

April 12, 2011

Dear Members of the Dojo,

As you know, I have taken the difficult decision of retiring as Sensei of The Toronto Academy of Karate, Fitness and Health Inc. However, I am very proud and excited to be able to leave the Dojo in excellent hands. It is my great pleasure to announce that one of our longest standing Dojo members will take over.



Bert Freeman - Sensei

It is an honour to announce that, effective May 1, 2011, Mr. Bert Freeman will be appointed as the new Sensei and director of The Toronto Academy of Karate, Fitness and Health Inc.

Bert Freeman joined the dojo in 1976 and achieved his black belt in 1982. He has been in the Dojo for 35 years. Everyone will remember the day, in 2010, when Bert Freeman, 65 years old, won first place in the Black Belt Kumite competition, an achievement of true Karate skill and spirit.

Mr. Freeman has taught many classes over the years and has always been a strong supporter of the dojo. As a professional graphic designer, he has also helped me over the years to create and produce all of our marketing materials and our anniversary logo.

Bert Freeman has been married for 44 years to Carolyn, is a father to Kelly and grandfather to Jessica (14) and Sarah (11).

He has been a successful businessman for over 40 years, and most recently was the President and Creative Director of Freeman Communications, an award-winning and a well known graphic design and marketing company in downtown Toronto.

I am confident that, with all these life skills, Bert Freeman will lead the dojo to continued excellence.

We have entered a very important period of transition in the already long life span of the Dojo and I have complete confidence that it will prove to be an exciting and inspiring one. I have worked with Mr. Freeman for over 35 years. He is a man of energy and integrity and I have great confidence in his skills. I know that he will be a true leader in the Toronto Academy and will work to extend further the love of karate-do that we all share.

With my very best wishes, Burt Konzak