From: Ruth-Ann Shantz
To: Janet Bauman

June 4, 2019

Hello Janet,
Thank you very much for your email and your candid and sensitive approach. There was no discomfort whatsoever receiving and reading your email. On the contrary, I appreciate that you reached out and contacted me.

For clarity purposes, I thought I would give you a quick timeline relating to the curriculum and policies & procedures, to loop you in.

- January 27, 2018 - I sent an email to Pam Fehr, Chair of the Board of Silver Lake Mennonite Camp disclosing sexual abuse.
- March 21st, 2018 - I had a face to face meeting with Pam Fehr and David Lobe disclosing in person my story of sexual abuse.
- June 11, 2018 - I had a second face to face meeting with Pam and David. At that meeting they provided me with a letter stating that, "In response to your story, we have spearheaded the development of a camp-based training resource on sexual boundary crossing". In the letter they also identified my specific request for "…clear and robust camp policies to ensure future campers and staff do not have an experience like yours". They asked if I would consider reviewing some of the policies, trainings and practices.
- June 11, 2018 – I sent a response letter to the Silver Lake Board of Director welcoming an opportunity to review the policies, training and practices. I also requested that I be part of a Curriculum Review Committee. I suggested that I would like to have someone, with no connection to Silver Lake, review the curriculum. I also cautioned them that they should thoroughly test the document with a pilot and then a few more cycles for it to be worthy to be shared more broadly.
- January 21, 2019 – Silver Lake Mennonite Camp provided a year-end report which was included in our Annual Report book for [redacted] Mennonite Church. As part of their report there was a paragraph entitled, "Sexual Violence Response" acknowledging that [redacted] "would be especially impacted by Ruth-Ann Klassen's brave journey of sharing a traumatic part of her Silver Lake experience". They further shared that Silver Lake had formed a "Healthy Boundaries" task force. I knew nothing about this task force and therefore, it was difficult when people asked me for details and wanted to know how I was involved in this initiative.
- March 5, 2019 - I received an email from Pam sharing information about the Healthy Boundaries Task Force that the board had created. In the email, she also shared that Silver Lake worked with Mennonite Church Eastern Canada and Carol Penner to develop a training curriculum for camps around boundaries and the resource was published under MCEC's name and called Safezone. Pam asked if she could send me a few copies of the Safezone document. Having had no participation in this document I

declined to receive a copy of Safezone. I didn't want anyone to have an opportunity to advertise in any way or make the claim that Ruth-Ann Shantz had reviewed it, giving it further validation.

So, to respectfully answer your questions, I have not reviewed the Silver Lake Mennonite Camp policies nor the SAFEZone curriculum. The first time I saw the curriculum was when I found it in my mailbox at church in April. It was accompanied with a letter from David Martin from MCEC that provided the only link to why I, along with others, was receiving this in my mailbox.

When my public statement entitled, My Voice, was released, along with a Press Release from Silver Lake, the following wording was included from Silver Lake, "…potentially hundreds of people will be better educated, more aware and more empowered to act to protect their own boundaries and support those of others as a result of Ruth-Ann's courage in coming forward". Silver Lake also said that they wanted to create a "powerful tool".

MCEC, who produced the document, should have been aware of both their duty to create an excellent product and that they would ultimately be judged by what they produced. I was courageous in coming forward to share my story of sexual abuse at a Mennonite Camp. Silver Lake said the curriculum was inspired by my story. I was not involved in the Safezone curriculum.

So, what do I think of the document? As a daughter, a granddaughter, a mother, a past camper and counselor, a member and leader in the Mennonite church, but also as a survivor of sexual abuse, in my opinion, Safezone in its current form, should never have been published. This so-called training resource has no stated goals, strategies for learning or outcomes. In its current form, it is not a resource that will contribute towards education or train church camping staff and counselors or youth or young adults to prevent, recognize and respond skillfully and lawfully to boundary crossing or sexual abuse prevention.

I really do appreciate very much that you reached out to me. Thank you for wanting me to be heard. If you would like to have a further conversation, I welcome your phone call.

Kindest regards,
Ruth-Ann Shantz