

In focus – Team C Mahmawi-atoskiwin

To my knowledge, its not a particularly important day in the world. In fact pretty unremarkable, routine almost. Except... This was the day when we went out onto the land and that really opened up my eyes to the resiliency and power of our team. This was not magic I think... and the realization was not a 'smack you between the eyes' realization, rather a gentle seep into the consciousness spent working together as a team over the past three years. Some joining the circle more recently and some others slipping away onto pastures new. This realization made me smile, and that's not something you see every day!

There were no festivals to mark the occasion, no fireworks to gaze on, but the realization is there from me and I can say wholeheartedly that I have so much trust and respect for the group that is all too often left unsaid. I know though how hard everyone has worked, I know how respectful, kind, considerate, diligent, caring, committed, friendly, welcoming and skilled they all are. Each member has different skills and together they make a wonderful group of people that are a credit to our organization and we are lucky to have them to support our families. Here are some examples of their work and kindness in their own words and what makes them all a joy to work with...

One of the staff shared ***'I have found Miskanawah to really bring forth the cultural component in working with our families. Miskanawah is a safe space for all and embraces anyone and everyone'***.

Another wrote, ***'Having a team to rely on for support, ceremony and friendship is what made the difference for us working during the toughest day of the pandemic'***.

Another wrote about teamwork ***'Starting my role as a FWP during COVID was a challenge, but my fellow team members were always there to support me, answer my questions, and teach me different aspects of the role'***.

Again a similar theme on work and family, one wrote ***'...How truly grateful I am to work with such a wonderful team and when you work at Miskanawah its more than a job, it's like having a second family.'***

And finally ***'...Having trustworthy people you work with to allow yourself to be vulnerable and admit weakness. Team connection virtually was a saving grace to remind you why Mahmawi is a choice for someone to stay working rather than collecting a cheque...'***

So for me to be able to work with Ellen, Alannah, Cheryl, Brooke and Nadia I feel truly blessed.

As Roald Dahl wrote ***'Those who don't believe in magic will never find it'. Perhaps I do believe in magic after all.***

