



# RESOLVE *news*

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOR SOLUTIONS  
TO VIOLENCE AND ABUSE

Volume 3 Number 4

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*"Building the smallest democracies at the heart of society."*  
The United Nations: The International Year of the Family, 1994

Agreement# 1472364

## A Rare Gift



By Jane Ursel

*"For centuries women from all cultures have been coming together to deal with our youth, our foundation, and our future. Our children have always come first" It is in this spirit that the women of Crossroads 2000 gathered for a weekend to learn, share, discuss, and renew their commitment to the well-being of urban Aboriginal youth."*

~ Michele Stanners



In March 2000 the Council for Canadian Unity approached the Canada West Foundation and the Aboriginal Opportunities Committee of the Calgary Chamber of Commerce to seek support for an interesting project. This project, **Crossroads 2000**, brought together 25 Aboriginal and 25 non-Aboriginal women selected for their knowledge, experience and interests in Aboriginal youth issues. The gathering's objectives were:

- ❖ To create an opportunity to develop a network of influential Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women from diverse communities, corporate, political, social and governmental backgrounds, and work towards a means to sustain it;
- ❖ To raise the awareness of the participants and the greater public of the opportunities and challenges for Aboriginal youth;
- ❖ To encourage the participants to make a personal commitment to take their learning to their spheres of influence in order to create opportunities for urban Aboriginal youth; and
- ❖ To create a conference model that can be repeated in other urban centres.

This November, I had the privilege and opportunity to participate in *Crossroads 2001* in Winnipeg. We began with the understanding that it takes a community to raise a child and we explored the challenge of *Crossroads*: "Can our two communities come together to discuss the needs and potential of aboriginal youth who have inherited the damaging legacy of our great cultural divide"? Our starting point was to make our own talking sticks, as Elder Mae Louise Campbell instructed us on the process of a *sharing circle*. We heard from some outstanding speakers, Senator Thelma Chalifoux (Senate of Canada) and Grand Chief Margaret Swan. We had some challenging panel discussions on racism and aboriginal history and a heartrending panel on the sexual exploitation of children through prostitution. It was a two-day emotional roller coaster of inspirational highs ~ as we heard the stories of women who had surmounted unbelievable odds to become leaders in their community; and painful periods of tears and sorrow ~ as the stories of racism, violence and abuse were told.

I struggle to try to capture the electric atmosphere of those two days, to explain why I experienced the gathering as a "rare gift". I can't do it with the usual documentation of presentations, information and events. I would like to try to do it in terms of my personal experience, my learning in this extraordinary sharing circle. For me it was an

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## Margaret Newall Receives Honourary Doctor of Laws At University of Manitoba Fall Convocation



*The following is an edited excerpt of Jane Ursel's introduction of Margaret Newall at convocation.*

Margaret Newall has devoted her life and work to the promotion of healthy families throughout her career as a teacher, a mother and through her activities as a volunteer and philanthropist. It is fitting, therefore, that we honour Mrs. Margaret Newall in recognition of her outstanding contribution to research and education in pursuit of solutions to family violence and abuse.

Margaret Newall was born in Davidson, Saskatchewan. From her earliest days Margaret has demonstrated a deep commitment to the benefits of education and the value of family. As a young woman with no money to attend university, she took her "Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Toronto" (ARCT) in piano at Regina College. Then for several years she traveled weekly by bus to Craig Saskatchewan to give piano lessons to pay her way through University. Margaret graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a Bachelor of Arts (With Distinction) in 1958. Married in 1959, she and her husband, Ted Newall settled in Roxboro, Quebec. Margaret was one of a small group of women who organized fund-raising to set up the first library in Roxboro.

Later, in Montreal she attended McGill University where she qualified as a teacher receiving her diploma in 1972. After moving to Toronto she taught elementary school for ten years. During that period she worked with many children with a great range of needs and abilities and saw the impact of family violence on young children of six, seven and eight years of age. The Montreal Massacre of 1989 touched her deeply.

After moving to Calgary with her husband, she found an opportunity to make a difference in the area of violence and abuse. Margaret Newall became a founding member and key resource person in the establishment of the Prairieaction Foundation in 1997. The Foundation was set up specifically to raise \$5 million dollars to promote research and education for solutions to violence and abuse. The endowed funds are dedicated to support research and education on family violence and maintain the infra structure of a network of researchers, service providers and policy makers in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Within three and a half years the foundation is now

extremely close to reaching its goal.

Such successful fundraising for research in the social sciences is an almost unheard of accomplishment in Canada. Margaret Newall led the campaign visiting corporations, governments and individuals across the Prairies and Central Canada. Margaret used her visits to potential donors to educate people about the issues of violence and abuse. While corporations are often reluctant to give to foundations and are not usually major donors to social science research, Margaret was not deterred. The power of her commitment to families and her belief in the importance of education and research overcame the barriers she encountered and led to such a successful campaign. Rather than rest on her laurels, Margaret Newall has agreed to stay on to raise even more funds.

Margaret Newall has shown leadership in every community in which she has lived, in the promotion of education, family well



Margaret Newall

Photo: Bob Talbot, Imaging Services

being and in serving the public good. Margaret is a Prairie woman, quiet, unassuming but filled with strength, inner commitment and no stranger to hard work. Margaret's involvement with her communities and the circumstances of her life have given her a unique position in society. She personally knows many government leaders, national and provincial, she personally knows many corporate leaders, national and international, she personally knows victims and survivors of family violence, as well as service providers and researchers in the field.

Margaret's deep commitment and wisdom has been to harness the energies of these diverse communities to work together for solutions to violence and abuse.

This is a very special convocation for me because at the same time that Margaret Newall is being honoured for her accomplishments we will today witness one example of the results of her good work. Today, Lisa Murdock will receive her Master's Degree for research she has done on violence and anger among aboriginal women. Lisa's outstanding work has been funded, in part, by her employment at RESOLVE over the past three and a half years ~ employment made possible by the fundraising undertaken by Margaret Newall.

It is unfortunate that mainstream Canadian culture does not have the tradition of "elders" practiced in aboriginal culture. Because Margaret Newall is very much our elder, our wise woman, she has enriched the lives of so many by her commitment to research and education for solutions to violence and abuse. "Mr. Chancellor, it is an honour and a privilege for me to ask in the name of the Senate of the University of Manitoba that you confer upon Margaret Newall, the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa."

## RESOLVE Manitoba Update



- ❖ A three year outcome and process evaluation of the Ndaawin "Our Place" project is underway. The project seeks to provide education and alternatives for young girls who are at risk of being sexually exploited. Prevention is the focus of the activities initiated by the program. The Ndaawin project is an example of community response to observed community need. The opportunity for community and academic collaboration towards reducing the sexual exploitation of youth is provided through this evaluation.
- ❖ The evaluations of three Manitoba service provider agencies are currently in progress. Clients, staff, board members, collateral agencies, and in one case, funding agencies are being interviewed/surveyed to obtain a perspective of the aspects of the agencies that are satisfactory and the aspects that require change or improvement. These evaluations are indicative of service providers' continued efforts to effectively respond to the needs of the individuals and families they service.
- ❖ RESOLVE and SPR Associates Inc. in Toronto have partnered to conduct an environmental scan of family violence research and initiatives throughout Canada within the last five years. The project will result in a document that will clearly outline Canadian resources and information that can be used by service providers and academics. The document will be available through Health Canada in April 2002 and RESOLVE will be able to assist in obtaining the catalogued research, programs, and reports in this document.

RESOLVE Manitoba is preparing to begin data collection for the civil legislation component of the Community University Research Alliance (CURA) Fellowship Project. As reported in the Winter 2001 issue of *RESOLVEnews*, RESOLVE Alberta was successful in obtaining funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) to conduct a tri-provincial study into the law enforcement, justice and community responses to domestic violence. One component of the CURA Project involves an examination of the civil legislation developed in each of the three provinces over recent years. Saskatchewan implemented its *Victims of Domestic Violence Act* in 1995, Alberta followed with the *Protection Against Family Violence Act* in June of 1999, and *The Domestic Violence and Stalking Prevention, Protection and Compensation Act* of Manitoba came into force on September 30, 1999. Each of these provincial Acts were developed to increase the range of remedies available to protect the victims of domestic violence. Part of this research component will be to interview individuals who have accessed the civil system to explore their views on the effectiveness of the orders available under the legislation. Data collection in Manitoba is scheduled to begin early in 2002.

### Men's Resource Centre

The Men's Resource Centre (MRC) recently opened in the Elizabeth Hill Counselling Centre at the University of Manitoba. The MRC assists men in finding healthy ways to deal with the demands and emotional difficulties men encounter in work, family and personal relationships. It is the intent of the MRC to reduce the probability that men will cope in ways that present a risk to themselves or others. It is expected the services provided will benefit men's partners and the children with whom men are involved. The MRC is funded by the Family Violence Prevention Program, Family Services and Housing, Government of Manitoba. Services can be accessed through the intake line at (204) 956-6562 or toll-free at 1-866-672-3422. For more information, visit their website: [www.elizabethhill.ca](http://www.elizabethhill.ca).



### In Memory

Each year on December 6, many events are held across Canada to commemorate the deaths of fourteen female students who were murdered at Montreal's Ecole Polytechnique on that date in 1989. As you read this, please pause in a moment of silence to remember these women who tragically lost their lives and to recognize women worldwide who live with the threat of gender-based violence.

#### Montreal, 1989:

<i>Genevieve Bergeron (21)</i>	<i>Maryse Laganier (25)</i>
<i>Helene Colgan (23)</i>	<i>Maryse Leclair (23)</i>
<i>Nathalie Croteau (23)</i>	<i>Anne-Marie Lemay (27)</i>
<i>Barbara Daigneault (22)</i>	<i>Sonia Pelletier (28)</i>
<i>Anne-Marie Edward (21)</i>	<i>Michele Richard (21)</i>
<i>Maud Haviernick (29)</i>	<i>Annie St-Arneault (23)</i>
<i>Barbara Maria Klucznik (31)</i>	<i>Annie Turcotte (21)</i>

#### Manitoba, 2001:

<i>Gloria Burns (71)</i> Winnipeg
<i>Eileen Mary Houle (35)</i> Ebb and Flow First Nation
<i>Noreen Taylor (32)</i> Winnipeg

## Saskatchewan Community Profile: Nancy Poon



**N**ancy Poon has a Certificate in Family Violence from the University of Regina and is currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of Saskatchewan. In preparation for 2002 accreditation bodies, she is currently concluding a comprehensive survey of the demographics of all College of Medicine graduates at the University of Saskatchewan since the college's inception. She also works as an administrative assistant to Les Samuelson who is conducting an international research series on Aboriginal peoples and criminal justice projects. The first project, "Healing Journeys of Incarcerated Aboriginal Women in Australia, New Zealand, and Canada," has just recently been completed. The two remaining proposed topics are "Colonization and Corrections: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on Aboriginal Peoples and the Corrections System," and "Aboriginal Familial Abuse: Abusers and Sex Offenders in Corrections: How to Get Non-Offenders."

Nancy is a sessional lecturer in the areas of Penology and Corrections; and Family Violence and Societal Values, Violence Against an Intimate Partner. Her areas of specialization include domestic violence, penology, corrections, criminology, and, most recently, Aboriginal peoples and criminal justice. She joined the RESOLVE Saskatchewan team because of her long term interest in the area of domestic violence. She believes that it is important to support, and, more importantly, learn from, other jurisdictions. RESOLVE's tri-provincial structure allows her to do this.

### WEB SCAN

*Information on violence against women:*

**Canadian Association of Sexual Assault Centres**

❖ [www.casac.ca](http://www.casac.ca)

**End Violence Against Women**

❖ [www.endvaw.org](http://www.endvaw.org)

**Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse**

❖ [www.mincava.umn.edu](http://www.mincava.umn.edu)

**Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence**

❖ [www.pwhce.ca](http://www.pwhce.ca)

## Saskatchewan Community Profile: Rae Hart



**R**ae Hart is a senior policy analyst with the Saskatchewan Women's Secretariat who specializes in Aboriginal women's issues. Rae says of the Women's Secretariat, "Our biggest claim to fame [with regard to Aboriginal women's issues] is our 'Profile of Aboriginal Women in Saskatchewan.' It paints a somewhat bleak picture of poverty and violence, poor health and the most unpaid work of any group in our society. On the bright side, four out five women obtaining post-secondary education at the SIFC and GDI, are women."

In addition, Rae sits on the Aboriginal Government Employees Network (AGEN), an organization of government and crown corporation employees. The goal of AGEN is to help create a workforce that is representative of Aboriginal people, in all occupations and at all levels.



Rae Hart

Rae also sits on the Interdepartmental Committee on Family Violence, which is co-chaired by the Women's Secretariat and Justice. For Rae, this has created an obvious link between RESOLVE's goals and the Secretariat's mandate to work to end violence. Rae says,

***"My interests are global, and I never am ceased to be amazed at what people will tolerate and not attempt to change the injustice we see in our country, but also worldwide."***

Rae spends her free time playing duplicate bridge.



## RESOLVE Alberta



### RESOLVE Research Day



Robbie Babins-Wagner and Leslie Tutty

RESOLVE held its third annual research day on Friday, November 9 at the University of Calgary. The theme of this year's conference was "Preventing Violence: Challenges, Strategies, and Opportunities." The Research Day was in recognition of "Turn Off the Violence Week", a Calgary public awareness campaign. The event was a huge success with over 225 people in attendance, including researchers, service providers, policy makers, and students. Researchers from across Canada, as well as service providers from across the prairie provinces shared the latest research findings and innovative programming on issues of violence and abuse. The day consisted of over 30 groundbreaking presentations ranging in scope from violence prevention, treatment and intervention, to policy. In particular, the results of the National Girl Child Project, a national study on violence in the lives of Canadian girls was presented, including RESOLVE's research on girls sexually exploited through prostitution. Dr. Ann Cameron, University of British Columbia gave the keynote address, speaking on the importance of collaborative research for preventing violence. RESOLVE would like to thank all who participated in making the Research Day a success.



Gayla Rogers, Anne Wiebe, Margaret Newall and Raymond Currie

### Alberta Update

- ❖ We would like to welcome Laura Cavicchi on board as our new Research Associate. Laura worked as our summer research assistant and has recently completed her Master in Social Work. The office has been very busy organizing this year's Research Day.
- ❖ Kendra Nixon, along with Doris Toy-Pries presented RESOLVE Alberta's evaluation of the ACAV's Youth Violence Prevention Coordinator at the Family Violence Conference in San Diego in September. The Final Report is available at the RESOLVE Alberta office, if anyone is interested.
- ❖ RESOLVE Alberta has been asked to be involved in a few new projects. One project will examine the relationship between PMS (premenstrual syndrome) and women's parenting ability. This project is in collaboration with Lynn Barry, the trainer for Calgary Rocky View Child and Family Services and the Canadian Society for the Investigation of Child Abuse. RESOLVE Alberta will also be assisting with a 10-year review of a Calgary-based court preparation and witness program for children. In addition, RESOLVE Alberta will be assisting with an evaluation of the Society Against Family Violence, a violence education and prevention organization in the Bow Valley area.

### Alberta Community Agency Profile

**Safe Haven Foundation of Canada** is a privately funded, non-profit organization that provides long-term homes with stable family environments and lifetime relationships for homeless and at-risk teen girls and empower them to achieve self-sufficiency. Currently there are two homes in Calgary. This is a unique and innovative program whose goal is to work with teenage girls who are interested in taking responsibility for their lives and to work within a family structure to end the cycle of abuse and homelessness. Safe Haven Foundation is not a treatment facility, a shelter, a drug/alcohol program or set up to deal with issues of prostitution. Instead, the program is designed to provide "life long" homes for girls between the ages of 12 and 21 with a safe place to live for as long as they need to finish school, work through their personal difficulties and become responsible and self-reliant adults. Qualified adult caregivers, a program coordinator and peer mentor will support the girls and help them learn family values. The program will ensure that each young girl has access to a range of support services – healthcare, education, career planning, counselling and life skills training. If anyone would like more information, please contact Sandra McCrone (403) 230-2613 or fax (403) 230-9453.

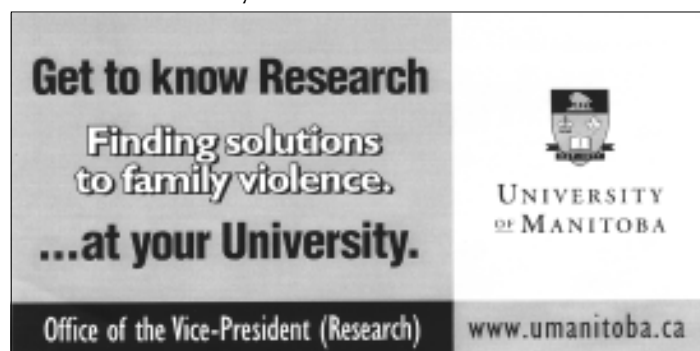
## *Increasing the Profile of Family Violence Research on Campus*



A number of events have occurred this fall which have substantially increased the profile of family violence research on campus. On October the 4 the RESOLVE research partnership involving seven prairie Universities held its first board meeting in Winnipeg. Six of the seven Universities were represented, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, and Brandon University, University of Saskatchewan and Universities of Calgary and Alberta. In addition to the University representatives each province sent two community representatives and the Prairieaction Foundation was represented by President Raymond Currie. This meeting gave us an opportunity to meet with the key actors at each university and discuss how the partner universities could promote and encourage the RESOLVE research network. The board meets twice a year with one in-person meeting in the fall and one conference call meeting in the spring. We are hoping to encourage more members of the RESOLVE Regional Council to attend as observers, because it is a rare opportunity to get all of our universities in one room to focus specifically on RESOLVE.

The second event highlighting family violence research in a very public forum on the University of Manitoba campus was the awarding of an honorary doctorate to Margaret Newall at the fall convocation October 18. Margaret was recognized for her outstanding

work as Chair of the Prairieaction Foundation (see story on page 2). It provided both Margaret as the recipient of the award and Jane Ursel as the host, an opportunity to address the 'full house' at convocation about the accomplishments of RESOLVE and the importance of family violence research. Shortly after, on Nov. 9, RESOLVE Alberta sponsored our network Research Day at the University of Calgary. The event attracted over 200 agencies to the campus to hear about the results of our research in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Finally, the University of Manitoba is working to advertize their research to the broader community. We are pleased to see that one of the billboards (pictured below) features family violence research as an important issue for our University and our community.



Graphic courtesy of the University of Manitoba Industry Liaison Office and the PATTISON Outdoor Group

### *A Rare Gift (cont'd from page 1)*



opportunity to listen deeply and carefully to voices that are too often silenced or dismissed as the voices of "the other". In listening to the stunning honesty and insight of the Aboriginal women who spoke, I became aware of my personal history/culture/beliefs/attitudes. My tendency has been to define strength only through the absence of weakness, wisdom only through the absence of mistakes, success only through the absence of failure. This harsh, linear, polarized terrain is fertile ground for competition, individualism, hierarchy and dominance. There seems so little space, so little tolerance for the complexity of human experience, the rich and paradoxical development of the human spirit. It may not be all of my history/culture/beliefs/attitudes, but it is a very big part. As I listened to the Aboriginal girls', women's, and elders' stories of pain, violence, anger, recovery and self discovery I was struck by the softness of their voice, the smooth roundness of their vision and philosophy. They speak a language of balance, that simply and powerfully grasps the paradox of their lives ~ the strength that emerges from years of degradation and abuse, the wisdom distilled from their struggle, their survival. I don't mean to romanticize ~ there is nothing romantic about these women's experiences ~ however, I do want to communicate what I

learned. I began to understand their cultural concept of balance and their ceremonial rituals. They are the mind-set of survival, they are the rituals of respect. These are the rules of engagement for a people living in a hostile environment. These are also the rules of gentle, respectful coexistence with nature and one another. There are lessons for all of us in their philosophy, their spirituality.

I have learned the lessons of my culture well, I am the consummate pragmatist, goal oriented and outcome focused. I was a little disoriented by my experience. I did not emerge from the two day gathering with a three point action plan, membership on two new boards, nor a list of meetings and activities I must attend. It was hard for me to tell it was over! However, upon reflection I recognized the gift. I had two uninterrupted days to listen and learn. I had an opportunity to understand a different culture, a wise and ancient culture. I had an opportunity to open my mind and my heart to a different perspective. I have changed! I will work with my Aboriginal colleagues, co-workers and friends in the light of this new understanding. Clearly this is what the Canadian Council for Unity is all about.

## Announcements



❖ Dr. Jane A. Simington of Edmonton, AB has worked with Correctional Services Canada (CSC) to deliver psychoeducational programming supplemented by individual counselling/healing work. Several of the programs have content on domestic violence, including "Journey to Hope and Healing: Beyond Trauma and Abuse" and "Family of Origin: Advanced Healing Strategies". Simington and her associates have recently completed a program for the nursing department at CSC emphasizing the effects of sexual trauma and focusing on strategies for healing from sexual abuse. In association with the Victorian Order of Nurses in Edmonton, Simington produced a video entitled "Listening to Soul Pain", which focuses on recognizing and responding to the intense spiritual struggle many experience as they try to find their personal answers around the reasons for the traumatic events which take place in their lives. The video won the Alberta Motion Picture Best Teaching/Communication Award. Inquiries regarding the video may be

directed to Joan Wagner, Executive Director, VON (Edmonton Branch) at (780) 466-0293.

❖ Health Canada recently released the publication "Guidebook on Vicarious Trauma: Recommended Solutions for Anti-Violence Workers". This publication was prepared by Jan I. Richardson of the Centre for Research on Violence Against Women and Children in London, Ontario for the Family Violence Prevention Unit, Health Canada. The report can be obtained from the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence website at [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/familyviolence/index.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/familyviolence/index.html).

❖ Members of the RESOLVE network and community colleagues recently presented their research activities at RESOLVE's third annual research day held in Calgary (see story on page 5). Abstracts of these presentations will soon be available on RESOLVE's website at [www.umanitoba.ca/resolve](http://www.umanitoba.ca/resolve).

## Conferences



**March 22 - 24, 2002** "The Role of the Justice Initiatives in Family Violence", Ramada Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg. This weekend conference is being presented by The University of Manitoba Applied Counselling Certificate Program. Friday night a distinguished panel of Community people involved in Family Violence and the Justice System will address the role of the justice system in Family Violence: What are the issues? What are the changes? What are some of the challenges they face? These are a few of the questions the panel will address. Saturday and Sunday, Shirley Turcotte will address the impact of family violence on individuals, families and communities. For further information call April Dunn at (204) 474-8022.

**May 5 - 8, 2002** "Canada's Children...Canada's Future 2002", Toronto, ON. This conference will present the latest thinking about working with children. Workshops will highlight best practices and innovative programming to support and treat vulnerable children and strengthen families to care for them. Details can be obtained by phone: (416) 366-8115; fax: (416) 366-8317; or e-mail: [info@oacas.org](mailto:info@oacas.org).

**May 12 - 15, 2002** "20th Anniversary Symposium on Violence Against Women", Coast Plaza Hotel at Stanley Park, Vancouver, BC. This event marks the 20th anniversary of the tabling of "Report on Violence in the Family: Wife Battering" in the Canadian House of Commons. The symposium will explore and critically analyze the initiatives and policy directions that have occurred over recent decades in the area of violence against women, and will celebrate and honour the survivors of violence as well as the efforts of anti-violence workers. For more information, contact Morgen Baldwin at [baldwinmt@home.com](mailto:baldwinmt@home.com).

**May 23 - 25, 2002** "Children and Poverty: The Impact of Economic, Social and Political Choices", Hilton Hotel - Montreal Airport, Dorval, QC. This conference will bring together experts and professionals working towards the best interests of children. The themes will include: poverty and exploitation, juvenile prostitution, poverty and Aboriginal communities, solutions through the community approach, poverty and family changes, children and the legal system, children's rights and social programs and more. For further details, contact the Organization for the Protection of Children's Rights (OPCR) by phone: (514) 593-4303; fax: (514) 596-4659; or go to their website: [www.osde.ca](http://www.osde.ca).

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### ***Supporting solutions to violence and abuse***

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### ***Fond Farewells and Enthusiastic Welcomes at PAF!***



Prairieaction Foundation's Annual General Meeting was held on Nov. 8, 2001. During that meeting, we said a fond and appreciative farewell to three of our long-serving Board members: Brad Hunter, Denis Smail and Teri McNaught. Brad Hunter, from Regina, has been with PAF since our inception, and has provided valuable legal expertise through our growing pains over the first few years. Brad also served as our Secretary. Denis Smail, from Balgonie, SK, shared with us his marketing and communications expertise, as well as his many, many Saskatchewan contacts, for which we are very grateful. And lastly, but by no means least, is our Treasurer, Teri McNaught, from Calgary. Teri has worked tirelessly to ensure that PAF's books are balanced to the penny. She has also had the daunting task of setting up our initial endowment fund to ensure that it is producing through what we know are difficult financial times. Teri has done it all with thoroughness, grace and above all a wonderful sense of humour that we will all miss.

At the same time, we welcomed three new Directors to our Board. Gail O'Brien, from Calgary, joins us with a distinguished record of volunteer service, most recently with the YWCA Calgary. Gail brings a wealth of non-profit and business expertise to PAF, and we are delighted she has joined our family. Sunny Delaney-Clark, also from Calgary, joins PAF as our new Treasurer. Sunny came to Canada from Korea and has spent many years in management with the Royal Bank, where she had the opportunity to help advance in particular

the business aspirations of women and aboriginal people. Sheila Denysiuk, from Saskatoon, takes over as our Legal Advisor. Sheila is a solicitor at Walker Plaxton, and has been the Chair of the Saskatchewan Gaming Commission, as well as a sessional lecturer at the University of Saskatchewan. A warm welcome to Sheila, Sunny and Gail!

### ***A Family Affair***

We at PAF pride ourselves on our family atmosphere, but we did not know how true that was until a couple of years ago. That's when our Treasurer, Teri McNaught, suggested she had the perfect person to fill the position of Development Associate in our office – her mother, Pat Johnston! For the past two years, this mother-daughter team has ensured that PAF is on a financial fast track to success. Teri is fond of saying that her most important contribution to PAF is bringing Pat on board, and although no one will argue with her, she has contributed a great deal more to PAF as Treasurer in terms of her time, energy and expertise as well. Teri is eloquent in how she feels about working with Pat. "I loved the experience of working with my mom: she is my role model and my inspiration. She is smart, funny, strong, dependable, creative and talented in so many ways!" For Pat, Teri's departure as PAF's Treasurer is also a time to reflect on their time working together. "It truly has been a pleasure and a privilege to have had the opportunity to work with my daughter. She is very committed to the goals and mission of Prairieaction Foundation and I have enjoyed learning from her and working with her."

#### **RESOLVE Manitoba**

~ Jane Ursel ~

Director (Academic)

~ Sharon Perrault ~

Associate Director (Community)

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