

➤ *Summer House* ◀
871 Mount Royal Drive
Kelowna, BC, CANADA V1Y 3M3

September 5, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Loraine Kemp – Illustrator and Author

It is my pleasure to write this letter on behalf of Loraine Kemp. As a school principal in 2005, I had the pleasure of collaborating with Loraine as she prepared illustrations for Lyn Hancock's book *Tabasco The Saucy Raccoon* published by Sono Nis Press (ISBN- 10: 1-55039-156-9 and ISBN-13: 978-1-55039-156-5).

This very positive and memorable experience came about after Loraine contacted me to propose a project involving students, staff, and parents at my school as models for illustrations planned for Lyn's book. I had been aware of Lyn's books and articles for almost 30 years and was immediately interested. The story was partly set in the Okanagan Valley which gave the book a local angle and when I saw sample portraits and images of raccoons from Loraine's portfolio, I could not turn down this opportunity.

What followed was an engaging process in which Loraine described the characters for which she needed models. I put out a call in the school for possible models and Loraine met with the volunteers to determine which ones would be most suitable for the illustrations she had in mind. Parent consent was obtained for the student models and a consent form was drafted for all participants and/or guardians concerning some key points such as:

- Consent to have photos taken and portraits drawn for publication in a proposed family-style book;
- Understanding that there was no guarantee that the participant's image(s) would be included in the book should he or she be chosen as a model;
- Agreement that there would be no financial commitment or compensation for being a model nor would models be recognized by name should their portraits be used in the book;
- Assurance that modeling would be done on the participant's own time and not during instructional time; and
- Clarification that this opportunity was being facilitating a reading-related project for students, staff, and parents and that a member of the staff would be present when students were

photographed by the artist. Beyond that the school was not responsible for the drawings, how the models were represented, or for the text that the drawings would accompany.

Once the parameters were in place, we had fun with the process. Students, staff, and parents enjoyed being directed to pose as characters in the story. A toy was used to represent the raccoon in photo sessions. Photo sessions were safe and non-threatening. Everything fit in around the regular school day.

Lorraine did a lovely job with the drawings, showing both her respect for her models and her talent as a portrait artist. At no time did any of the participants or their parents have cause for concern about what they were asked to do or about how they were represented. Only appreciation was expressed.

Following the publication of the book, the Canadian Interior Council of the International Reading Association co-sponsored a book launch party held at the school one evening. We made copies of the book available for purchase at the school office for a period of time. They could easily be obtained at local book stores but it was seen as a way to promote reading and the time taken from other duties for the office staff was negligible.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at sandra@sellick.org.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'S. Sellick'.

Dr. Sandra Sellick
Retired Principal