

# *The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton*

*Annual General Meeting  
5:00 p.m. Wednesday May 7, 2003*



*Guest Speaker:  
Janet-Sue Hamilton, Warden  
Edmonton Institution for Women*

*"Challenges: Past, Present &  
Future"*

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**Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton**

**Mission Statement and Objectives**

Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton's mission is fostering the dignity and worth of women who come into conflict with the law and helping them live as valued members of their communities.

The objectives of the Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton are:

- a. Provide a supportive environment for individuals, particularly women in conflict with the law.
- b. Work in conjunction with other agencies to provide programs and services to women in conflict with the law.
- c. Assist women in their re-integration into their communities.
- d. Advocate for improvements in the Criminal Justice System.
- e. Provide education directed toward the reduction of crime to institutional professionals, support groups and the community.
- f. Increase public awareness of:
  - i. issues affecting women in conflict with the law
  - ii. the need for programs for women in conflict with the law
  - iii. the need for changes in the Criminal Justice System.



## ***Who is Elizabeth Fry?***

***“When thee builds a prison,  
thee had better build  
with the thought ever in thy mind***

***that thee and thy children  
may occupy the cells”***

***Elizabeth Fry (1780-1845)***

Elizabeth Fry was a Quaker and a believer in the equality of women. She saw a “divine light” in every person. She worked to establish humane treatment for prisoners and their children; campaigned against slavery; established local societies to help the poor; and was considered by many to be a leading expert in prison reform. Elizabeth Fry was also the mother of eleven children. She became known as the “Angel of the Prisons”.

In Britain during the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, women convicted of crimes, ranging from prostitution to being absent from work without leave, were deported to the penal colonies in Australia. Elizabeth Fry was at the docks documenting the conditions of women and providing them with a bag of “useful things” for the voyage. Some of these “useful things” were pieces of fabric that women used to create quilts during their voyage. On their arrival in Australia, the quilts were sold and the proceeds either used by the women or sent back to England to support the prison reform work of Elizabeth Fry and her committee.

During 2002 the Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton was chosen as the “Charity of Choice” by Earthly Goods, a quilting shop in Edmonton. Women who work at Earthly Goods created the quilt “Elizabeth’s Beauty” as a fundraiser. Raffle tickets were sold and the proceeds donated to the Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton. In many ways, Elizabeth Fry’s work has come full circle. We are grateful for her vision.

The first Canadian Elizabeth Fry Society was established in Vancouver in 1939. The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton was initially formed as a project of the YWCA and was incorporated as an independent not-for-profit society in 1979. There are 24 member societies across Canada. The Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies (CAEFS) was conceived in 1969 and incorporated as a voluntary non-profit organization in 1978.



**The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton  
24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation  
May 7, 2003**

5:00 pm Odysium, Edmonton AB

## AGENDA

- 5:00 p.m. Sign in and Refreshments
- 5:30-6:00 p.m. Annual General Meeting
- 6:00-6:15 p.m. Guest Speaker
- 6:15-6:30 p.m. Refreshments
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. Music and Volunteer Appreciation



## *The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton*

### **MINUTES**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday, May 8, 2002  
Freemason Hall – 10318 – 100 Avenue**

Special Presentation by:  
**Rev. Coleen Lynch - *Gems & Jabs: Working with Re-Integrating Women***

**Annual General Meeting Business**

**1. Welcome By the President**

Darlene Hirshmilller welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

**2. Minutes of the 2001 Annual General Meeting**

Motion: To accept the minutes of the 2001 Annual General Meeting as presented.  
**Ronda Bedard/Geri-Lynn Duval. C.**

**3. 2001 Financial Report**

Ronda Bedard, Vice-President presented the audited financial statements.

**Motion:** To accept the 2001 financial report as presented.  
**Gloria Grieco/Denise McLaren. C.**

**4. Appointment of Auditors for 2002**

**Motion:** To appoint Al Scherbarth Professional Corporation Auditors for 2002.  
**Ronda Bedard/Gloria Grieco.C**

**5. President's Report**

Darlene Hirshmilller presented her report as President highlighting the following:

- ♣ Memberships and donations are up by more than 20%.
- ♣ The agency financial picture is very healthy. The agency continues to have committed and supportive funders.
- ♣ The agency has been very busy with three new programs – the Literacy Project, the Youth Project and the Pardon Project.
- ♣ The Board has been busy reviewing Agency By-Laws.
- ♣ Thanks to retiring Board members Elaine Hancheruk and Holly Peterson.

**Motion:** To accept the President's Report as presented.  
**Ronda Bedard/Gerri-Lynn Duval. C.**

**6. Executive Director's Report**

Sara McEwan presented her report:

- ♣ The Private Home Placement Program grew this year to a multi-funded regional program.
- ♣ The first Edmonton youth court volunteer advocates were recruited and trained. This is a first in Canada.
- ♣ Thanks to retiring Board Members and to all agency staff, Private Home Placement providers and volunteers.

**Motion:** To accept the Executive Director's Report as presented.

**Sara McEwan/Gloria Grieco. C**

**7. Presentation of the 2002/2003 Board Slate**

The slate is as follows:

**Ongoing Board Directors:**

Ronda Bedard  
Gerri-Lynn Duval  
Rosemary Fayant  
Gloria Grieco  
Darlene Hirshmilller  
Denise McLaren  
Melanie Nimmo  
Deborah Stewart

**Incoming Board Directors:**

Claudette Moses  
Shelan Potter  
Pam Vidal

**Retiring Board Directors:**

Elaine Hancheruk  
Holly Peterson

**Proposed Executive:**

President	Darlene Hirshmilller
Vice President	Ronda Bedard
Treasurer	Shelan Potter
Secretary	Deborah Stewart

**Motion:** To accept the slate of names as presented.

**Ronda Bedard/Gerri-Lynn Duval. C.**

**8. Adjournment**

**Motion:** To adjourn the Meeting.

**Gerri-Lynn Duval/Ronda Bedard. C.**

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:25 p.m.**

**A Volunteer Appreciation event followed the Business Meeting.**

<b>Statement of Operations - Year Ended December 31, 2002</b>		
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
Justice Department (Alberta)	\$95,769.00	\$100,166.00
Solicitor General of Canada	\$107,726.00	\$84,109.00
Alberta Law Foundation	\$80,809.00	\$80,000.00
United Way of Alberta Capital Region	\$69,296.00	\$66,827.00
City of Edmonton	\$46,383.00	\$39,406.00
Oteenow	\$6,250.00	\$18,750.00

Human Resources Development - Literacy	\$26,168.00	\$17,667.00
Alberta Human Resources and Development	\$22,075.00	\$0.00
Memberships, donations and others	\$12,674.00	\$13,257.00
Solicitor General of Canada Core Funding (CAEFS)	\$8,174.00	\$8,580.00
Alberta Community Employment	\$0.00	\$8,227.00
Estate of Robert Tegler	\$2,971.00	\$0.00
Clifford E. Lee Foundation	\$2,735.00	\$0.00
Fundraising	\$7,553.00	\$6,813.00
Alberta Aids Network	\$0.00	\$6,448.00
Seed/Step	\$7,456.00	\$5,284.00
Transfers from Bingo Surplus	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Lottery Board	\$0.00	\$4,726.00
Interest	\$1,302.00	\$2,231.00
Vending Machine sales	\$576.00	\$2,164.00
Edmonton Community Foundation	\$5,717.00	\$899.00
Mail-Out	\$339.00	\$785.00
Muttart Foundation	\$0.00	\$259.00
Wild Rose Foundation	\$26,344.00	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$530,317.00</b>	<b>\$471,598.00</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>	<b><u>2002</u></b>	<b><u>2001</u></b>
Salaries	\$372,248.00	\$310,892.00
Benefits	\$46,868.00	\$39,864.00
Bookkeeping	\$15,563.00	\$44,763.00
Transportation	\$19,326.00	\$15,550.00
Office Supplies	\$16,428.00	\$13,734.00
Telephone	\$7,535.00	\$4,901.00
Volunteer Expenses	\$5,356.00	\$4,552.00
Staff Development	\$4,597.00	\$3,701.00
Agency Development/Promotion	\$2,415.00	\$3,277.00
Fundraising	\$2,109.00	\$3,338.00
Professional Fees	\$3,269.00	\$2,412.00
Insurance	\$1,919.00	\$2,192.00
Maintenance	\$2,439.00	\$2,157.00
Release Kit Supplies	\$0.00	\$1,688.00
Honoraria	\$4,375.00	\$1,595.00
Office Expense (Photocopy/Printing, Internet, AGM/Bad Debt)	\$11,813.00	\$4,120.00
Client Services	\$2,974.00	\$1,353.00
AWP Retreat	\$723.00	\$1,189.00
Vending Machine Supplies	\$406.00	\$1,155.00
Pardon Expenses	\$5,642.00	\$899.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$526,005.00</b>	<b>\$463,332.00</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$4,312.00</b>	<b>\$8,266.00</b>

<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>		
<b>December 31, 2001</b>		
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>		
	<b><u>2002</u></b>	<b><u>2001</u></b>
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash - operating	\$127,979.00	\$102,803.00

Accrued interest - operating	\$129.00	\$66.00
Accounts receivable	\$29,846.00	\$22,654.00
GST recoverable	\$202.00	\$387.00
Prepaid expense	\$3,663.00	\$3,664.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$161,819.00</b>	<b>\$129,574.00</b>
<b>OTHER</b>		
Cash - restricted	\$220,978.00	\$149,963.00
Accrued interest - restricted	\$1,270.00	\$519.00
Capital assets	\$25,662.00	\$32,755.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$247,910.00</b>	<b>\$183,237.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$409,729.00</b>	<b>\$312,811.00</b>

<u>LIABILITIES</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable	\$12,573.00	\$12,801.00
Deferred revenue	\$61,047.00	\$32,011.00
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$73,620.00</b>	<b>\$44,812.00</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unallocated surplus	\$88,199.00	\$84,764.00
Equity in Capital Assets	\$25,662.00	\$32,755.00
Allocated funds - Bingo	\$62,878.00	\$61,508.00
Allocated funds - Casino	\$159,370.00	\$88,972.00
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$336,109.00</b>	<b>\$267,999.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$409,729.00</b>	<b>\$312,811.00</b>

**President's Report**  
**Grieco**

**Gloria**

Welcome guests, staff, volunteers, Board members. Thank you all for coming to our 2003 Annual General Meeting for the Elizabeth Fry Society.

This past year has been one of transition and significant change in the Agency, and I would like to highlight a few of the changes as well as some of the initiatives that are underway.

Because the Society must be in a position to meet the changing needs of its membership and the people it serves, we are in the process of developing a three-year strategic plan. This pro-active approach will be an invaluable tool to help us target the needs of our members and clientele.

The funding for this plan has already been approved by the United Way. We have distributed and received responses to questionnaires from clients, funders, and stakeholders.

In September 2003, staff and Board members will work together to develop a strategic plan for implementation in accordance with the data compiled from all interested participants who have taken the time to provide their input.

We have, in this past year, also revised the Society by-laws, which will be voted on by the membership later this evening. This work was largely accomplished thanks to the hard work of Pam Vidal, one of our Board members along with, Blair Willie, a Pro-Bono law student at the University of Alberta.

One of the main changes in the by-laws is the classification of "member". It has been amended to recognize the hard work and dedication of volunteers to the Society by granting them a "Volunteer Membership". This classification does not require a monetary payment to be made by the volunteer (as is required for a General or Group Membership), but rather only the consent of the volunteer to the membership.

We have also incorporated a Board Policies & Procedures Manual that sets out the governance structure of the Board of Directors. Each member of the Board will be bound by a Code of Conduct in order to maintain public confidence. Additionally, the Board is implementing a "Client Complaint Policy" that will continue to ensure that we are meeting the needs of the women and girls that we serve.

During this past year, in addition to policy changes, there have also been staff changes. Most significantly, we have a new Executive Director, Beverly Sochatsky. Our previous Director, Sara McEwan, resigned in August of 2002 and has taken the position of Director of Regional Services West, Canadian Unitarian Council with the Unitarian Church of Canada, and we wish her all the best in her new endeavours.

During Sara's time with the Elizabeth Fry Society, she is credited with raising the profile of the Agency. It is through her vision, dedication, and hard work, that critical new programs were instituted, and include the Private and Supported Home Placement, new programs for young females, and an employment program for women.

Our new Director, Beverly Sochatsky, was selected from a group of very qualified candidates, she was chosen from one of our own and has several years of experience with the Agency. The Society is indeed fortunate to have such a committed person at the helm. It has not been as easy ride for our new Director and she has had to face many challenges in the past several months.

The fall is the busiest time for the Director as funding proposals need to be submitted, there has also been an increase in programs, and with that brings more staff members, all part of the responsibility of the Director. Perhaps the biggest challenge for Bev has been the discord among the Board members and the subsequent resignation of several of our members.

Despite the challenges and the conflicts, Bev has been steadfast in her commitment to the Agency and has never lost sight of the overall best interests of the Society. I commend her for her loyalty and perseverance.

We are tonight also fortunate to welcome a slate of new Board members who put their names forward and have been selected by the recruitment committee to serve on the Board. I welcome their participation and look forward to serving with them over this next year.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the volunteers, staff members, guests, and supporters of Elizabeth Fry for the loyalty and support that they have shown to the Agency in the past, and look forward to their continued involvement and support.



**Executive Director's Report**  
**Sochatsky**

**Bev**

May 7<sup>th</sup> was chosen as the date for our AGM because it falls within May 6 – 12, which is Elizabeth Fry Week in Canada. In the foyer of our office we have a plaque that is a proclamation from the City of Edmonton that reads:

- Elizabeth Fry was born on May 21, 1780 and dedicated her life to improving living conditions for women in prison, and
- The 24 Elizabeth Fry Societies in Canada offer support to individuals in conflict with the law through a wide range of programs and services, and
- The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton will hold special celebrations to honor its founder and to recognize the outstanding contributions of its volunteers.

So, today we are honoring our namesake, talking about the important work that is done at the agency and we take time to celebrate agency staff and volunteers. Thank you for joining with us. You hold a vision that challenges the negative stereotypes that exist about women who are victimized and criminalized.

This AGM marks our 24<sup>th</sup> year in operation and although many things have changed during this time, unfortunately we continue as in Elizabeth Fry's day, to incarcerate women for crimes ranging from prostitution to theft. As Elizabeth Fry did, we continue to document the conditions of women in prison, to educate, to advocate and work towards the creation of community based options rather than incarceration.

Staff, board members and our membership at large are challenged to reflect and take action on systemic factors and social policies that put girls and women at risk of incarceration. Child welfare, social allowance and health care policies play a major role in the elimination of a social safety net that targets girls and women for criminalization. Contributing factors to crime include: poverty, low levels of literacy, race, mental health, sexual abuse, low levels of education, underemployment, unemployment and homelessness.

At Elizabeth Fry Edmonton we are addressing these systemic issues by developing and delivering programs that are preventive, educational and collaborative. Highlights of our work during 2002 includes:

- Women's Work program that provides casual labor jobs to women to address the issue of poverty;
- Changing Paths – an award winning literacy and lifeskills program that builds self esteem, confidence and the ability for women to speak up and speak out;
- Aboriginal Women's program that connects first nations women to their culture and identity with the goal of breaking the cycle of excessively high rates of incarceration of First Nations women;
- Teen Programs to address the growing numbers of girls who are coming into conflict with the law;
- The Pardon project that assists women who have lived crime free to seal their criminal record and enable them to get on with their lives – return to school, volunteer, and secure meaningful and sustainable employment;
- Adult and Youth Court programs that provides “just in time learning” for individuals appearing in court;
- Adult Stoplifting, an innovative program for women whose shoplifting behavior is a cry for help;
- The very successful and one of its kind in Canada - Private and Supported Home Placement program that meets the housing and social needs of women on conditional release leaving the Edmonton Institution for Women;

- Prison Liaison work that takes staff into all prisons in the Edmonton area for advocacy, support and community reintegration;
- Elizabeth's Beauty quilt fundraiser that generated \$7,550.00 through our partnership with Earthy Goods, and our
- Volunteers, who are recruited, screened and trained to enable them to meet their needs and the ever-growing demands in our agency.

Our greatest resource at the agency are the staff and volunteers who, given an extremely demanding work environment are passionate about the work of the agency.

During 2002 we bid farewell to Wanda Gorician, our Prison Liaison worker and Elsie Paul, our Aboriginal Women's Program co-ordinator. During the year we welcomed to our staff team Sarah Stewart, Tammy Wasman, Alma Swan, Karla Walli and Dorthe Flauer. More senior staff with the agency include: Jackie Horejsi, Zela Alemu, Christine Stevens, Bev Tweedle, Mary-Ann Lepers and Melanie Shepard.

Given the demands of the past year, I extend my gratitude to our staff team who have weathered a number of storms and continue to focus on the mission of the agency and commit on a daily basis to making a difference in the lives of criminalized women.



## ***Slate for 2003 – 2004 Board Members***

*Ongoing Board Directors*

Rosemary Fayant	(2000)
Gloria Grieco	(2000)
Denise McLaren	(2001)
Deborah Stewart	(1999)
Pam Vidal	(2002)

Incoming Directors for 2003

Cecilia Blasetti  
Tannis Dukart  
Jodi Querengesser

Retiring Board Directors

Ronda Bedard	(1999)
Geri-Lynn Duval	(2001)
Darlene Hirshmilller	(1998)
Claudette Moses	(2002)
Melanie Nimmo	(2000)
Shelann Potter	(2002)

Proposed Board of Directors  
Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton

Cecilia Blasetti  
Tannis Dukart  
Rosemary Fayant  
Gloria Grieco  
Denise McLaren  
Jodi Querengesser  
Deborah Stewart  
Pam Vidal

The Executive will be elected at the 1<sup>st</sup> Board meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2003

***Special Thanks & Acknowledgments to:***

***Our Board of Directors 2002/2003***

Ronda Bedard  
Geri-Lynn Duval  
Rosemary Fayant  
Gloria Grieco

Darlene Hirshmilller  
Denise McLaren  
Claudette Moses  
Melanie Nimmo

Shelann Potter  
Deborah Stewart  
Pam Vidal

## ***Our Funders***

Alberta Human Resources & Employment  
Alberta Solicitor General  
Alberta Law Foundation  
Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies  
City of Edmonton - FCSS & Operation  
Clifford E Lee Foundation  
Correctional Services Canada  
Edmonton Community Foundation  
Edmonton Community Lottery Board  
Human Resources Development Canada-SCP

Health Canada  
Kristie Charitable Foundation  
National Literacy Secretariat  
The Estate of Robert Tegler Trust  
The Muttart Foundation  
The UWay of the AB Capital Reg.  
The United Church of Canada  
The Anglican Church of Canada  
Oteenow Emp. & Training Society  
Wildrose Foundation

## ***Financial Supporters***

Mayfield Common Walmart  
MTE Logistix Management Inc.  
PAAFE  
University of Alberta  
Weir Bowen Barristers & Solicitors  
Weyerhaeuser Company Ltd.  
Hon. D. Abbott  
Hon. P.L. Adilman  
Dolly Ashe  
Mary Ayres  
Nancy Bidlock  
Andre Boisvert  
Ted Bolseng  
Gerard Bourque  
June Chen  
James Chiazza  
Tamara Clark  
Clarence Collins  
Gordon Collins  
Sara Coumantarakis  
Charles Davison  
J. Degenhardt  
Catherine Denboer  
Andre Depelteau

Marion DeShield  
Betty Dowuona  
Kyla Duane  
Mona Duckett  
Phillipe Dupond  
Neil Fleming  
Dennis Gehlen  
Gespal Gill  
Lyne Giraldeau  
Greg Grams  
Michael Greenhalgh  
Ryan Hanson  
Brenda Helowinski  
Darlene Hirshmilller  
Ruth Horne  
Leara Jacob  
Rob Kassian  
Ann Kerr  
Hon. P.G. Ketchum  
Gena Kimono  
Carmen Kinshella  
Louise Lagace  
Erika Lang  
G. Litwin

## ***Financial Supporters con't***

Pierre Longqie  
Loreli Madiuk  
Velayutham & Munmun Manohar  
Pamela McCreedy  
Arthur Monteiro  
Anna Nanning  
Mary Nelson  
Helen Painter  
Jeounghea Park  
Cory Peters  
Rayma Peterson  
Darlene Popik  
Elizabeth Proche  
Brenda Ross  
Aline Savoie  
Al Scherbarth  
Sara Schiff  
Emilia Sedlacek

Loree Semeluk  
Tara Shymanski  
Savitri Singh  
F.R. Staff  
Ruth Starr  
Doreen Szpreglewski  
Gunnar Thorvaldson  
Ellen Ticoll  
Hon. D.J. Tilley  
Thanh Trang  
Hon. A.H. Wachowich  
Robert Wachowich  
Kimberly Wallace  
Carrie Warawa  
Peter Wasylucha  
Ryan Westcomb  
Donna & Ron Witwiski  
Hai Yen Do

### ***Christmas Donors***

All Saints Anglican – Friendship Guild  
Centre for Spiritual Awareness Volunteers  
Cornerstone Pentecostal - Women's Ministry  
Costco Wholesale – East Edmonton  
Edmonton City Centre Church Corp.  
- Crossroads House 2  
Edmonton Food Bank  
Freemason's Hall of Edmonton  
From the Good Earth Produce Co.  
Garneau Safeway  
Highlands United Church Women  
Hope Lutheran Church  
Italian Bakery  
John O. Butler Company  
Oliver Square Safeway  
Primrose IDA and Pharmacy  
Second Cup Coffee Co.  
Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception  
St. Albert Walmart  
United Way – In Kind Centre  
Yellowhead Casino  
Angela Abdul-Malek  
Zela Alemu  
Ronda Bedard  
Janet Blyan  
Sharon Boechler  
Hon. Marjorie Bowker  
Doreen Chalifoux  
Sara Coumantarakis  
Nana Demachi

### ***In-Kind Donors***

Elaine Breadon-Peiche  
Jennifer Chappell

Jacqueline Downing  
Kate Faught  
Kanchanna Fernando  
Andre Flauer  
Darlene Hirshmilller  
Ruth Horne  
Beth Jenkins  
Mary-Ann Lepers  
Docia Lysne  
Eileen MacTavish  
Nancy Nelson  
Melanie Nimmo  
Mary Nimmons  
Carol Oranchuk  
Danika Packwood  
Helgard Proft-Mather  
Tim Sargent  
Nicole Severin  
Melanie Shepard  
Marilyn Skoropad  
Bev Sochatsky  
Lexie Stevens  
Christine Stevens  
Sarah Stewart  
Dawn Stratichuk  
Bev Tweedle  
Karla Walli  
Tammy Wasman  
Mercedes White  
Evelyne Zajic

Susan Nelson  
Melanie Nimmo

Arnidene Crowell  
Marcel Darmanian  
Marion DeShield  
Ann Marie Dewhurst  
Alida Dyer  
Shirley Edgar  
Dorthe Flauer  
Tara Hallgren  
Donna Hamer  
Sharon Hauca  
Darlene Hirshmilller  
Pat Hughes  
Beth Jenkins  
Trina Kenney  
Mary-Ann Lepers  
Aurore Marien

Danika Packwood  
Donna Perry  
Reva Russell  
Natalie Seaman  
Anthea Seleski  
Melanie Shepard  
Bev Sochatsky  
Sarah Stewart  
Linda Stockdill  
Alma Swan  
Ellen Tuoll  
Bev Tweedle  
Karla Walli  
Carolina Zambrano  
Margaret Zwytink



### ***Our Volunteers***

#### **Aboriginal Women' s**

Cindy Breland  
Nana Demachi  
Brandi Logan

#### **Adult Court con't**

Lenda Sadoon  
Leslie Wimmer  
Kelly Yee

#### **Christmas con't**

Janet Blyan  
Sharon Boechler  
Bridgette Bruyere

Liza Sadoon

**Administration**

Ronda Bedard  
Chris Burchell  
Paul Coyle  
Marcel Darmanin  
Nana Demachi  
Geri-Lynn Duval  
Rosemary Fayant  
Andre Flauer  
Gloria Grieco  
Debby Guitard  
Darlene Hirshmilller  
Ruth Horne  
Denise McLaren  
Claudette Moses  
Melanie Nimmo  
Shelann Potter  
Liza Sadoon  
Deborah Stewart  
Elisabeth Stewart  
Pam Vidal  
Arden White

**Adult Court**

Judy Abrams  
Maxine Andrushak  
Dolly Ashe  
Gregory Berry  
Kimberley Boulton  
Karen Buenviaje  
Teresa Fisher  
Melissa Gibson  
Tricia Giles  
Lilianne Gosselin  
Lisa Hendrickson  
Marnie Johnson  
Emily Katiuk  
Sormeh Khorasani  
Frances Lee  
Chelsea Leger  
Shelagh McGregor  
Sarah McKay  
Janice Miller  
Diana Mrowka  
Bonnie Pinder  
Don Reid

**Prison Visiting**

Brandi Logan  
Dawn West

**Private Home Placement**

The Body Shop

**Casino 2002**

Zelekash Alemu  
Doreen Almonitis  
Margaret Andrews  
Gerry Beauchamp  
Vicky Beauchamp  
Ronda Bedard  
Cecilia Blasetti  
Geri-Lynn Duval  
Gloria Grieco  
Christina Harris  
Darlene Hirshmilller  
Nicole Korek  
Laura Kozack  
Christine Leonard  
Anthony Man in't Veld  
Julie Melnychuk  
Norma Neadow  
Melanie Nimmo  
Melanie Shepard  
Karen Smith  
Christine Stevens  
Glynis Thomas  
William Trofimuk  
Bev Tweedle  
Sharon Wilson

**Changing Paths**

Arlette Barrette  
Gayle Burritt  
Doreen Chalifoux  
Kay Charbonneau  
Christine Daniels  
Martha Dobbin  
Fiona Dubourg-Gironella  
Eileen MacTavish  
Deborah Morgan  
Deborah Morrison  
Daniela Plaiasu  
Sarah Stewart

**Christmas**

Angela Abdul-Malek  
Zela Alemu  
Connie Auvine  
Ronda Bedard

Cynthia Chalifoux  
Nana Demachi  
Jacqueline Downing  
Kate Faught  
Kanchanna Fernando  
Andre Flauer  
Dorthe Flauer  
Kristy Harcourt  
Darlene Hirshmilller  
Mary-Ann Lepers  
Eileen MacTavish  
Cam Morissette  
Melanie Nimmo  
Carol Oranchuk  
Tim Sargent  
Nicole Severin  
Melanie Shepard  
Bev Sochatsky  
Christine Stevens  
Lexie Stevens  
Sarah Stewart  
Dawn Stratichuk  
Bev Tweedle  
Karla Walli  
Tammy Wasman  
Mercedes White  
Kim Williams

**Community Resources**

Jennifer Allport  
Arnidene Crowell  
Rachel Dueck  
Melissa Moisey  
Nancy Nelson  
Lan Nguyen  
Michelle Svelzle

**Legal Clinic**

Nancy Cush  
Charles Davison  
Maria Gallo  
Marshall Gourlay  
Gloria Grieco  
Elaine Hancheruk  
Brian Holtby  
Ning Ramos  
Dan Scott  
Cindy Turner

**Youth Court / CAFFY con't**

Elaine Gray  
Sheila Humble  
Jennifer Luter  
Docia Lysne

Nana Demachi  
Liza Sadoon  
Dawn Stratichuk  
Brenda Woloschuk

**Youth Court / CAFFY**

Renu Abbi  
Donna Carson  
Eva Cassetti  
Blanche Chymycz  
Nancy Danilak  
Gail DesRosiers  
Lisa-Marie Didow  
Julie Evans  
Kanchanna Fernando  
Jessica Gilbert  
Rose Grandinetti

Urszula Marcinkowsua  
Shazin Mohamed  
Katherine Nunn  
Carol Oranchuk  
Matthew Ramos  
Jessica Salmon  
Brenda Scogy-Mainman  
Loree Semeluk  
Julie Shemanchuk  
Cindy Suttie  
Karla Walli  
Mercedes White

**Special Projects Volunteers**

Earthly Goods Volunteers  
Laurie Nelson – SAFEST program



# Program Highlights

## Adult Courtwork

**Coordinator: Jackie Horejsi**

The Adult Courtworks program:

- Ensures that accused persons appearing in court understand the charges they are appearing for;
- Ensures persons appearing are aware of their plea options before entering them in court;
- Provides accurate and relevant information;
- Assists all eligible persons to have an opportunity to confer with a Duty Counsel or Native Counsel;
- Offers support to accused persons and their families.

In the year 2002, 16 volunteers and 2 students donated 2316 hours to the Adult Courtwork Program, assisting over 17,000 individuals appearing in Provincial Court.

Court appearances are stressful for all involved and many accused persons do not understand what is happening to them once they enter court. Our volunteers take the time to listen to people appearing in Docket Court and patiently explain options available to them. Thank you to the wonderful group of volunteers for your continued enthusiasm and dedication that make this program such a success.

*"Your support during my court appearance was so very appreciated. You have touched both me and my family."*

*"How refreshing it is to know someone is here to take the time to answer my questions. I can't thank you enough for helping me through this."*

Client Quotes

**Program Funded: Alberta Law Foundation and United Way of Alberta Capital Region**

## Aboriginal Women's Program

**Coordinator: Tammy Wasman**

The heartbeat of the Aboriginal Women's Program at the Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton continues to drum strongly within the agency. As the growing number of Aboriginal Women in conflict with the law increases, so does the need for culturally sensitive programming.

Historically, many First Nation's people have disconnected from their heritage as a result of assimilation and residential schools. Sadly, many women's first exposure to their rich culture is behind the walls of federal or provincial institutions. The Aboriginal Women's Program is deeply rooted in First Nation's culture and spiritual teachings.

This model of healing is designed to build identity through awareness of traditional healing ceremonies that creates a positive self-image. The program's outcome is to increase their self-concept so that they may find strength in their culture and become healthy and whole Aboriginal women.

In 2002 the Aboriginal Women's Program provided a multitude of services to women who access our services. Programs include talking circles, sweat lodge ceremonies, traditional parenting, annual women's traditional camp out, and Elder's teachings.

One of the highlights for the year was the traditional camp out. It was held in August at Elk Island Park and 17 people attended. The group slept in tee-pees, cooked traditional foods, and attended a sweat lodge ceremony. Christine Daniels, the agency Elder, came and spent the weekend with the group. Christine blessed the women with medicine wheel teachings, 'the Rights of Path', talking circle and sweetgrass teachings.

*"The camp out helped me to feel alive again, it made to feel connected to my spirit"*

*"The Elder was so gentle for my first sweat, whatever fears I had washed away"*

*"I, for the first time in a long time, felt safe and I learned about my culture"*

*"We laughed so much, and I discovered a part of myself I never knew"*

Client Quotes

#### **Aboriginal Women's Program Statistics for 2002**

Total of Women Accessing Services	1,908
Talking Circles	335
One-on-one Counseling	361
Advocacy	293
Cultural	555

The Aboriginal Women's Program is very fortunate to have volunteers and placement students to assist with the many demands of this program. For the year 2003 we will be developing an outcome planning and evaluation action plan. This will provide the program with the feedback to improve our ever increasing need to develop culturally sensitive services.

As the coordinator, I feel very blessed to be a part of the Elizabeth Fry Society and our empathic, gifted team of colleagues. I look forward to the New Year in this position and all of the challenges and rewards the program offers. I am always blessed with many the gifts by all of the courageous women that we as an agency encourage on their healing journey.

**Program Funded: Oteenow and the City of Edmonton Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)**

### **Agency Volunteer Program**

## **Coordinator: Dorte Flauer**

This year at the Elizabeth Fry Society has been very exciting with the addition of many dedicated new volunteers donating their time to enrich the lives of women who have been in conflict with the law. Our agency was fortunate to have 127 volunteers providing service at both the main office and at the Courthouse. The total number of hours provided by our dedicated volunteers totaled 6,375 in the year 2002.

There are many wonderful stories to tell about our valuable volunteers, but probably the most exciting success was the collaborative effort of several of the Agency volunteers to create our Elizabeth Fry Society Boutique, known previously as the Clothing Room. With their many hours of effort, Nana, Liza, Nancy, Rachel, staff and participants of the Changing Paths Program, helped to unveil the new room that now provides our clients with a quiet, calm place to access the clothing they often desperately need.

At Christmas time, several organizations and church groups were involved in providing the meals for Christmas parties at the Edmonton Remand Centre (E.R.C.), Edmonton Young Offenders Centre (E.Y.O.C.), Edmonton Institution for Women (E.I.F.W.) and the Fort Saskatchewan Correctional Centre (F.S.C.C.). These groups included: The Centre for Spiritual Awareness, The Unitarian Church and St. George's Anglican Church. Gift bags were made up by a group of volunteers from Beaverlodge Women's Ministry. Santa Claus at E.I.F.W. was merry Tim Sargent and the United Way In-Kind Centre staff, Ronda Bedard was Santa at all of the other Elizabeth Fry Society Christmas parties.

The annual Volunteer Appreciation was held in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting on May 8, 2002. After the dinner, all agency volunteers were recognized with a certificate, presented by the Executive Director and their Program Coordinator. As well there were many door prizes awarded to the volunteers.

It has been an inspiring experience to be involved with the volunteers at the Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton this year as they bring many skills and strengths to the agency, helping the staff to work in a positive, productive environment to provide services to women and girls in conflict with the law.

### **Program Funded: The Wild Rose Foundation**

## **Changing Paths Program**

**Coordinators: Beverly Sochatsky and Sarah Stewart**

Changing Paths Program is an integrated literacy and lifeskills program that follows a participatory model of education – women's needs and interests determining the curriculum. Topics focus on healing childhood traumas, emotional well being, addictions, anger and rage, healthy relationships, appropriate boundaries, and parenting. Women enter the program on referrals from probation officers, the courts and from social workers in order to complete fine option programs, community service hours, or alternative measures. Women come with a wide range of educational and

socio-economic backgrounds; some with very low literacy skills because of a history of abuse and resultant emotional damage, or health issues or because English is a second language. Others have more proficient literacy skills but have not learnt how and where to access the resources available in the community. Women in the program are characterized by a strong desire to create healthier lifestyles for themselves and for their families and they report that our program helps them do just that.

During 2002, 128 women participated in the program, 92 completed their hours, 12 dropped out, and 24 continued into the next year. The women's average age is 34, with 18 being the youngest and 55 being the oldest. Three students and nine volunteers contributed a total of 540.25 hours.

Highlights of this year's work include:

- Changing Paths won the most innovative literacy program award 2002 at the Alberta Adult Association for Literacy. Two participants in the program delivered a moving acceptance speech at the convention in Calgary during their attendance at the weekend conference.
- The Outcomes Evaluation data has been gathered from participants and stakeholders ready for collation. Probation officers gave strong support for the benefits of the program.
- Pardon's for Women Pilot Project continued throughout 2002. Bev Tweedle took over the coordination of the project in November. In total, 126 women have applied for pardons and the first pardon has already been granted!
- Women have attended community literacy events, participating in the effects of violence on learning seminar at the Learning Centre, and Literacy Day Celebration at City Hall.
- Women continue with the cooking component of the program and to date have collected more than 70 recipes for the Elizabeth Fries, Bakes and Boils Cookbook.
- Women continue to access the computer lab at Edmonton John Howard Alternative Learning Program and have developed career research skills.
- Volunteers have made a significant contribution to the program this year, assisting with the cooking and computer programs, displays, and organizing the clothing room.
- Changing Paths took over the Clothing Program, relocating to larger premises in the basement, reorganizing and taking responsibility for thank you letters to donors.

**Program Funded: Alberta Solicitor General and The National Literacy Secretariat**

**Community Resources**  
**Coordinator: Mary-Ann Lepers**

Community Resources offers individual and group counselling to women in the community who are or who have been in conflict with the law. Women are referred to resources that can help them find accommodation, financial support, employment opportunities, treatment programs, parenting supports and deal with physical and mental health concerns. With counselling, women are helped to overcome barriers that have limited them in their life choices. Interventions, education, support and encouragement are offered to increase a woman's opportunity for success.

The Stoptlifting Program for women is recognized as a credible community treatment resource. 4 programs that run for 10 sessions are presently offered annually. With the increase in referrals new measures to accommodate women are being considered. Feedback continues to be positive:

*"I think this program is wonderful. I hope it continues so it can help other women like it helped me."*

*"I think the program was excellent because no one was pressured. The sensitivity was very much appreciated."*

#### Client Quotes

The Clothing Program continues to be very much needed by our clients. It was turned over to the Changing Paths Program where the clients themselves organize it. A downstairs room has been transformed into a "Holt Renfrew" store. The women are proud of what they have accomplished. From June 2002 to December 2002, a total of 129 women accessed the Clothing Program. Women report the need for warm clothing, clothes to enable them to return to school and work and clothing required upon release from prison and/or a detox facility. Women also report being homeless, leaving an abusive relationship, having clothing stolen and pregnancy as indicators of need for the program.

Female inmates at the F.S.C.C. continue to be visited twice weekly. The Christmas event was very successful and included community involvement that was impressive. Relations between Elizabeth Fry Society liaison workers and prison staff are excellent. To address the high number of women incarcerated for prostitution, Elizabeth Fry Society brings individuals into F.S.C.C. who work in this field. The prison and women have welcomed them and now speakers come on a regular basis.

The Release Kit Project continues to be well used and appreciated. Health Canada funding was applied for and received to continue this much needed service on HIV/Hep C intervention/education.

In the two years that I have coordinated the program I have seen a continued need for our services. My goal to make the programs accredited by offering interventions and psycho-educational services supports our client population to become accountable for themselves. Searching deeper for the sociological roots for the devaluation of women, recognizing what needs to be fixed and then giving the incentive to the women to work together with staff to make changes is our challenge. Daily I am reminded of events that occurred at the agency that inspire me spiritually to continue with my work. What is

the most touching is when I am privy to seeing our clients helping each other or when I know that a client has finally taken charge of creating the life that she wants and she becomes accountable to herself.

**Program Funded: United Way of the Alberta Capital Region, Alberta Solicitor General and Health Canada**

**Legal Clinic**  
**Coordinator: Christine Stevens**

The Legal Clinic assists federally sentenced women at E.I.F.W. by addressing their legal concerns. A roster of 11 lawyers provides services to E.I.F.W. women on a monthly basis, for a total of 54 hours of legal advice during 2002. A total of 47 women accessed this very valuable service over the past year.

Legal issues for women incarcerated at E.I.F.W. include: guardianship and access, divorce, immigration, institutional, civil, and criminal questions. Women who have outstanding charges in other jurisdictions that need resolution require legal consultations to waive the charges. There are questions relating to child welfare issues including custody disputes and permanent wardship hearings.

We are grateful to lawyers who volunteer their time by involving themselves in the community, offering advice to women who may not otherwise have access to legal expertise.

**Program Funded: Alberta Law Foundation**

**Private Home Placement**  
**& Supported Private Home Placement**  
**Coordinator: Melanie Shepard**

The Private Home Placement Program offers Federally Sentenced Women on Conditional Release from E.I.F.W. the opportunity to reside in a private family dwelling as opposed to a community residential facility. The Private Home Provider offers individual guidance and one on one support to the woman residing in their home.

The Supported Private Home Placement Program offers Federally Sentenced Women with Special Needs the same opportunity as the Private Home Placement Program. These women enjoy a more intensive form of support and guidance from their Private Home Providers. The participants of the Supported Private Home Placement Program face unique challenges and barriers to a successful reintegration.

Both programs follow a women-centered approach, with a focus on role-modeling the positive behaviors and adaptive coping mechanisms of their provider. The opportunity for women to observe and participate in a 'family setting' allows them to practice the

skills they have gained while living in a supportive, non-judgmental and caring environment.

In the year of 2002, 16 homes were available to women on Day Parole and 5 women were placed in homes. 5 women were matched with providers and are awaiting release to a private home.

The year 2002 also brought the opportunity for the Elizabeth Fry Society to become more involved in the release options available to Aboriginal women. Edmonton Area Parole has been accessing the Regular and Supported Private Home Placement programs to offer the residential portion of the Section 84 placements. Section 84 legislation was created to offer assistance for Federally Sentenced Aboriginal Women who wish to return to their home communities upon their release from a Federal Institution.

The Private Home Placement and Supported Private Home Placement Programs would not succeed without the commitment and care of the Private Home Placement Providers. The Providers spend months visiting the matched women at E.I.F.W. without financial gain or incentive. They volunteer their time, energy and a listening ear to many women every year. Many women at E.I.F.W. have benefited from the support and friendship they have received from their providers. I would like to recognize the Providers as an essential contribution to the volunteer core at the Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton.

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton would also like to thank the many women at E.I.F.W. who have trusted in our agency to assist with their reintegration process. The participants of the program are breaking new ground and truly are *working in partnership with the community*.

The Elizabeth Fry Society is contracted by the Correctional Services of Canada to recruit, train and maintain the Regular and Supported Private Home Placement Program.

Thank you to all of our home providers, both past and present, and thank you to all of the women who have participated in the program. With the continued assistance of the community, we can help women as they continue on their personal journey.

**Program Funded: Correctional Service of Canada - Edmonton Area District Parole**

### **Prison Liaison**

**Coordinators: Wanda Gorician and Alma Swan**

The Prison Liaison program offers services at E.I.F.W. and E.R.C. We maintain regular visits to both of the institutions to establish a community link and assist with reintegration. Our agency visits the institutions twice a week.

The Prison Liaison made contact with 592 women serving federal time and 399 women incarcerated at E.R.C.

A major highlight of the year was that the Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton, in conjunction with Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies (C.A.E.F.S.) made a submission to the Human Rights Commission. The submission included but was not limited to Health, access and follow through on recommendations, Segregation and its use/intent, Same Sex Relationships, Involuntary transfers, and access to preventative health services. It also included other concerns from staff who visit the institutions as well as the women who are serving time. Our hope is that changes will be implemented as a result of this submission.

Another highlight was the Christmas party at E.I.F.W. and E.R.C. Women at E.I.F.W. and Elizabeth Fry Society staff enjoyed the talents of their peers in a talent show and food was brought in as well. There was great camaraderie among incarcerated women, Elizabeth Fry Society staff, and volunteers. The E.R.C. women enjoyed great food, Christmas caroling, and the opportunity to meet Elizabeth Fry Society staff, board members and volunteers. Santa Clause also made an appearance at both parties. Many thanks to all of the volunteers, community members, agencies, and businesses who contributed to these events. These celebrations would not be possible without this phenomenal support.

As part of the reintegration work that we do, 4 women from E.I.F.W. volunteered at our Community Christmas party, which set a precedent for other women to volunteer at Elizabeth Fry Society events in the future. Attendance at parole hearings, including Elder Assisted, has steadily increased in the latter part of the year.

The Elizabeth Fry Society continues to attend Inmate Committee Meetings as well as meeting for the operation of the secure unit at E.I.F.W. We consistently advocate to improve policies and procedures that will effect the entire population of the institution.

The Outcomes Evaluation for the Prison Liaison program has been completed and will be implemented in 2003. We are confident that the evaluation process will help us to continue to provide unique/valuable services to women incarcerated at E.I.F.W. & E.R.C.

The Prison Liaison Program underwent a staff change in the latter part of the year. Wanda Gorician has left the agency and Alma Swan is the current staff person.

**Program Funded: Correctional Services of Canada**

## **Teen Programs**

**The Court Advocates For Female Youth (C.A.F.F.Y.) Program** has been operating successfully for the past year from the Law Courts Building in Edmonton. It began as a

pilot project in 2001 when a noticeable need for gender specific programs for girls was recognized.

Volunteers are screened, trained and matched to young women going through the Youth Criminal Court system. The volunteers act as mentors by supporting them before and after their appearance in Youth Criminal Court and advocate on their behalf. They provide referrals to community resources, attend all court hearings and establish strong relationships with their client. The C.A.F.F.Y. Program also offers an outreach program at E.Y.O.C. C.A.F.F.Y. volunteers visit the girls regularly and offer an Activity Night twice per month.

In 2002, eighteen C.A.F.F.Y. volunteers provided 1041 hours to the program, including 394 client contacts, and 658 collateral contacts to 54 young girls. The C.A.F.F.Y. Program is coordinated by Christine Stevens.

**Program Funded: Alberta Solicitor General, Wild Rose Foundation and the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region**

**The Teen Shoplifting Program** received funding for a pilot from November 2001 to March 2002 from Alberta Solicitor General. This program is currently funded by Clifford Lee and the Estate of Robert Tegler and it is in its second group session.

The program helps girls understand the link between:

- their past experience, their present high risk behavior and unhealthy choices;
- what constitutes a shoplifting offence and the legal consequences;
- how to stop shoplifting;
- encouraging stronger and more supportive relationships; and
- building self-esteem and self-reliance.

Information on sexuality, body image, and drug addiction is also offered. The current Teen Shoplifting Program has completed a nine week session and has graduated seven girls. The Program is co-facilitated by MaryAnn Lepers and Melanie Shepard.

**Program Funded: Clifford Lee Foundation, Estate of Robert Tegler and United Way of Alberta Capital Region**

**The SAFEST Program (Support, Assistance, Friendship, Esteem Services for Teens)** also completed a successful pilot project November 2001 to March 2002. The Program provides young girls and a trusted adult a safe place to learn different ways of working together to build a stronger and more supportive families and learn ways to build self-esteem, spend leisure time and communicate with each other.

In 2002, the program completed an eight week session and offered services to six mothers and seven daughters.

The program is co-facilitated by Dorthe Flauer and Angie Abdul-Malek.

**Program Funded: Clifford Lee Foundation, Estate of Robert Tegler and United Way of Alberta Capital Region**

**Women's Work Employment Program**  
**Coordinator: Karla Walli**

The Women's Work program works with the employment services staff at the Bissell Centre, to create a program tailored specifically to the unique needs of women, particularly women at risk. Women accessing the program face numerous barriers to employment, which may include: poverty, mental illness, homelessness, isolation, child welfare issues, criminal records, lack of employable skills, lack of education or training, discrimination and addictions. Working closely with other programs in the community, the Women's Work Program offers women the opportunity to begin to address some of the barriers to employment. The Women's Work Program services include:

- Casual labour placements
- Workshops, tailored to the diverse needs of the women, and include resume development, interview etiquette, dealing with criminal records, and job search techniques
- A resource centre that includes information on job search, labour market information, occupational profiles, and educational institutions calendars requirements
- Goal assessment, identification of strengths and the development of an action plan
- Job search tools, including access to daily newspapers, the Internet, phone, fax and computers
- Resume development counseling
- Referrals to training programs and educational institutions
- In-reach at F.S.C.C. and at E.I.F.W.

The Women's Work program at Elizabeth Fry Society has grown by leaps and bounds. Since its inception on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002, the program has registered 91 women. Working closely with other Elizabeth Fry Society programs, Women's Work facilitated a total of 8 workshops, including 2 at F.S.C.C., and 2 at the Attendance Centre. The program placed participants in 147 casual labour placements. Estimated total of 650 hours of paid employment was provided.

An outcomes/evaluation logic model has been developed for the program. Measurement tools are presently being developed. Women's Work is involved with the Community Economic Development Network Committee to generate greater knowledge of our wonderful new program in the hopes of establishing a greater base of employers for our casual labour bank.

**Program Funded: Alberta Human Resources and Employment**  
**Youth Court**  
**Coordinator: Christine Stevens**

The Youth Court Program operates from The Law Courts of Edmonton, and assists youth aged twelve to seventeen years of age who are appearing in Youth Criminal Court. It has been in operation since 1990.

This past year, the program had 18 enthusiastic volunteers who contributed 477 hours towards assisting these youth. Many of these volunteers are students who are interested in pursuing careers in the legal field. These volunteers assisted 2,973 youth, and provided 2,417 units of service.

Prior to court beginning, the Youth Court volunteers provide information relating to the youth' s court appearance, including options, support, and practical information. They provide referrals to Duty Counsel, Legal Aid, Native Counselling, youth workers, and other agencies and applicable resources. In addition, they are able to provide the names of assigned counsel, and assist the Youth Criminal Defense Office by obtaining relevant data.

Once court is in session, they keep accurate statistical information on the daily dockets that are provided by the Clerk' s Office. This data is of assistance to persons arriving late, lawyers, and other youth workers. The youth staff and volunteers work in collaboration to assist the youth appearing in court.

In December 2002, several volunteers assisted with the Christmas party at E.Y.O.C. The girls had an enjoyable time interacting with the volunteers, and making gingerbread houses together, prior to Santa' s arrival.

There should be many changes after the new Justice in Youth Criminal Justice Act is implemented as of April 2003. It will be interesting to see how these changes affect the Youth Court System as it stands now. The main emphasis of the Act are reintegration and rehabilitation.

The volunteers look forward to the changes with keen anticipation. The Youth Court Program continues to run effectively due to their participation and dedication.

**Program Funded: Alberta Law Foundation**



## **Agency Staff 2002**

Sara McEwan - Executive Director (*until August 2002*)

Beverly Sochatsky - Executive Director (*since October 2002*)

Zelekash Alemu - Financial/Office Manager

Bev Tweedle - Administrative Assistant/Pardon Project Coordinator

Jackie Horejsi - Adult Court Coordinator  
Christine Stevens - Youth Court/CAFFY/Legal Clinic Programs Coordinator  
Sarah Stewart - Volunteer Coordinator, Changing Paths Program Coordinator  
Dorthe Flauer - Volunteer Coordinator, SAFEST Program Coordinator  
Angie Abdul-Malek - SAFEST Program Co-Facilitator  
Wanda Gorician - Prison Liaison Program Coordinator (*until October 2002*)  
Alma Swan - Prison Liaison Program Coordinator (*since November 2002*)  
Mary-Ann Lepers - Community Resources Program Coordinator  
Mayo Gardipee - Private Home Placement Coordinator (*Jan - March 2002*)  
Melanie Shepard - Private Home Placement Coordinator (*since April 2002*)  
Elsie Paul - Aboriginal Women's Program Coordinator (*until April 2002*)  
Dorothy Daniels - Interim Aboriginal Women's Program Coordinator  
Tammy Wasman - Aboriginal Women's Program Coordinator (*since Nov 2002*)  
Kari-Ann Harrison - Aboriginal Crafts and Teachings

### **Agency Placement/Practicum Students**

Cassandra Charles	Amanda Mitchell
Tavrie Gibson	Nicole Moncrieff
JoAnn McCartney	Corrine Trottier
Shelagh McGregor	Ibrahim Turay
Brandy Mischuk	Crystal Waldrum

### **Summer Staff**

Janet Blyan	Kate Faught
Stephanie Chappell	Dawn Stratichuk



### **2002 Private Home Providers**

Barbara & Len Belcourt	Linda Logan
Gloria Edwards	Rick & Kierra Maher
Penny Frank	Dave & Elizabeth Martian
Marion Garneau	Dona Mills
Laverna Gibb	Karen Quigley
Pauline Gluckie	Lavina & Edward Rahn

Terry Kronlund  
Sharon & Ron Kluss

Aline Savoie  
Ken Sutherland

**2002 Supported Private Home Providers**

Shahido Adam & Christopher Piper  
Lori Gibb & Garry Griffin  
Mary McDonald & Albert Ward

