

May 19, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

I am delighted to share my experience working with I C Publishing to publish the book "Hearts Linked by Courage: Real-life stories of challenge triumph and hope."

Our book was published in the summer of 2016, after a good year of focused effort. It is essential to make it clear that this project was far more than a mere business arrangement between I C Publishing and CMHA. It was truly a "labour of love" and great dedication by all involved. Sheri and Gayle showed a very strong interest in connecting with the prospective authors at an early stage. Their sensitive and engaging approach had them attending meetings with the prospective authors to better understand their motivation and support needs to move forward with the project. Through this inspiration, eighteen authors (CMHA volunteers and clients) enthusiastically came forward to contribute a piece for the book. Most of these individuals had little formal writing experience. However, this did not deter Sheri or Gayle at all. Instead they applied their passion, sensitivity, and encouragement consistently to move all of the aspiring authors forward to success. This involved an extensive editing process, and to this end, Gayle provided insightful suggestions to the authors at every step of the way with great respect. This enabled all works to be raised to the level of quality required to be published, while at the same time allowing the authors to retain creative ownership of their pieces. I C Publishing is not just about the business of publishing; their true calling is one of inspiring people and improving society. Their values were very much in line with those of CMHA!

I highly recommend I C Publishing to any social service organization that is interested in producing a quality book that speaks to inclusion and inspiration.

Sincerely,

Neil Howard, Director of Programs

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