

I Love Mosaic



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by **Connie Brisson**

I can remember the moment when I knew I had found my calling in life.

It was during my field placement at the *Edmonton Journal* (in my final year of Journalism at Grant MacEwan) when I wrote a feature story about people with terminal cancer at a local hospital at Christmas. I knew this was the kind of writing I wanted to do.

I was *already* certain that I didn't want to write about the rising cost of gas or postage or any other so called 'newsworthy' story. I wanted to write stories about real people, stories that could touch and change others. But there weren't a lot of places here to publish stories like that then.

After I graduated from Journalism, I became disillusioned about writing and being a weekly newspaper reporter. In fact, I gave up the whole idea of writing and later became an Executive Assistant instead, quietly daydreaming about someday being able to write for a local magazine that could really have a meaningful impact on people's lives.

But I never could have imagined *then* how wonderfully it would all work out - that 20 years later I'd be doing something even more meaningful than I'd ever hoped for. Mosaic Magazine has been the answer to a deep longing I've had for a very long time to make a difference in the world.

When I took over Mosaic Magazine in 2004 from Catherine Potter, I knew it wasn't a coincidence. I knew it was the result of years of wishing *and* hoping *and* praying for a magazine/venue of substance. And since then the magazine has naturally grown and changed. It's gone from being almost all black/white newsprint to a full color, full gloss professional magazine that oozes with love on every page!

Another thing that *has* substantially changed is our circulation and with this issue, Mosaic is expanding even more into Red Deer and EXPLODING into Calgary. With the ending of a few other mind/body/spirit magazines in Alberta in the last year or so, it seemed only natural that Mosaic would step in to support the people in Red Deer and Calgary's holistic communities.

We're already well loved and respected in Edmonton and many other places in Alberta. And I've no doubt that both Red Deer and Calgary readers will begin to love and appreciate Mosaic, as they see what the rest of Alberta has known for many, many years - that Mosaic is the 'real deal'.

We care about what is in this magazine because we really want to help people change their lives. This has never been about 'business'. It's always been about helping people, about letting people know that there are choices they can make that can change them forever, about therapies that can heal them from the inside out, about people who've been there, who've walked through 'the valley of death', and then come back to bravely lead others out of it.

I think the best part of Mosaic is that you get to hear from real people who touch you with their personal stories. What inspires, what touches, what heals each of us is so different - yet each story can make such a great impact, rippling out to affect so many people. Learning about what has helped others change their lives, can in turn change our lives, and that's why I love publishing this magazine.

Mosaic isn't like *any* other magazine currently out there and I'm honestly so proud that's true. Every page, every article, every word in Mosaic matters because I don't want to waste your time or mine.

Each issue has a variety of people, knowledge, therapies and opinions for you to learn about/consider, and that's why it's called Mosaic - because there's an array of different choices out there that can help you change your life and once you know about them, you can pick and choose what is *right* for you.

I didn't know the way it all would go, so many years ago when I started Journalism, but I couldn't be more pleased with how it ended up... with you and I together on this page, right now.

It doesn't matter where we're from - Edmonton, Calgary, Fort McMurray, Red Deer or any of the other amazing places in Alberta - we're all in this together, trying to make the world better, one day at a time. When we do it collectively, we're stronger and our lights shine brighter - and that's how I hope Mosaic can continue to make a difference in Alberta!

Make sure to fill out and mail in our Reader Survey on page 36-37 if you want to win one of 24 great prizes! To learn more about the next book club dinner on March 7th, go to the Calendar of Events on page 43. Hope to see you there!

Connie