



# Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan

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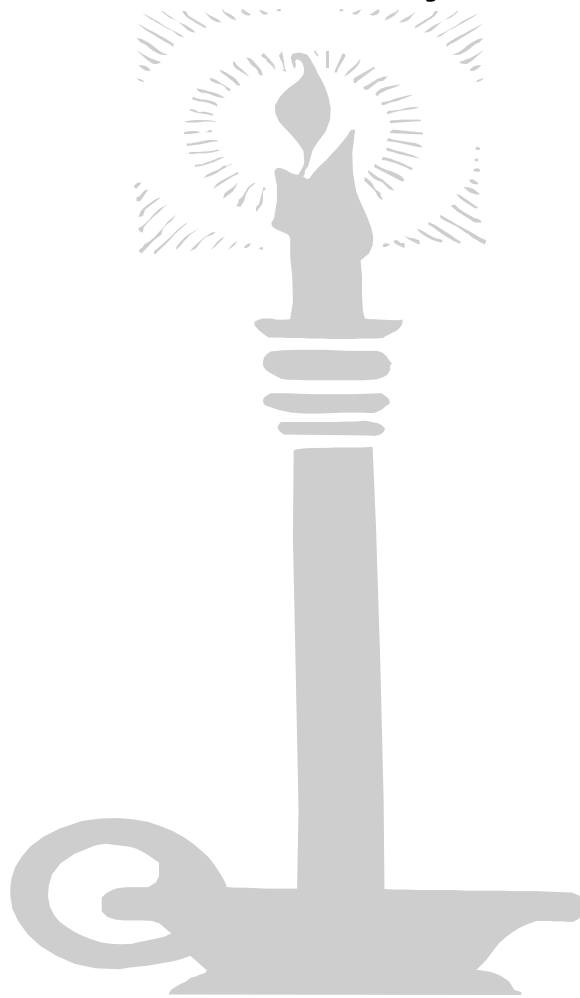
## NEWSLETTER

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Fall/Winter 2003

Whether you are celebrating the Winter Solstice,  
Hanukkah, Christmas or Kwanzaa...  
The Staff and Board of the Elizabeth Fry Society  
Extend their best wishes for a joyful holiday.



## - News Release -

### *Minister of Justice appoints special advisor to oversee criminal conviction reviews*

Ottawa, November 20, 2003 – The Honourable Martin Cauchon, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, today announced the appointment of Mr. Bernard Grenier as Special Advisor on the criminal conviction-review process.

“Criminal conviction review is an important safeguard to protect those Canadians who may have experienced potential miscarriages of justice”, said Minister Cauchon. “The Special Advisor will help ensure the process is both fair and transparent.”

Section 696.I (formerly s.690) of the Criminal Code provides that a person who has been convicted of an offence and who has exhausted all appeals may apply to the Minister of Justice for a review of his or her conviction.

Mr. Grenier will oversee the review of applications and advise the Minister of Justice directly on matters related to the criminal conviction-review process.

Mr. Grenier is a retired judge of the Court of Quebec, where he served from 1980 to 2002. He received a Bachelor of Law from the University of Montreal in 1966 and was admitted to the Bar of Quebec in 1967.

Since 2002, Mr. Grenier has been a partner and counsel at a law firm in Montreal. During his career, he has also served as Assistant and Acting Director General of the National Judicial Institute, President of the Quebec Society of Criminology and has

taught law at the University of Montreal, McGill University and the Quebec Bar Association Admission School. He has provided assistance to various organizations, including the Law Reform Commission of Canada, the Canadian Association of Provincial Court Judges, the Canadian Section of International Commission of Jurists and the *Tribunal des professions* in Quebec.

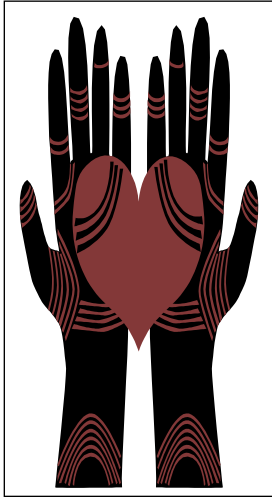
“Mr. Grenier has a wealth of experience in criminal law,” added Minister Cauchon. “I am pleased to announce he will be the first to assume this important position.”

Prior to the Special Advisor appointment, several other steps were taken by the Government of Canada to enhance the conviction review process. As a result of November 2002 amendments to the Criminal Code, Department of Justice investigators can now compel witnesses to provide information during a conviction review. Equally important are new regulations that outline for applicants exactly what is required for a review, helping to ensure that a file is complete as soon as possible and allowing investigators to begin their work earlier.

The Criminal Code amendments also created a legal requirement for the Minister to submit an annual report to parliament. The first report was tabled in September 2003 and covers the period starting from when the amendments came into force, November 25, 2002, through to March 31, 2003. A new Department of Justice Web site (<http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/ccr/index.html>) offers an online version of this report, as well as additional information on the conviction-review process.

Ref.:  
Mike Murphy  
Director, Communications  
Office of the Minister of Justice  
(613) 996-4621

Media Relations Office  
Department of Justice Canada  
(613) 957-4207



Broken lives and shattered pieces,  
swept together and neatly placed in a file folder.  
Stacked away in a metal drawer with other files of the same.  
As time goes on there comes a day,  
when one by one each file is opened,  
and the pieces of each shattered life,  
are placed before the judge with care.  
The courtworker stands before the court  
to support the soul whose life is laid open for public scrutiny.  
It's a harsh reality for the one accused to finally understand  
that each past sin has sprung to life and has come again to haunt them.  
The prying scrutiny and intimate invasion are frightening,  
as the soul on trial stands for all to see.  
They realize that their life is a mess of broken, scattered pieces,  
but it's their broken life, and the jagged pieces are  
all they know, all they have to hold onto.  
As they stand trembling before the judge,  
this unknown stranger who doesn't know them or their story.  
Yet, this stranger has been given the power to pass judgement  
on them and to decide their fate.  
The weary soul breaks down and begs God if there is a God,  
to have mercy and to somehow help them to glue together  
the jagged pieces of their broken life.

~ Cindy Owre (Courtworker Volunteer)

Tansi, greetings Ladies and Gentlemen,

This year my sister took me and my brother to Wanuskewin for us to pay respect to the elder war veterans and to hear them speak and to talk with them and shake their hands. That was the November 11, 2003 Remembrance Day Service this year. My deceased father was one of them who fought years ago when he was young too. I can recollect my father talking about the Second World War to us children. How they hid in the cold trenches and also how many of his young friends and comrades died or were crippled for life. I wear my poppy faithfully each Remembrance Day for each war veteran that fought in that war. I have great respect for all the elders who made it back to pass on stories to their children and grandchildren.

Deep within us as parents and grandparents we have a responsibility to be role models for our future generations. We should direct our youth to stay in school, to show respect and dignity for one another, to have respect for our culture, treat each other the way we want to be treated and to show our children the right path to follow.

As Christmas draws near I think about when a lady asked me what I would like to see at Christmas. I said peace on earth, something I pray for each day.

~ Sincerely, Elizabeth Watcheston

## In Memoriam



*Darlene Glidden*  
1959 – 2003

Anyone who knew Dar, knew she was one in a million – a tiny woman with incredible blue eyes and a great sense of humour. She loved gardening, a good cup of tea and a good laugh. Despite the obstacles she faced, Darlene met life head on, with few regrets. We miss her and will remember her always.



*Al Heminger*  
1948 – 2003

In loving memory of a wonderful husband, father, friend and companion who passed away on July 26, 2003 after a heroic battle with cancer. Always remembered and sadly missed by Judith and family.



*Vivienne Tarasoff*  
1959 – 2003

Vivienne was a very dedicated and compassionate volunteer. She was a volunteer with us for several years and was very passionate about the Society. She loved being with the staff and the women we work with. Vivienne will truly be missed by all.



*Oral Wilkes*  
1975 - 2003

## Gone

*You have slipped away from me  
And I long to keep you in my embrace.*

*Your pain, your anguish, your suffering  
Are now transformed into my own.*

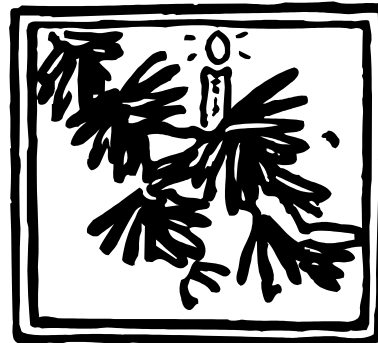
*Your earthly burdens have fallen away  
The shackles removed  
You are free.  
Grief is now my prison.*

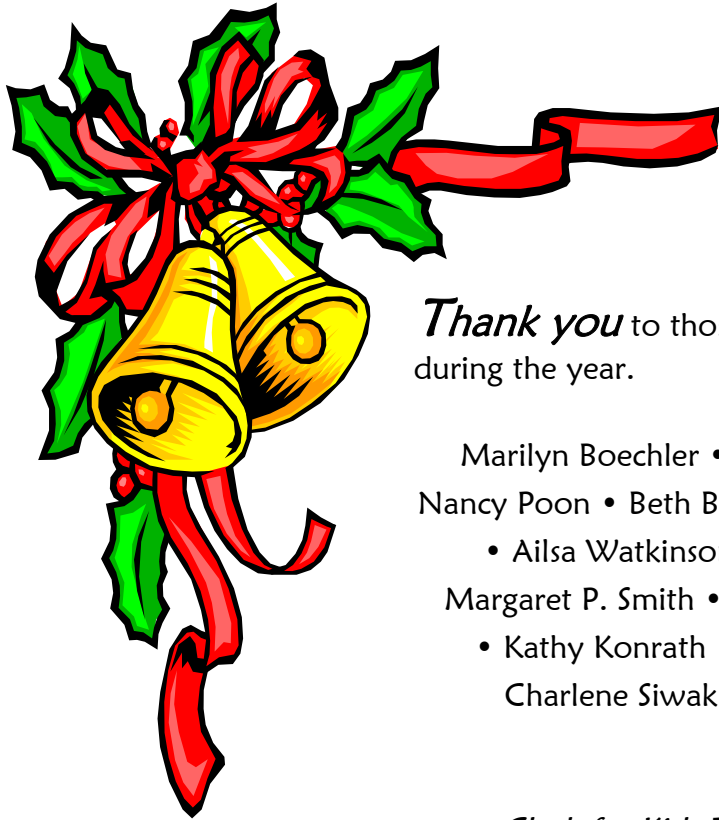
*A veil of tears covers my eyes  
I long to gaze upon your face once more.*

*You return to me again in dreams  
I awake to feel your presence  
... lingering  
Like a gentle touch.*

*You have slipped away from me  
And I long to keep you in my embrace.*

*~ Julia Price*





*Thank you* to those who have made donations to the Society during the year.

Marilyn Boechler • Connie den Hollander • Tracy Marchant •  
Nancy Poon • Beth Burnett- Figley • Genevieve Leslie • Tillie Taylor  
• Ailsa Watkinson • Don & Mildred Kerr • Phyllis Goertz •  
Margaret P. Smith • Gilliosa Loftus • Harvey Clarke • Aaron Fox  
• Kathy Konrath • Danette Williams • Dianne MacDonald •  
Charlene Siwak • Carrie Robertson • Judith Heminger •  
Leslie Samuelson

*Cloth for Kids Program* – Hugh Farmer • H.A. Wurzer •  
Berniece Plews • Rudy Hummell • Ebon Stables Inc.  
• The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

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*Thank you* to the following for their generous contributions to our Fundraiser *“Rebels With a Cause”*.

Cathy Bohachik • Rose Lavertu • Norma Sim • Jen Lane •  
The Paul Tobin Band • The Odeon Night Club • Ed Buydens •  
Ailsa Watkinson • Sagestones Wellness Centre • Eleanor Bohachik  
• Espirita Spa and Salon • Broadway Shoe Repair • Shirley Handley  
• Shawna Roberts-Senger • Julia Price • Judith Heminger •  
The Centre at Circle and Eighth • Montana’s Cookhouse  
And

Thank you to all those who attended the fundraiser.

## ~ *United Way*

We are proud to work with the United Way of Saskatoon to build a more caring, healthy, safe community, to continue to work towards strengthening our community social safety net and to improve access to a quality of life we can all be proud of.

United Way invested \$1,889,516 into the community in 2002-2003, the highest amount ever. This is an increase of \$171,705 over the 2001-2002 investment of \$1,717,811.

Our Community Social Safety Net will be strengthened through the investment of United Way's Community Fund into the community. The Community Fund total of \$1,190,678 was invested in 31 United Way funded agencies to address United Way's 5 priority issues: 1) ensure children get a healthy start and families under stress receive support, 2) ensure safety and freedom from violence, 3) address hunger and the impact of poverty, 4) provide ways for people to live with dignity and independence, and 5) build our community's capacity to care.

With your donations, the United Way Community Fund continues to be the way to help the most.

*Why the United Way? Because you live here.*



## ~ *Family Literacy Program*

The Family Literacy Program at the Women's Community Training Residence (WCTR) is a direct-parent, indirect-child model. Some mothers make home visits and some children visit at the WCTR on weekends. This gives the parents an opportunity to read and

do other literacy activities with their children.

The group shares ideas for literacy and crafts on the chosen theme. At least one craft object is made, emphasizing materials that are inexpensive and easy to obtain so that the mother and child can carry out these activities when they are united.

The books are then given to the participants for the purpose of establishing "Home Libraries." Project funds are required for the purchase of sets of children's books.

Some women who do not have children or whose children are grown still wish to attend the program. It is emphasized that all members of the community contribute to the well being of the children. No one is turned away from the Family Literacy Program.

We would like to thank the following who have made donations to our Family Literacy Program.

- Cameco 'Quality of Life'
- Bishop Mahoney Fund for donations of used books
- Westgate Used Books
- Rusty McDonald Library
- 'Friends of the Library' at Francis Morrison Library
- 'The Gift of Reading', Saskatoon and District Reading Council, St. Marguerite School
- Kiwanis Club of Saskatoon for wood craft projects

### ***Did you know:***

- 2 of 5 people age 16-69 in Saskatchewan have difficulty with reading and writing skills (International Adult Literacy Survey, 1994).
- 1 in 5 (or 22%) of adult Canadians do not read well.
- 1 in 4 (26%) do not have enough literacy skills to participate fully in the economic and social life of their communities and our country.

**Board of Directors**

Cathy Bohachik	Vice-President
Merla Dyck	Secretary
Brenda Longman	Member
Emma Mantee	Member
Nancy Poon	Co-Chair/Treasurer
Elizabeth Smith	Co-Chair
Ailsa Watkinson	CAEFS President

**Main Office Staff**

Maria Bertrand	Women’s Courtworker
Judith Heminger	Executive Director
Charlotte Moss	Volunteer Coordinator
Sharon Peterson	Administrative Assistant
Julia Price	Research Coordinator

**Women’s Community Training Residence Staff**

Kim Barnes	Case Management Worker
Beth Burnett Figley	Residence Director
Cindy Carbno	Case Management/Designate
Kim Donald	Casual Supervisor
Deborah Ernst	Program Coordinator
Risha Hughes	Casual Supervisor
Shauna Kennon	Casual Supervisor
Margo Kirzinger	Case Management Worker
Marcy McLaughlin	Casual Supervisor
AmyJo Norman	Casual Supervisor
Sheryl Olson	Administrative Assistant
Nicole Shewchuk	Casual Supervisor
Regan Sloan	Casual Supervisor
Sylvia Wilkes	Residence Cook
Katie Poundmaker	Residence Elder

**Funders/Donors**

Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies  
City of Saskatoon  
JBL Charitable Foundation Inc.  
Saskatoon’s United Way  
Saskatchewan Law Foundation  
Status of Women - Canada  
34<sup>th</sup> Annual Legal Follies

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The Elizabeth Fry Society has earned revenue by providing services for Saskatchewan Justice and Correctional Services Canada. Our fund-raising activities, your memberships and charitable donations also assist us in continuing to provide programs and services for women at risk.

**The Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan  
and Downtown Bingo Association...**  
**working together to raise funds for the Society**

**Upcoming dates are:**

Friday, December 12th, 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.  
Friday, December 19th, 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.  
Friday, December 26th, 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, December 31st, 6:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.

Bingo revenue is used to maintain the Elizabeth Fry Society’s office, print our newsletters and accept collect calls from women in crisis and women in prison, where phone systems permit collect calls only.



***Mission Statement***

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan is committed to working with women in conflict with the law. Recognizing unique problems derived from their position in society, we strive to provide programs and services which ensure fair treatment and encourage an end to recidivism. We support humane solutions occurring within and from the community.

# We're Moving

As of **January 5, 2003** you can reach us at:

Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan  
Birks Building  
**201, 165 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South**  
Saskatoon SK S7K 1L8

Phone: 934-4606

Fax: 652-2933

E-mail: [efry@sasktel.net](mailto:efry@sasktel.net)

Web: [www.elizabethfrysask.org](http://www.elizabethfrysask.org)



## Membership Application

- Under/unemployed \$ 5
- Individual \$10
- Organization \$25

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to support the Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan  
with a donation.

\_\_\_\$10    \_\_\_\$25    \_\_\_\$50    \_\_\_\$100    \_\_\_other

Please make cheques payable to:  
The Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan  
201, 165 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South    Saskatoon, SK S7K 1L8