

Dear friends,

Well, here we are. It's hard to believe but our time with you, Gabz and mine, has come to a close. There is so much to say to you. There is so much that I want for you:

To be initiative takers

To be role models in the lives of hundreds of children - to show them that there are positive choices to be made

To help the CCA become a leader in environmental education, the development of the whole child, and the building of self-esteem for all people

To share the burden with parents of educating ourselves in the best possible ways to raise our young people

To do all the magical things that make camp amazing

To be people who care about justice

To experience laughter, lots of laughter

To be leaders and followers, and to know when it is time for each

To sing, to dance, to cry, to be there

To love, to dream, to be visionaries

To become people who help bring solutions to the world's problems

To become true Intensive Care Units

I hope that this summer, you will inspire one another to be truly "campy" and not just at camp but outside of camp. To take all of the phenomenal skills, philosophies and principles that you use at camp home with you. To share them with others and to make the world a better place.

And so I invite you ~ to join me on the quest to give a real person's face to Youth Development Professional. To teach by example that living in community is what it's all about. That caring for others and putting kindness first is the best possible choice.

And I know that you can do it. You have remarkable potential. We've seen it here and it excites us all. I know we're all a little scared, a little hesitant about the summer ahead. We have no idea what the next few months will bring but we know that whatever comes, we will handle it together. We will be there for one another through all of it.

And so I thank you...for answering the call to serve at camp this summer, for committing to this industry, for willingly sharing your gifts and talents, for taking care of each other, welcoming one another and opening your hearts and minds for the adventure ahead.

I wish for each and every one of you a summer filled with wonder and joy, with risks and challenges, with successes and failures. I stand proudly with you in this family of ICUs. I know in my heart that this will be a summer to remember.

**Love,
Beth**