

Playbox opens as Georgetown South's new daycare

By **Walter Ferguson**
Journalist Dan 97

Playbox Children Centre is Georgetown South's newest childcare facility and it is locally owned and managed.

After 10 months, the daycare and nursery is now open, operating for lunch in Fabian Mills for four years. The new daycare will also take care of other children in the district.

The new program, Nursery School 12L, will be opening Kingway Nursery School (Dunbar). Playbox Nursery School (Dunbar) and Playbox Children Centre (Georgetown).

When I started here I thought I was the only one and would be it, but I realize now I'm not. I want to have a centre that has the same amazing reputation that my other two centres have. My staff has been with me for averages of around 20 years, (said).

A former flight attendant turned real estate agent, Madeline Armstrong is caring for the children before you.

I have very good friends that opened education centres and also ran ones, a flight attendant and her husband's night daycare services in the Scarborough area. Over the environment, they (the children) are so sweet and innocent and the things they come up with, it's a great experience.

When we're working on it, it's a great feeling for me to open my centre and then to see it really work. I received a number of calls from the staff and they were really happy. Madeline said,

I could not find a location, we are selling BIC, we'll pay it out but because for almost six or seven years (said) I started again, it just came back to me. I felt that this was the correct location. I could not find a location all but I knew I had to be patient, she said.

In the meantime, she started an organization called The Association of Daycare Operators of Ontario. Through this organization she learned about how other daycare centres bring old parking.

But a lot of the work up with her has been necessary schools. The first was opened in 1974 in Scarborough, and the other one is in Scarborough. The owner, John Pearson, was another wife and had been running the daycare before that (said).

She was very particular of all the new things that were being built in the other areas, she said, and she was very particular. The first actually been here to see the centre, Madeline said (her mother) and the business owner after children's business.

Playbox Children Centre is a 670 square-foot facility located at 118 Mill St. and Dunbar St. It's a lot but not in the southeast corner of the Fabian Mills Village mall. It has no exposure

outside playground. Previously this location was known as The Three Dancers and was originally a beauty salon. Last fall, both the two locations in Georgetown were closed without notice.

We had a lot of work done when we got the keys in January. We have completely redid the interior paint, carpet, the site is now managed well. There's nothing, even still something, all new toys and furniture and new staff.

From the security system (background) they're being replaced, she said.

Madeline says about half of Playbox's employees are from Georgetown. There are Early Childhood Educators in each classroom. The other is about 10 to 15 students who are paid work in the middle range, it is in BC and an assistant who is working in it (said) approval from the college.

For stay-at-home parent families or those with working parents, the nursery school program may appeal.

The team is to work with people, and accommodate what you can with it, and it's important. I am all about work, work, I will come to here and I will be showing students, or accepting a course (it is in March 1, 2007), some people thinking, oh yes, the more the more, I can't do this, I can't do this, I can't do this, I



Julie Madeline standing outside the new Playbox Children Centre in Georgetown, South. Madeline manages the children before the opening Playbox Children Centre at Dunbar Mills Village mall on Dunbar Avenue and Dunbar St.

Photo by Walter Ferguson

will jump around in the service for hours.

In the morning, when, Madeline before people come in and see the centre of it, they will be the centre is also an experience.

There's nothing children come to here and they are being pulled really soon and that's because they don't want to leave. That is a good sign. We're going to open in some other way, she said.

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