

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 2, 2014

**New Grants Officer and Thrift Store Manager Join SOS Children's Village B.C. Charity**

**Surrey, British Columbia** SOS Children's Village B.C. is pleased to announce the addition of Heidi Trautmann to their team as Grants Officer, as well as Brenda McGuire to the SOS BC Thrift Store in Kerrisdale as part-time Store Manager.

Heidi has worked for the last 18 years in the not-for-profit sector. She enhanced and started social enterprises, developed business plans, and followed her passion of writing grant proposals. Heidi and her family immigrated to Canada in 1983. Heidi was educated in Germany in Business Administration and completed the Master Trade education in Fur, Leather & Textile Art. She acquired a Legal Secretary Diploma after arriving in Canada.

Heidi and her husband Reiner worked and enjoyed the Northern lifestyle for six years in the communities of Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk in the Northwest Territories. They developed the standards and implemented a Canada-wide recognized apprenticeship program at Aurora College-Inuvik Campus, in the High Arctic.

"SOS Children's Villages had been part of my life growing up in Germany and Austria. As a child, I am thankful to have experienced the joy of giving when we shared our Christmas gifts with the children at SOS Kinderdorf," said Heidi Trautmann. "Now the circle is closing and I have the opportunity to be part of a great team enriching the lives of vulnerable youth and children. I deeply believe in the philosophy of 'Every child deserves a safe and loving home'."

Brenda McGuire has lived many colourful lives: as an air force photographer, a car hop, a talk show host, a management training consultant, a singer in a rock 'n roll band and a fashion retailer to name a few. Two years ago she gave away her business, sold her house and nearly all of its contents and travelled to Sicily on a spirit quest. After a long, cold, and lonely winter Brenda returned determined to use her powers for good. SOS Children's Village BC Thrift Stores is a perfect fit and they are very glad to have her.

**About SOS Children's Village BC**

SOS Children's Villages is the world's largest non-governmental, non-denominational child development organization for orphaned and abandoned children. It has existed for over 60 years with presence in 133 countries and over 550 villages. British Columbia is home to the only SOS Children's Village in Canada. SOS Children's Village BC provides stable homes, a supportive and healing Village environment, and community-based family care programs to help foster children and youth in need grow into caring, self-reliant adults.



**SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGE**  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

**PRESS RELEASE**

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*Please visit our Media Room: [www.sosbc.org/news-events/media-room](http://www.sosbc.org/news-events/media-room)*

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