - Income Tax & Record Keeping

Other Child Care Products

- Parent Care, Your Child Care News-line
- Child Care Posters
- Safety Tip Cards

Articles

- Day Care Solutions – *The Canadian Nurse* re: child care options for nurses
- Choosing the Best Child Care – *Family – The Magazine for Military Wives* (U.S.)
- Television as a Learning Tool – *Windermere Valley Shopper's Guide*
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Some of the numerous articles on “child care online”

Art & Craft Files

- [The Magic of Art](#)
- [The Art Centre](#)
- [Craft Tip of the Week](#)
- [Craft Tip of the Week 2](#)
- [Craft Tip of the Week 3](#)
- [Craft Tip of the Week 4](#)
- [Craft Tip of the Week 5](#)
- [Art Supplies & Toxins](#)

Child Development

- [Play: Natures Greatest Learning Tool](#)
- [Toys: Choosing The Best](#)
- [Fitness Fun](#)
- [Music For Fun & Learning](#)
- [A Book For All Ages](#)
- [Guiding Children Through Discipline](#)
- [Play Centres](#)
- [Outdoor Play Centres](#)
- [The Quiet Play Centre](#)
- [The Art Centre](#)
- [Construction Centres](#)
- [Sand & Water Centres](#)
- [The Music Centre](#)
- [The Book Centre](#)
- [The Housekeeping Centre](#)
- [Other Fun Centres](#)
- [Learning Styles](#)
- [Healthy Child Development](#)
- [Supporting Children's Play](#)

Child Safety

- [Children's Playground Behavior Safety](#)
- [Keeping Child Care Safe](#)
- [Surviving A Fire](#)
- [Preparing Your Child For Self Care](#)
- [Child Abuse - A Parent's Worse Nightmare!](#)
- [Child Abduction - Are Your Kids Safe](#)
- [Playground Safety](#)
- [Pesticides & Poisonous Plants](#)
- [Play Centres](#)
- [Street Safe Kids](#)
- [Preventing Strangulation](#)
- [Automatic Garage Door Opener](#)
- [Child Pedestrian Injury](#)
- [Teddy Bears & Extra Blankets in Cribs](#)
- [Holiday Safety](#)
- [Beware of the Animals](#)
- [Fire Prevention](#)
- [Playground Strangulation Hazards](#)
- [Streetproofing Our Kids](#)
- [Your Safety Instinct](#)
- [Preventing Falls](#)
- [Poisoning](#)
- [Winter Safety](#)
- [Art Supplies & Toxins](#)
- [Summer Safety With Children](#)
- [Field Trip Smarts](#)
- [HIV/Aids & Child Care](#)

Daycare Programming

- [Daycare Programming - The Centre of Your Child's World](#)
- [I'm Bored](#)
- [Whine Busters](#)
- [Developmentally Appropriate Practices in School-Age Child Care](#)
- [Basic Rules Concerning Discipline at Daycare](#)
- [Beautiful Junk - Recycling](#)
- [Cooking & Learning Together](#)
- [Creating a Learning Environment](#)
- [25 Ways to Say You're Special](#)
- [Turn Those Frowns Upside Down](#)
- [National Child Day](#)

Health & Nutrition

- [Mom I Feel Sick!!!](#)
- [Caring for a Sick Child](#)
- [Nutrition: A Balancing Act](#)
- [Colds, Flu & Your Child's Medication](#)
- [Reducing Illness in Child Care](#)
- [Keeping Healthy](#)
- [Food Allergies](#)
- [Great Snack Ideas](#)
- [Hungry Little Ones](#)
- [HIV/AIDS & Child Care](#)

How To Choose Quality Child Care

- [The Components of Quality Child Care](#)
- [Planning Ahead For Problems In Child Care](#)
- [What Children Like About Daycare](#)
- [Criminal Record Checks](#)
- [Selecting An Out-of-School Care Program](#)
- [Preparing Your Child For Self-Care](#)
- [A.B.C.s of C.H.I.L.D. - C.A.R.E.](#)

Q & A About Child Care

- [Questions and Answers About Daycare](#)
- [Daycare - What Every Parent Should Know](#)
- [What Is Your Child Learning at Daycare](#)

Positive Parent/Provider Communication

- [Enhancing Parent/Provider Communication](#)
- [Parent Participation Packs A Punch](#)
- [Provider & Parent Self-Esteem](#)

Taking Care of Business

- [All Stressed Out](#)
- [Stress Busters](#)
- [Community Resources](#)
- [Almost Free Resources](#)
- [Incident Report Forms](#)
- [Parent/Provider Self Esteem](#)

Work and Family Issues

- [The Benefits of Family Friendly Work Places](#)

A Potpourri of Child Care Issues

- [Child Care Lingo - Terms and Definitions](#)
- [Integration - The Best of Both Worlds](#)
- [Coping With Caregiver Turnover](#)
- [Insurance - Security For Everyone](#)
- [Rate Increases - Are They Fair](#)
- [Advocating For Better Child Care](#)
- [Travelling With Toddlers](#)
- [Johnny's Unexpected Adventure in Daycare](#)
- [Lingo Jingle](#)
- [Profit or Non-Profit Daycare - the Difference](#)