

Let's Talk

VOLUME 27, NO. 1

South Meets North in a New Territory

Mission Reintegration

Release on Parole

A Means of Contributing to
Safe Communities



Correctional Service
Canada

Service correctionnel
Canada

Canada

Let's Talk

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Let's Talk

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Public Safety Depends On Partnerships

In the 21st century, we have agreed that effective corrections involves more than institutions and parole offices working together to ensure public safety. Effective corrections is about people from all parts of the community helping us to achieve our mandate, and in the process, building and nurturing partnerships which will be critical to our future success.

Corrections is only one part of Canada's criminal justice system: indeed, we are part of a larger network which includes the police, the courts and various government agencies, all of which are responsible for public safety. But the justice system like other parts of society must respond to the legitimate desire of Canadians to be part of decisions affecting their lives, which means we must create even more opportunities to involve our citizens.

This edition of *Let's Talk* profiles several partnerships with groups and individuals who share our interest in safe and healthy communities. People like Mark Otto and his wife Sharon, who are the Area Director and Office Administrator respectively in Canada's newest territory of Nunavut. Until recently, they were the only CSC employees working in an area of 1.9 million square kilometers, serving a population of 28,000. Mark's work has required him to serve as a catalyst in bringing together the Government of Nunavut, local RCMP detachments, social service and community correctional workers and our own Fenbrook Institution. Together, they are working to address the unique needs of the Inuit and paving the way for more and more offenders to remain in the land of their birth.

Sometimes partnerships are more narrow in scope, but their results are equally impressive. CSC's Pacific Region is the home of an innovative program between the Sumas Community Correctional Centre and the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which has seen the creation of a new kennel for up to 24 dogs-in-training. Federal offenders are the heart and soul of this program, assuming responsibility for problem dogs. Not only do they relieve the pressure on an overburdened community, but

their work helps to eliminate behavior which might otherwise make these animals unsuitable for adoption. Sumas and the SPCA also sponsor the Ark project, which provides temporary shelter for up to 600 cats annually.

Or what about the University of Saskatchewan and the Regional Psychiatric Centre, which have established research and education links allowing RPC staff access to university resources and enabling students in family medicine, psychiatry, psychology and nursing to gain hands-on experience in a clinical setting. This is one of several longstanding relationships between one of our psychiatric centres and a university, which is win/win for both CSC and the communities it serves.

What these and other partnerships demonstrate is how much more we can achieve working with others rather than in isolation. CSC is part of the community and the days are long gone when we could pursue our mandate without the help and support of other organizations and fellow citizens. Whether it is another level of government, an aftercare agency or a community college, CSC staff and offenders are building bridges as never before. In short, partnerships are what make the world go around and help us to realize the goals of our legislation and Mission.



Lucie McClung
Commissioner
Correctional Service of Canada

**Safety,
Respect
and
Dignity
for All**



**La sécurité,
le respect
et la
dignité
pour tous**



South meets North in a New Territory

By Bill Rankin, Communications Officer, Communications and Consultation Sector

It's a brilliant December day in downtown Ottawa. Mark and Sharon Otto eagerly head for the balcony of the Westin Hotel for a cigarette and to soak up some sunshine during a break in their presentation at a parole conference workshop. Where they come from, natural light is in short supply at this time of year. In fact, they've existed in a frozen twilight since November 2001. The sun will barely crack the horizon until the latter part of February 2002, when light will start to gradually seep back into their world.

Mark is Area Director and Sharon is Office Administrator in the newly established territory of Nunavut, population 28,000. Until this year, they were the only Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) employees in the region. It's a huge land mass (1.9 million square kilometres), carved out of the Northwest Territories in 1999 as part of the biggest land claim settlement in Canadian history.

Mark and Sharon are responsible for offenders on parole in 28 communities, accessible only by air or sea, spread over a barren, roadless expanse roughly the size of Mexico. The issues they face in these communities are as daunting as the ice-bound landscape itself – unemployment, family violence, alcoholism, substance abuse and suicide – yet these two displaced southerners find that their jobs in the remote North hold unique rewards.

WHY GO NORTH?

“It seemed like an interesting thing to do, a great opportunity to be instrumental in developing a correctional service,” comments Mark about their reasons for going north in the first place. “There have been some wonderful opportunities with the new Nunavut government. You deal with such a broad range of issues – challenges that have really stretched us and made us think outside the box.”

Another reason for their venture north was to examine the possibility of moving Inuit offenders from Bowden and Fenbrook institutions back to their Native territory. At present, through an exchange of services agreement with Nunavut, federal offenders are initially held in the Baffin Correctional Centre (BCC) – capacity 60 offenders – in Iqaluit [Nunavut's capital city] and then shipped south to serve their time at Fenbrook Institution in Ontario's Muskoka Region. This arrangement is a success due to a unique and very co-operative working relationship between Mark, Ron McCormick, Director of Nunavut Community and Correctional Services, and Warden Mike Provan, Fenbrook Institution.

For new arrivals at Fenbrook, it can be a cultural as well as an environmental shock. Some Inuit have never seen a tree until they alight from the plane in southern Ontario. Depending on how the inmates adjust to life at the institution, the progress they make in programs, and the availability of space, they may be sent back to the

BCC to complete their sentence in more familiar surroundings.

Unlike most people down south, the Inuit are eager to have their offenders returned from federal penitentiaries and supported in their communities. One community, Kugluktuk (formerly called Coppermine), has already submitted a well laid-out proposal for a 20-bed community correctional centre to the Government of Nunavut.



Photo: Bill Rankin

From left to right: Barbara Cook, Director, Federal/Provincial/Territorial Affairs, Sharon Otto and Mark Otto

“To evaluate these possibilities, you have to understand the local situation up here. Well, I thought I understood the place before I got here,” says Mark with a rueful grin, “because I’d worked with Inuit offenders at Bowden and read the books and seen the movies. But after a few weeks in Iqaluit, I realized I didn’t get it. I didn’t get it at all. You have to go there and spend a lot of time before you even begin to understand.”

“Keep in mind, these people have survived up here continuously for 4,000 years without our help. Previous governments have tried to change them – forced resettlement, breaking up families and sending children to residential schools, for example. We know what that did; they’re still feeling the fallout.”

Despite the social ills caused by government experiments in the ’50s and ’60s, Mark and Sharon feel that few Inuit would trade in their snowmobiles and diesel heat for the dog teams and igloos of times past. But they remain wary of the white man’s ways and right now, the entire population is floating on a bubble of independence and optimism due to the creation of the new, largely self-governing territory.

“Don’t try to walk in and tell them what’s best for them,” Mark warns. “They react with immediate resentment. All you can do is suggest alternatives. You have to help them build their own solutions. For that, you have to earn

their trust, and that’s hard to do – and easy to break.”

REACHING COMMUNITIES

Mark describes his long working hours, a large part of which are spent sitting in tiny air terminals waiting for planes to carry him to the far-flung communities where his clients reside. Flight schedules allow him access usually only once a week, if he’s lucky. The journeys, by “combi” (customized Boeing 727s, retrofitted to carry half passengers, half cargo), or prop planes – Hawker-Siddeleys and Twin Otters (the workhorses of Arctic aviation) – are hugely expensive. For example, to fly roundtrip from Iqaluit to Kugluktuk (an equivalent distance would be Ottawa to Edmonton) costs a whopping \$4,500. They are also unpredictable, as these trips are entirely dependent on weather conditions – snow and fog conspire to create killer whiteouts that prevent landings or ground planes indefinitely. There have

been times when Mark has reached a remote destination for a four-hour meeting with a parolee and found himself stranded for many days afterwards.

“Caseload is never the issue here,” he says. “Huge distances and hostile weather are the real barriers. They can make it physically impossible to meet our standards sometimes.

“That’s why it’s very important that we have good working relationships with our territorial counterparts [community corrections workers, social service workers and RCMP detachments] who may be in a certain com-

munity when we’re not. We really need their help. Just to give you an idea, at this time, there are six communities with no workers at all. I had a client in Repulse Bay – no social worker, no RCMP. To see him four times, I had to travel a total of 67 days!”

And if these obstacles aren’t overwhelming enough, there’s the problem of communication. Some Inuit, especially the older ones, speak Inuktitut and little or no English, so translators must accompany parole officers on their visits – another added expense.

Television and e-mail signals to the North, bounced back and forth like ping-pong balls off orbiting satellites, are subject to interference from random fluctuations high in the atmosphere or mechanical breakdown. “Cell phones?” laughs Mark. “Forget it. The networks haven’t penetrated past Iqaluit. I’ve had visitors wonder out loud why they can’t pick up their phone messages. It’s because messages just don’t reach here.”

NEW TERRITORY, NEW IDEAS

It’s coming up to three years now that the Ottos have been in Iqaluit, time enough to form their own opinions about corrections in the North. Its unique challenges call for innovative solutions, Mark feels.

“I think we need to change our focus,” he says. “Maintenance and programs for offenders that we supervise is fine, but we need to get into the schools to reach the kids. Along with the RCMP, we need to be involved in crime prevention – let them know where crime will take them, so they have the opportunity to change before they get in real trouble.”

LOOKING SOUTH

The Ottos will be packing up their belongings and leaving their Iqaluit townhouse for good



View of Iqaluit from the shore

in the summer of 2002. Their children are growing up and Mark and Sharon feel it's time to get them back into a more structured education system. The children are now experiencing some unexpected twists that come from living in such a closed community. "Your daddy put my daddy in jail," said a child in Grade 6, pointing an accusing finger at the Otto's daughter. "How does a kid like my daughter explain the truth?" asks Mark.

LASTING MEMORIES

When they finally leave, the couple will take some lasting images with them.

"What I'll remember most about Nunavut are the huge contrasts," says Mark. "There are people who still live by subsistence hunting. They feed their families by shooting a caribou or going out on the sea ice and harpooning a seal. You might see a hunter walk into the local bank with a high-powered hunting rifle slung over his shoulder. Nobody bats an eye. Imagine somebody armed with a rifle strolling into a bank in downtown Toronto!"

"And I'll never forget the first traditional feast I was invited to – very strange to southerners. Basically, it's a tarpaulin in the middle of a room covered in slabs of raw meat. You saw off a chunk with your knife and have at 'er. And if you decline, it really is a faux pas. I liked the Arctic char, but I don't think I'll ever develop a taste for raw seal!"

"There are elders who still pass the winter nights by playing traditional string games," says Sharon. "Meanwhile, their children are growing up in an MTV world beamed down to them by satellite. These youngsters look to pop culture for answers, not to their elders. It's a difficult time with huge changes."

"But the resilience of the Inuit is absolutely amazing," Mark declares. "To survive in this landscape? I could never do it. Never. The characteristics that have allowed them to survive in such a hostile climate are the same characteristics that will allow them to do really well in other endeavours."

The Ottos have mixed emotions about leaving Iqaluit. They have no definite southern destination yet but would like their next move to be to National Headquarters in Ottawa. Time will tell where they end up. At this moment, they both turn their faces back to the sun, content to catch a few more rays on the hotel balcony before returning to the North. ♦

Mission Reintegration

By Djamila Amellal, Communications Officer,
Communications and Consultation Sector

Photos: Benoit Aquin

"Finally, I'll be a student like the others!" exclaims Keith in a moment of joyful relief. The last 25 minutes had been very tense for the young man, who was awaiting the result of deliberation by members of the National Parole Board (NPB). Thanks to an agreement signed in June 2000 by the Quebec Ministry of Education and the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), Quebec Region, offenders in transition like Keith can take college courses in the community. This gives them an opportunity to regain a sense of self-worth and increases their chances of successful reintegration.

Jean-Pierre Simoneau is in charge of the program at Montreal's Cégep Marie-Victorin. He says that *PRET 2000* is directed at federal offenders who are allowed access to the community without an escort or who have some type of conditional release and would like to take college courses. A resource person assists these applicants with choosing their program of study, integrating into student life, and obtaining a diploma and finally looking for a job. The program is based on values expressed in the Mission of the Correctional Service of Canada. Applicants must be recommended by their parole officer and they must meet eligibility criteria set by CSC, the program *PRET 2000* officer and by the college itself.



Jean-Pierre Simoneau (left), the person in charge of the program *PRET 2000*, Cégep Marie-Victorin in Montreal, and Keith, on conditional release

AFTER A FOUR-YEAR SENTENCE

It was 8:30 a.m. when Keith arrived at the Federal Training Centre (FTC) in Laval, the location of the hearing. Young, good-looking and well dressed, Keith could definitely be mistaken for a student. In fact, he is a 22-year-old offender, incarcerated first at Cowansville Institution, then assigned to the Sherbrooke Correctional Community Centre (CCC) in Montreal. He has served two-thirds of his sentence – three years in a penitentiary.

He speaks about courses, philosophy and sociology with the two young women accompanying him. One of them is a parole officer from Cowansville Institution where Keith was first incarcerated, the other a junior parole officer at the Sherbrooke CCC in Montreal. Jean-Pierre, the *PRET 2000* program officer, joins them for Keith's hearing. Together, they look as though they have high hopes for NPB support this morning.

We are told that the hearing is about to start and file into a small room at the end of the hall, where three rows of chairs are arranged to face the NPB members in charge of reviewing and deliberating Keith's case. To their left is the clerk. On the back wall hangs a poster that reads "1899 – 1999, One Hundred Years of Parole."

Keith sits in the middle of the first row, flanked by the Cowansville parole officer and the *PRET 2000* program officer. The junior officer sits behind him. Keith is surrounded.

THE HEARING BEGINS

One of the Board members, Mrs. Odette Gravel-Dunberry, opens the hearing by addressing Keith and indicating that the subject of the meeting concerns the possible removal of the condition of residency on statutory release. She gives the floor to the clerk who ensures that procedural safeguards are respected – for instance, confirming Keith's authorization to share information and the language of communication he has chosen, asking attendees to identify themselves and state their titles, and stating the presence of CSC observers. Keith acknowledges what has been said. The clerk then gives the floor to the two NPB members who turn to the parole officer (PO).

Keith does not take his eyes off the PO as she speaks. She states the facts about Keith's case: he was sentenced to four years and three months for robbery with violence; he has not attempted to escape since then; he has been very co-operative; he has shown stability in his behaviour and in his studies; he has complied with the condition of avoiding his former accomplices while on conditional release; and he is now more in control of his impulses.

Despite his confident appearance, Keith is very nervous. He listens hopefully to his escorts. Then he starts talking rapidly, using words to fight the stress and anxiety.



Keith, a student just like any other, at the Marie-Victorin Cégep in Montreal

The only mark against him is that he has not taken the anger management program that was recommended in his correctional plan, on the grounds that he wanted to take college courses instead. The PO concludes by recommending that Keith be granted support because, he is capable of focusing his energies. She then hands the floor over to the NPB members.

The second NPB member, Mr. Gilles Roussel, addresses the offender and asks him to talk about himself. Keith tries to explain his criminal deeds. In response to a comment by the member, Keith admits that what he did was serious and that he is sorry for it. He insists that he has changed. When the member asks him to explain why he did such things, he says that it was to make money, that he was frustrated with the lack of it. Keith explains that his violent actions are due to what he witnessed and experienced when he was young. The

member looks him in the eye and declares, "It is hard to imagine you getting slapped."

"Do your studies help you?" the member continues.

"Yes," Keith answers hastily, "psychology, sociology and philosophy, they really help me understand. I am really looking forward to being involved in teamwork with Cégep students."

The member adds that they do not want to sentence him a second time or punish him in any way, but their role is to ensure that his reintegration into society is achieved with as little risk as possible. Emphasizing that the problems leading to crime must be addressed before thinking about the future, Mrs. Gravel-Dunberry reminds him that the anger management program is a major part of his correctional plan.

"Why didn't you take the program?" she asks.

“I enjoy my studies and they didn’t leave me much time for that program,” answers Keith.

“What are your other plans?”

“To take the anger management program,” Keith replies, “join a sports team and deal with my crime problems.”

“But as a student you won’t have enough money,” states Mr. Roussel.

“I will get by. I am entitled to apply for a student loan through the *PRET 2000* program,” Keith responds.

Jean-Pierre, the *PRET 2000* program officer, is next to speak. He confirms that Keith has the skills and energy necessary for college studies. He says that Cégep teachers report that Keith has achieved a good average. They know that Keith is an offender and that his studies help build his self-esteem. Jean-Pierre considers Keith’s academic grades to be very encouraging and, therefore, he supports Keith in his request.

After asking Keith if he has anything to add, the Board members retire for deliberation and we leave the hearing room.

TALKING THROUGH THE STRESS AND ANXIETY

It is 9:30 a.m. In the waiting room, those professionals who accompanied Keith are talking amongst themselves. Keith has just come in after having gone for a smoke outside the centre. He sits closely beside his PO, as though looking for protection. With a red face and a big smile, Keith carries on a conversation with her, saying that there were lots of things he should have said

that he left out. Despite his brave front, Keith is very nervous. He listens hopefully to his escorts. Then he starts talking rapidly, using words to fight the stress and anxiety.

At 9:45 a.m. the clerk enters and asks us to return to the hearing room. All eyes turn to Keith, and his escorts surround him, as if to comfort him. Everyone heads to the hearing room for the members’ final decision.

FREEDOM

His eyes fixed on the NPB members, Keith finally hears the words he has dreamed about ever since he landed in penitentiary. “We have listened to you. You acknowledge that you neglected the anger management program, you also admit that you still have a lot of work to do with the psychologist concerning your personality. However, you are strongly motivated in your studies and your grades are encouraging. We have, therefore, decided not to impose the residency condition but ask that you follow the anger management program in the community, and we wish you good luck!” Keith immediately turns towards his PO and program officer, his eyes full of gratitude, then he thanks the two Board members.

It is 10 a.m. The Board members retire to write the report on the day’s proceedings.

For more information about the *PRET 2000* program – a positive factor in Keith’s statutory release without a residency requirement – contact Jean-Pierre Simoneau at (514) 325-0150, extension 2110. ♦

Release on Parole
A Means of Contributing to Safe Communities

By Doreen Dinn, National Parole Board member, Atlantic Region, and Djamila Amella, Communications Officer, Communications and Consultation Sector

“**Y**ou always worry about those offenders you release. And when you hear a news report about a crime that has been committed, you hope and pray that nobody was hurt and that it wasn’t committed by someone you released,” explains Doreen Dinn, in a voice full of warmth and compassion.

Doreen is a member of the National Parole Board (NPB) in the Atlantic Region. As a Board member, her legal mandate is to make conditional release (parole) decisions, often a very challenging task. For each offender she assesses, she is required to make the least restrictive determination consistent with the protection of society. She must base her decision on a thorough assessment of the offender’s risk to the community. She is also acutely aware of how these decisions cause concern among many groups who are paying attention to the process.

The NPB is the body given the authority by law to release all federal and some provincial offenders on parole. It plays an integral role in the criminal justice system and focuses on the protection of society by making independent conditional release decisions while facilitating the timely and safe integration of offenders as law-abiding citizens.

PRET 2000 is a program offered only in Quebec, open to men and women, francophones and anglophones. Its services are available to all students wishing to take on or complete their studies in all public Cégeps. If interested in the program, please contact Jean-Pierre Simoneau at (514) 325-0150, extension 2110.

PREPARATIONS AND CASE STUDIES

Whenever Doreen travels to a federal institution to interview inmates regarding their applications for release, she has already done a lot of work by thoroughly reviewing their files.

The offenders' files contain significant facts on which she must base her final decisions to grant or deny parole. The files are largely prepared by the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), which is responsible for obtaining police reports on the crimes committed and community assessments, as well as preparing intake assessments and correctional plans when offenders enter the institution. CSC also provides reports outlining the inmates' participation in various programs within the institution, progress made, and professional opinions concerning the risk of re-offending.

The file information helps the Board members formulate a plan for questioning each inmate. Legislation normally requires two NPB members to review parole applications and vote on the decision. In the case of lifers and other complex cases, three Parole Board members must make the review and vote. During the hearing, inmates are accompanied by an institutional parole officer – a CSC employee who has prepared the case for the hearing and made a clear-cut recommendation for or against conditional release.

“It is quite a responsibility and very sobering to realize you are dealing with another human being’s freedom,” Doreen admits.

“It is equally sobering to realize that you have to live with the consequences of releasing someone who re-offends.”

A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY

“It is quite a responsibility and very sobering to realize you are dealing with another human being’s freedom,” Doreen admits. “It is equally sobering to realize that you have to live with the consequences of releasing someone who re-offends.”

“Our approach at each hearing is to review the highlights of the inmate’s criminal life. We ask questions about his/her history and plans for the future. It is crucial to determine whether the individual has changed. In other words, is the person ready to serve the rest of their sentence in the community under the supervision of a parole officer with no undue risk to re-offend?”



Doreen Dinn, National Parole Board member

Doreen is well aware that when dealing with human behaviour it is very difficult to guarantee anything. This is why she must ensure that she has all the information she needs to make the right decision. The information must answer many questions: why the inmate is serving time, what impact the crimes have had on the victims and the community, and most importantly, whether the inmate’s risk has been reduced to a point where it can be effectively and safely managed in the community. Often times, opinions from psychologists and psychiatrists and other trained professionals are considered.

The offender hearing is close to its conclusion when Doreen and her Board member colleague withdraw to deliberate behind closed doors. While the decision is being made, the inmate spends an agonizing period wondering whether his much-dreamt about freedom will slip away. The names of the Board members are affixed to the final decision and it becomes a matter of public record.

FULL DAYS AND IMPORTANT DECISIONS

A typical day for an NPB member can vary a great deal, but it is sure to be busy and pressure packed, especially the days on which victims present written and verbal statements. On this particular occasion, Doreen and her colleague granted day parole to two inmates and full parole to another. They denied release to three inmates. They’ve held six panel hearings in total.

One of the inmates granted day parole was a 32-year-old man serving four years for a series of break-and-enters perpetrated to support his drug habit. Since coming to Springhill Institution, he followed a substance abuse program, earned his General Education degree and secured a job in his home community, where his wife and two children are waiting for him. The inmate’s progress and the fact that he was able to find a job played in his favour. He is required to steer clear of drugs and alcohol throughout his supervision period.

Another inmate granted day parole is a 57-year-old offender serving five and a half years for sex crimes committed against his daughter and one of her friends. He has shown remorse for his crimes and has acknowledged the harm he caused his victims. He received a favourable report from the manager of his sex offender treatment program. A day parole release will allow him to return gradually to the community, with the next six months spent in a halfway house. He has also been strictly ordered to avoid any contact with the victims of his crimes.

Among those who were denied parole in this series of panel hearings is an inmate serving a sentence for drug-related crimes, spousal abuse and assault causing bodily harm. This was his second period of incarceration. The Board members felt that further program involvement and more positive changes during incarceration were necessary.

While reflecting on the day, Doreen felt that she was fair in her risk assessment of the inmates and to the communities where they will return. Doreen says she truly believes that parole is the best way to ensure public protection.

“There are no absolute guarantees or safeguards when it comes to human behaviour, but it’s my job to make decisions, and I know that I must make many of them on a daily basis. I always make them with public protection as the paramount concern,” she said with heartfelt conviction.

The National Parole Board is available to answer questions. For further information, please contact NPB Communications at (613) 954-6549. ♦

An Institutional Emergency Response Team comprised of IERT instructors from all regions. Front row, left to right: Leon Durette, Mark Noon-Ward, Albert Boucher. Back row, left to right: Carl McLaughlin, Réjean Viola. Missing from photo: Richard Allen.



Cell Extraction Video

By Bill Rankin, Communications Officer, Communications and Consultation Sector

Photos: Bill Rankin

The shouts and curses of agitated men bounce off cement walls like rifle shots; heavy boots crash against steel barriers in a steady rhythm. Offenders press their faces against the narrow glass windows of their cell doors, craning their necks to gain a better view up the corridor. A heavy door at the end of the corridor suddenly swings open to reveal a phalanx of men clad from head to foot in black protective gear – shiny helmets, gas masks, face and body shields, and padded boots.

As they move forward through the cell-block, the volume of shouting increases; the inmates' faces behind the glass contort with the effort, mouths twisted, veins in their necks distended.

"Cut! Cut!" shouts the director. He darts out from behind his video monitor, clapping his hands together for attention. The men in black halt in their tracks, lift their face shields and mop their dripping brows. The inmates' cries subside, their cell doors open and they saunter out into the corridor with sheepish

grins on their faces. The cameraman slowly rises from his crouch.

"Guys, please don't look at the camera," says Director Raymond Charrette, pleading to the inmates. "Follow the action. When the Institutional Emergency Response Team [IERT] comes through that door, don't take your eyes off them. OK?"

The offenders nod and grin, elbowing each other like schoolboys as they head back to their cells. A correctional officer moves nimbly up the corridor, securing the cell doors behind them. The IERT members lower their face shields and shuffle back to their places.

"OK! Quiet, please," Charrette commands. "Cameras . . ." He raises his arm above his head, pauses, then brings it down in a decisive stroke. "Roll!"

"Cameras rolling," the cameraman confirms.

"Action!"

Again, shouts rise from the inmates' throats. One enthusiast amongst them improvises by pounding a metal box against the inside of a cell door like a giant fist. BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! The soundman flinches at the sudden din in his earphones then smiles and gives a reassuring thumbs-up to the director. The action continues.

This is just one scenario in the production of a new Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) video. The location is a cellblock within the Prison for Women, which hasn't housed a genuine inmate for two years now.



Director Raymond Charrette briefs Assistant Deputy Commissioner Thérèse Leblanc and regional IERT instructors on an upcoming scene.



Playing an inmate, actor Ian Bertrand is filmed in his cell by cameramen Brian Morris and Gary Lackner.



Technical advisor Butch Snider and make-up artist Sandra Little give Bertrand an inflamed face to mimic the effects of inflammatory spray.



Bertrand “throws the book” at director Charrette, while cameraman Lackner catches the action.



The cell extraction procedure is carefully followed. The inmate is handcuffed while an IERT member records the procedure.

The “inmates” in the film normally work on the other side of the bars; they are correctional officer (CO) recruits from the Kingston CO staff college. They’re taking part in a CSC production with a serious intent: to educate staff and managers about cell extractions, presenting the reality of how they are carried out and the policy and procedures behind the actions.

“Some of the scenes are graphic,” says Denyse Plante, Director General, Learning and Career Development. “We’ve tried to make it as meaningful and realistic as possible. However, the overall emphasis is on negotiation and co-operation, not physical coercion. The video covers the full range of situations within the Situation Management Model and demonstrates the legal framework governing the application of this model. Cell extractions are always a last resort with uncooperative inmates.”

Senior Project Officer Lisa Quirion agrees. “The staff are amazing – true professionals. They don’t retaliate if they are abused because they have the equipment and training to handle the situations.” Lisa knows. She’s a former IERT member herself. She’s guided the project from its inception, writing the script with the help of a creative team from Affinity Productions, scouting locations, choosing actors and CSC staff to play the parts, and coordinating the shoot with Director Raymond Charrette and his film crew.

“It’s been a great experience,” says Lisa. “The film crew was very enthusiastic from the beginning and we’ve had the help of some top-notch CSC staff – regional IERT instructors, nurses, primary workers from Joliette Institution, Staff Trainer Loretta Mazzocchi,

Correctional Officer Daniel Gilbert, Warden Mike Provan, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Thérèse Leblanc and others.”

Ontario Regional IERT trainer, Butch Snider, a man with an international reputation in his field, was on hand as a technical advisor during the entire shoot. Butch has seen big improvements over the years in how difficult prisoners are handled.

“The Situation Management Model evolved out of changes to the law and from a number of important inquiries in the late ’70s,” says Butch. “It’s come a long way from the days when a few of the biggest COs [correctional officers] would go into a cell and pin a troublesome inmate to the wall using a mattress. Today we put a lot of emphasis on negotiation with difficult inmates before we think about an extraction.”

The video is the first in a series initiated by Learning and Career Development. There are three more on the drawing board: a Search and Seizure video currently being produced in Pacific Region; The History of CSC, to be done in Prairie Region; and another on the theme of Community Safety, to be produced in Toronto. ♦

IERTs 25th Anniversary

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of emergency response teams in Correctional Service of Canada institutions. IERTs are staffed voluntarily by men and women who carry out difficult work in dangerous situations. Their skills and courage are admired and appreciated by CSC staff across the entire country.

Congratulations to all members!

Recognition for One of the “Originals”

By Bill Rankin, Communications Officer, Communications and Consultation Sector

At the 2001 Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) National Conference in Mont Tremblant, Quebec, Commissioner Lucie McClung acknowledged the long-time contribution of Correctional Supervisor Gisèle Côté by presenting to her a certificate of appreciation.

Gisèle began her CSC career in 1979 as a member of the pilot project to study the feasibility of staffing male federal institutions with female correctional officers (CO). Gisèle recalls that, at the time, inmates were surprised but did not oppose their presence, while male COs voiced objections based on concern for the women’s safety. But, Gisèle says, “From the start, I never had any doubt that I belonged there.”

It was big news at the time; a reporter followed the female recruits during the entire period of their training, they appeared in *Maclean’s* magazine, and on the front page of many Canadian newspapers.



Correctional Supervisor Gisèle Côté and Commissioner Lucie McClung

Photo: Bill Rankin

When asked what qualities she needed for a successful career, Gisèle said that a sense of fairness, compassion, a realistic approach, and an eagerness to take on challenges are essential.

Gisèle and other female COs agree that it was trying at times, but they proved their competence, made history and paved the way for the acceptance of more female COs.

“We proved that with teamwork and support from each other, our co-workers and our employer, this undertaking could be a success. I am personally very proud to have been one of the group. What began as a one-year pilot project expanded into a daily part of CSC.”

Since then, she has worked in a number of facilities including Matsqui, Bowden and Ferndale institutions and is currently a correctional supervisor and a valued member of the Mission Institution team, recognized for her leadership and professionalism.

When asked what qualities she needed for a successful career, Gisèle said that a sense of fairness, compassion, a realistic approach, and an eagerness to take on challenges are essential. To women contemplating a career as a CO, Gisèle exclaims, “Just give ’er!” ♦

Winners Keep Dan Rowan's Memory Alive

By Bill Rankin, Communications Officer, Communications and Consultation Sector



In a ceremony on December 21, 2001, Commissioner Lucie McClung presented Media Relations Executive Richard Moore with the 2001 Dan Rowan Memorial Award. On hand was last year's award winner and "Keeper of the Bear," Jim Murphy, who handed to Richard the Inuit sculpture that accompanies the award.

"I applaud the committee members for their work in keeping Dan's memory alive," said Richard, "and for reminding us each year how precious life really is. What makes this award special is that Dan was a friend of mine. To share even a small amount of his qualities makes me proud."

Richard was joined in the presentation ceremony by Dan Rowan's wife and daughter, Pierangela and Elena, and fellow nominee Pam Haslam, Portfolio Manager, Strategic Planning and Policy. Accepting certificates for the other nominees were Pierre-Paul Matte, brother of the late Lucille Matte, Senior Investigation Analyst, Performance Assurance, and Lucille's partner John McPherson. Tom Black, husband of Sandra Black, Co-ordinator, National Infectious Diseases Program, accepted the certificate for his wife.

While all the nominees met the award criteria, Richard had the strongest support from his peers who look upon him as a mentor, role model and a man who inspires excellence in his colleagues.

Congratulations, Richard, and all the nominees! ♦



Left to right: Pierangela Rowan, Elena Rowan (seated), Pierre-Paul Matte, Richard Moore, Tom Black and Pam Haslam

Photo: Bill Rankin

2001 Head of the Public Service Award

By Jane MacEwen, Program Delivery Officer, Pittsburgh Institution

At a ceremony held in Ottawa on December 10, 2001, Mel Cappe, Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to the Cabinet, presented a Head of the Public Service Award for Valuing and Supporting People to Alex MacNair, Assistant Warden of Correctional Programs at Pittsburgh Institution.

The staff in the Programs Department of Pittsburgh Institution nominated Mr. MacNair for this award, citing his vision, creativity, ability to motivate, determination, fairness, kindness, interest in volunteerism, and his modern, people-centered manner of doing business. Mr. MacNair's successes include the implementation of the Escorted Temporary Absence Program and LINKS (Letting Inmates Network their Knowledge of Substance Abuse) Program within the community surrounding Pittsburgh Institution.



Photo: Peter Harper

Mel Cappe, Clerk of the Privy Council, presents Alex MacNair with his well-deserved award.

Expressing his appreciation for this award, Mr. MacNair said, "What was most gratifying was the fact that it was initiated by my staff and included support from a volunteer and an offender . . . We all believe in respect, integrity, openness and fairness, which are the cornerstones of our Mission . . . CSC has Core Values that I am proud to be a part of, but I think we must go beyond the words of the Mission . . . Nothing is more dear to my heart than Core Value 3: our strength is our staff . . . The events of September 11 have given all of us time to reflect and have brought out the good in people and the spirit of volunteerism . . . I believe strongly in supporting our staff and giving them the opportunity and encouragement to succeed in their goals. . . I would like to thank all those who made this a most special day in my career in corrections." ♦

International Experts Forum

“Setting the Agenda for Correctional Research in Substance Abuse”

Prince Edward Island, April 30 to May 2, 2002

By Heather Hurst, Communications Advisor, Communications and Consultation Sector

There is growing international recognition of the need to effectively address the challenges associated with substance abuse within correctional systems. Not only does substance abuse create operational concerns, it has a negative impact on communities when offenders are released from custody. Providing effective interventions is one way we contribute to the safety of communities.

This spring, CSC's Addictions Research Centre, the University of Montreal's Centre international de criminologie comparée and the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse are co-sponsoring a forum for international experts in addictions. Experts from Canada and around the world will meet in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. During the International Experts Forum, representatives from each country will report on what is being done in their own countries, share best practices, and

together set an agenda for future research that will build on existing strengths and ensure effective co-operation. The Forum will also be an opportunity for the Service to showcase its Addictions Research Centre to Canadian and international experts and encourage their participation in the development of this world-class centre for addictions research in corrections.

Let's Talk will have more to report on the Experts Forum in a future issue. ♦

LEADERSHIP Renewal

National Headquarters

Christine Manuge
Director, Inmate Affairs
Effective February 25, 2002

Mike Johnston
Director General, Operational Planning
Effective January 1, 2002

Regions

Janet de Laat
Warden, Frontenac Institution,
Ontario region
Effective March 11, 2002

Paul Snyder
Warden, Pittsburgh Institution,
Ontario Region
Effective February 18, 2002

James Marshall
Warden, Millhaven Institution,
Ontario Region,
Effective February 18, 2002

Yvan Thibault
Warden, Warkworth
Institution, Ontario Region
Effective March 6, 2002

Ross Toller
Deputy Commissioner, Prairie
Region
Effective January 14, 2002

Floyd Wilson
Warden, Drumheller
Institution, Prairie Region
Effective March 5, 2002

Rémi Gobeil
Deputy Commissioner,
Atlantic Region
Effective November 5, 2001

Terry Hatcher
Special Advisor to the Deputy
Commissioner, Atlantic Region
Effective November 6, 2001

Lou Kelly
Assistant Deputy
Commissioner, Operations,
Ontario Region
Effective October 8, 2001

Donna Morrin
Warden, Kingston Penitentiary,
Ontario Region
Effective March 4, 2002

Monty Bourke
Special Advisor to the Deputy
Commissioner, Ontario Region
Effective March 4, 2002

Peter White
Warden, Beaver Creek
Institution, Ontario Region
Effective March 6, 2002

Therese Gascon
Warden, Bath Institution,
Ontario Region
Effective February 18, 2002

Alphonse Cormier
Deputy Commissioner, Pacific
Region
Effective October 29, 2002

Larry Stebbins
Warden, Joyceville Institution,
Ontario Region
Effective March 11, 2002

Tim Fullerton
Special Advisor to the Deputy
Commissioner, Prairie Region
Effective February 11, 2002



The Mitrovica Detention Centre A Lesson in Security

By Ed Muise, Unit Manager, Dorchester Penitentiary and
Bill Rankin, Communications Officer, Communications
and Consultation Sector

Photos: Ed Muise

Under the CSC/CIDA agreement, Ed Muise completed a 3-month stint in Kosovo from June to September 2000 as director of recruitment and training for the Kosovo Correctional Service. He returned to Kosovo in January 2001 on a 6-month contract with the United Nations, as director of the Mitrovica Detention Centre in northern Kosovo.

While most citizens of Pristina were still in their beds, Ed Muise was behind the wheel of his United Nations (UN) Toyota 4-Runner, headed for the northern city of Mitrovica to start his workday as director of the Mitrovica Detention Centre (MDC). It was a journey that could take anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour, depending on what he got stuck behind – farm tractors, horses and wagons, or the ever-present convoys of military vehicles.

A STRONG MILITARY PRESENCE

As Muise approached Mitrovica, the military presence grew more conspicuous. Each workday, he ran a gauntlet of heavily fortified checkpoints – narrow, zigzag courses complete with tire-shredding spike belts and armed

French soldiers, part of the 7,300-strong KFOR (Kosovo Forces) trying to sustain law and order in a troubled land. The tenuous UN-brokered peace was occasionally interrupted by violent flare-ups between the two ethnic factions or between factions and the military. Sporadic unrest was something the civilian population was forced to cope with.

At each checkpoint, Muise was required to produce his official documents and United Nations identity card, each carefully examined before the soldiers waved him through. Once past the final obstacle, he steered north across the East Bridge over the Ibar River that divides the city in two – Albanian Kosovars on the south side and Serbian Kosovars on the north – an ethnic gulf far deeper and wider than the river itself.

Surveillance and security measures didn't end once Muise reached the north side. A network of Serbian paramilitary sentries, known by locals as the Bridge Watchers, scanned traffic from sidewalk vantage points, trying to spot Albanians brave or foolhardy enough to venture into Serb territory. Such wayward travellers, if discovered, were lucky to make it back to the south side of the river with their lives.

MAINTAINING SECURITY

The Mitrovica Detention Centre is neatly tucked into the back streets of the city's northern quarter, inside a fenced compound shared with a French infantry battalion. The French tanks, armoured personnel carriers and other military hardware were a reassuring presence for the international prison staff but also a daily reminder that Mitrovica is a dangerous place to make a living.

Once inside, Muise called together his administration staff to go over the events of the previous 24 hours and to assign daily tasks: searching cells, dealing with inmate complaints, and accompanying construction contractors. After the brief huddle, Muise began his rounds, moving from one area of the Centre to another, ensuring that his disparate, multi-national staff was following sound correctional practices. When he first assumed the job of director, Muise had made it clear that he would not tolerate any human rights violations for the sake of order.

"There are many international police officers in Kosovo," Muise explained. "Long before I got here it was decided to staff the MDC with 66 of them. This created a challenge because police aren't used to being prison keepers. They're not trained for it and they have little experience. To add to the challenge, there was a steady turnover of officers from various parts of the globe – Bangladesh, Ghana, Nigeria, Russia, Bulgaria, Egypt and Canada. There were many differences in abilities and expectations, but we worked together as a team and earned a reputation for humane practices and the tightest security in the Kosovo Correctional Service."

Security was indeed a priority in a place that mirrored the state of affairs in the entire city. The facility, holding a maximum of 52 inmates, was divided in two – Kosovar Albanians on the second floor and Kosovar Serbs, some convicted of genocide and other war crimes, occupying the ground level. Muise described the charged atmosphere inside the Centre as similar to that found in the rest of Mitrovica – "a perpetual state of

tense calm.” Complete separation of the ethnic groups was essential for the sake of order.

“It’s a compliment to CSC that the management of Mitrovica Detention Centre has been entrusted almost exclusively to CSC staff members on contract with the UN,” Muise commented. “CSC employees have gained international respect for their unique skills and abilities.”

DAILY PROBLEMS

Apart from the ethnic strife, there were more routine headaches caused by unreliable utili-

ties: taps and toilets would suddenly go dry due to unscheduled water shutoffs and, without warning, electrical failures could plunge the entire prison into darkness for long, anxious seconds before backup generators kicked in.

A resourceful Canadian director who preceded Muise, Cal MacAusland, constructed a 30,000-gallon concrete reservoir that was being hooked up during Muise’s tenure, promising a steady supply of fresh water. Staff made do with two electrical generators until a special power line was installed to

keep the entire facility humming, with few interruptions.

A HIGH-PROFILE INSTITUTION

Due to the Centre’s notoriety, Muise played host to a constant stream of visitors, his day frequently consumed by guiding tours of the facility and fielding questions from the Red Cross, the UN Commissioner for Human Rights, and local or international judges and prosecutors. Court observers from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe were in and out on a regular basis, advising Serbian prisoners on the progress of their trials.

LIVING DANGEROUSLY

In April 2001, the Bridge Watchers protested the imposition of a UN-sanctioned duty on all goods coming into Kosovo by mobilizing their paramilitary troops and barricading the main traffic arteries in and out of north Mitrovica. For MDC employees, this spelled major difficulties in travelling across the East Bridge and reporting for work. After the barricades went up, it was three long days before staff inside the Centre could finally be relieved. On the third day, despite threats from the Bridge Watchers, Muise and his men, outfitted in bullet-proof vests, managed to hitch rides across the river on military vehicles. They were dropped off at an engineer centre within 600 metres of the detention centre with the understanding that they would make their own way from there. It was an unnerving walk down an exposed roadway, past apartment buildings that could have easily concealed a sniper’s nest. “It was one of the very few times in Kosovo that I actually felt I was in danger,” said Muise.

Fortunately, there was no gunfire directed their way. The French KFOR remained in a state of high alert during the entire 32-day protest; the battalion at the detention centre sealed off the front and back of the compound by rolling tanks into the entranceways, and soldiers donned full riot gear in case of attack. “I definitely felt threatened,” Muise recalls. “But I also felt a deep commitment to my staff and the safety of the inmates. The French soldiers assured us that they would defend our perimeter and our property. In an atmosphere like north Mitrovica, you came to realize the importance of fostering and maintaining good partnerships!”

LESSONS LEARNED

Muise says that his experience in Kosovo taught him many things: a new appreciation



The Ibar River forms the divide between south Mitrovica (left side of photo), which is populated by Kosovar Albanians, and north Mitrovica, held by Kosovar Serbs.



Ed Muise stands beside a plaque erected to honour those who died in the same plane crash that killed CSC’s Dan Rowan.

for the freedom of Canada, its riches, and its spirit of tolerance. However, he found some difficulty re-adjusting to his job as unit manager at Dorchester Institution.

“Our correctional service is so advanced that a lot of the work I was doing in Mitrovica was done eons ago in Canada. I miss the challenges in Kosovo and the tangible achievements we made at the Mitrovica Detention Centre. I miss the ‘unknowns’ and the kind of stress that got my adrenaline pumping. Compared to Kosovo, my job at Dorchester is not as exciting.”

“It’s a compliment to CSC that the management of Mitrovica Detention Centre has been entrusted almost exclusively to CSC staff members on contract with the UN . . . CSC employees have gained international respect for their unique skills and abilities.”

Ed Muise

It’s the same reaction that many international peacekeepers experience upon their return to North America. Canadian police officers have coined a term for the phenomenon: “job shrink.” Muise feels that the skills he acquired overseas could be put to good use within CSC, if only there was some way of channeling them. “I think that my experience has prepared me for advancement,” he commented. “I’ve qualified for the deputy warden’s list and hopefully I will get an opportunity at some point. In hindsight, I wished that I’d had some special project to go to when I returned.”

In the meantime, Muise is enjoying his family life. “I owe thanks to my managers at CSC for supporting me. I’m grateful for the experiences I had and for the support of my son and my wife, Susan. For nine months in 2000–2001, she carried on with her job at CSC, managed our household and took on the role of single parent while I chased my dream and lived out this adventure.” ♦

High Intensity Substance Abuse Program

By Kathryn Hanington and Joel Ginsburg, Reintegration Programs Division

Many offenders under supervision of the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) have substance abuse problems. Research has demonstrated that there is a strong relationship between substance abuse and criminal behaviour among offenders. Although many offenders receive treatment through the Offender Substance Abuse Pre-Release Program (OSAPP) and the Community Correctional Brief Treatment and Relapse Prevention and Maintenance Program (Choices), CSC has identified the need for a more intensive program for offenders with substantial to severe substance abuse problems.

The High Intensity Substance Abuse Program (HISAP) was recently developed by Sylvie Blanchet, John Eno, Steve Dine, Edward Hansen and Carmen Long, the aim being to provide these offenders with skills so they can cease or decrease their substance abusing behaviour and ultimately their involvement in criminal activity.

The HISAP is part of a three-pronged model that emphasizes continuous intervention. Phase one of the model is intensive; phase two involves attending institutional maintenance

sessions to bolster program gains and enhance release preparation; participation in community-based intervention until warrant expiry is the focus of phase three.

The program is based on social learning theory that emphasizes the role of peers, culture and other environmental influences on an individual’s decision to engage in alcohol or other drug abuse. Participants learn to identify and change maladaptive thoughts and behaviour that are linked to substance abuse. Planning in various life areas (employment, family, leisure/recreation) and learning to monitor behaviour to prevent slipping back to substance abuse are covered in the program. Interactive instructional techniques such as role play and practice are used to help participants learn skills.

The HISAP curriculum consists of about 100 two-hour sessions delivered over about 18 weeks. The program has been pilot-tested twice by program delivery officers working in pairs at Matsqui, Drumheller, Warkworth, Leclerc, and Springhill institutions and the Federal Training Centre in Quebec. Wider implementation of the program is anticipated. ♦



**Left to right: Don Gibson, Warkworth Institution; Joel Ginsburg, NHQ; Ellen Jones, RHQ, Prairie Region; Steve Dine, RHQ, Ontario Region; Steve Lloyd, Matsqui Institution; Edward Hansen, NHQ; Sherry Leslie, Drumheller Institution; Jackie Anderson, Matsqui Institution; John Eno, RHQ, Pacific Region; Sharon Tattersal, Springhill Institution; Paulette Robichaud, RHQ, Atlantic Region; Stéphanie Robert, Leclerc Institution; Josée Durocher, Federal Training Centre; George Manula, Federal Training Centre; Linda Burns, Warkworth Institution; Bev Pitcher, RHQ, Ontario Region; Louise Kloot, Drumheller Institution; Andrea Moser, NHQ; Sylvie Blanchet, RHQ, Atlantic Region; Carole Taillon, La Macaza Institution; Josée Labelle, Leclerc Institution; Mike Nicholson, William Head Institution
Missing from photo: Chantal Langevin, NHQ; Carmen Long, Saskatoon Parole; Michael Wilson, Springhill Institution**

Get It on the Net

Information about corrections and correctional issues currently available on the Internet

The International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA)

<http://www.icpa.ca>

The ICPA Web site provides a forum for criminal justice professionals to share ideas and practices aimed at advancing professional corrections. The site contains information on correctional legislation from around the world and offers information about staff exchanges and a Centre for Exchanging Best Correctional Practices.

Victim-Offender Reconciliation Programs (VORP)

<http://vorp.com>

The Web site for VORP, also known as Victim-Offender Mediation Programs (VOMP), is an American site that gives information about bringing offenders face-to-face with the victims of their crimes with the assistance of a trained mediator, usually a community volunteer. The program's mission is to bring restorative justice reform to criminal justice systems, to empower victims, offenders and communities to heal from the effects of crime, to curb recidivism, and to offer society a more effective and humanistic alternative to the growing outcry for more prisons and more punishment.

The site provides links to articles, training, conferences and services related to victim-offender reconciliation.

The International Institute for Restorative Practices

<http://www.restorativepractices.org>

The International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP) is a non-profit organization that provides education and research in support of the development of restorative practices dedicated to:

- discussing and publicizing definitions, ideas, best practices, theories and standards for restorative practices;
- undertaking and publicizing useful research about restorative practices; and
- encouraging and developing education, training and educational resources about restorative practices.

The site contains a searchable restorative justice library and provides access to educational materials.

SECTOR REPORTS

Community Engagement Sector

Citizens in Action Honoured

By Bill Rankin, Communications Officer,
Communications and Consultation Sector

Photos: Bill Rankin

The Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), in conjunction with its citizens' advisory committees (CACs) and the International Association of Justice Volunteerism, honoured more than 300 of its volunteers at an international conference held at the Marriott Hotel in Ottawa, November 30 – December 2. The three-day event was a tribute to the more than 10,000 citizens who donate their time and energy to making Canadian communities safer by working within the federal correctional system. CSC Commissioner Lucie McClung said, "They give something that the majority of us don't have enough of – time."

Solicitor General Lawrence MacAulay praised the volunteers and recognized the lifetime contribution of Dr. Charles Taylor and his wife Charlotte for spiritual counselling of offenders through their own ministry. Dr. and Mrs. Taylor are the first recipients of an annual award that bears their name – the Taylor Award – newly established by CSC to recognize outstanding volunteer contributions to corrections. The Taylors thanked the Solicitor General and the audience in a pre-recorded message from their home in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. Accepting the first annual Taylor Award on behalf of the couple was their son, David Taylor. This award will be given



Left to right: Mario Paparozzi, Chairman, New Jersey State Parole Board, Johanne Vallée, Executive Director, Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies of Quebec, and Paddy Bowen, Executive Director, Volunteer Canada



The first National Volunteer Association Award is presented. Left to right: Solicitor General Lawrence MacAulay, Reverend Doctor Pierre Allard, Commissioner Lucie McClung, David Taylor (son of the recipients)

annually to someone who has shown exemplary dedication to the service of volunteerism.

The Solicitor General also announced the creation of a new National Volunteer Association (NVA) that will provide a means of communication among volunteers, CSC and community partners. Both the Taylor Award and the NVA were created to mark the International Year of the Volunteer and to recognize the important role of these caring individuals in Canadian society.

Participants heard from a variety of speakers including Mario Paparozzi, Chairman of the New Jersey State Parole Board, Paddy Bowen, Executive Director, Volunteer Canada, and Johanne Vallée, Executive Director, Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies of Quebec. They expounded on the challenges that their organizations encounter.

The three-day event was a tribute to the more than 10,000 citizens who donate their time and energy to making Canadian communities safer by working within the federal correctional system.

In more than 30 workshops, participants discussed the issues that volunteers face, such as addressing the particular needs of Aboriginal offenders, reducing homelessness among ex-offenders, and improving liaison with the community.

On Friday, November 30, volunteers were invited to an evening reception in the main hall of the National Art Gallery. They were welcomed by the official host, Reverend Doctor Pierre Allard, entertained by the Ottawa Police Choir, and invited to a private showing of the gallery's Canadian art collection. As a special treat, guests viewed part of a superb photographic display entitled *Prisoners of Age*, created by photographer Ron Levine and graphic designer Michael Wou. Both men were on hand to answer questions about the extraordinary images and to sign copies of their book on the same subject. ♦

Restorative Justice in the International Community

By Tara Gapp, Acting Project Officer, Restorative Justice and Dispute Resolution Branch

Restorative justice around the world is one step closer to a declaration of basic principles on the use of restorative justice programs in the criminal justice system.

The Correctional Service of Canada participated in a working group with other federal departments, the aim being to host a United Nations (UN) Group of Experts meeting from October 29 to November 1, 2001. The Canadian Planning Committee organized the event and prepared Canada's response on the need for restorative justice instruments at the international level.

Eighteen international experts from 16 different countries, as well as eight UN observers, participated in the three-day meeting. Jane Miller-Ashton, Director General, Restorative Justice and Dispute Resolution Branch, welcomed the delegates to Canada in their own language – no small feat considering that delegates came from many countries around the world, representing the five regional divisions of the United Nations.

Pierre Allard, Assistant Commissioner, Community Engagement Sector, in his welcoming address, commented on the importance of the meetings. "Your work will serve as a guiding light to countries and criminal justice systems seeking guidance in the development and implementation of restorative justice programs within their domestic legislation."

Discussion focused on the concept of restorative justice, the desirability of establishing common principles, and a review of the preliminary draft elements of a declaration of basic principles on the use of restorative justice programs in criminal matters. As the days progressed, it became evident that all represented countries supported restorative justice principles, however, each country is bound by their own societal, political and legal structures. It was therefore decided that an international instrument that provided for guiding principles but

allowed for individual states' interpretation was required. Representatives supported the United Nations' adoption of a draft of a declaration of basic principles and recommended that it be submitted by the UN Secretariat for review at the UN Commission on Crime Prevention



Left to right: Romola Trebilcock, Elder William Commanda, Pierre Allard and Clemence Masango, Zimbabwe representative

and Criminal Justice during its 11th session, planned for April 2002.

Mr. Daniel Van Ness, Vice-President of Prison Fellowship International, an American grassroots restorative justice organization, outlined the primary reasons for developing common principles on an international basis: to ensure consistency of approach and to assist countries that are developing restorative justice ideas consistent with their existing legislation.

According to Jane Miller-Ashton, "Participation in this event has led to further insight into the challenges of restorative justice advocates in addressing the needs of the global community as well as the needs of individuals who are harmed in individual conflicts. International recognition and support of these principles creates space for restorative processes to occur more often in more places for more people." ♦

Reflections on Restorative Justice Week 2001

By Troy Demers, Project Officer, Restorative Justice and Dispute Resolution Branch

Judging from the numerous celebrations and community events both within the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) and in communities across Canada, the sixth Annual Restorative Justice Week, November 18–25, 2001, was tremendously successful. It is a community-driven educational endeavour supported by the Restorative Justice and Dispute Resolution Branch, CSC's Chaplaincy Division and the Interfaith Committee on Chaplaincy at CSC as well as other community partners.

Speaking at a launch event held at the National Press Gallery in Ottawa, Lynn Myers, Parliamentary Secretary to the Solicitor General, declared, "Choosing restorative justice approaches offers us hope – the hope for inclusion and reparation for victims, the hope of holding offenders accountable in ways that encourage and promote responsibility-taking and personal commitment to safe reintegration, and the hope for more empowered, safer communities where there are healing opportunities for all." The vision of hope was reflected in the theme for Restorative Justice Week 2001, "Giving Voice to Hope."

There was increased activity across Canada this year and CSC was fortunate to have been involved in some unique events held in its institutions and communities, benefiting from both new and existing partnerships with other criminal justice agencies, victim-serving agencies, community groups and members of the public. While it is impossible to list all the events that happened this year, the following descriptions serve to highlight the diversity of restorative justice activities.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ACTIVITIES ACROSS CSC

Atlantic Region

On November 19, Siegfried Janzen, trained mediator and member of the Citizens' Advisory Committee, Westmorland Institution, spoke of success stories involving face-to-face mediations and counselling he has done with inmates, their families and victims at St. Thomas University in Fredericton, New Brunswick. On November 25, members of the Restorative Justice Network of the Conflict Resolution Co-operative in Prince Edward Island performed *Conversation at the Well*, a three-act play depicting a "right-wing/left



A community event at the University of Ottawa. From left to right: Tara Gapp, Celine Lee, Scott Harris, Troy Demers, Jane Miller-Ashton and Carol-Anne Grenier

wing" discussion on faith and justice at the Spring Park United Church.

Quebec Region

On November 19, five inmates at Archambault Institution facilitated a panel discussion with approximately 20 high school students to educate them on the myths and realities of prison life. On November 23, there was a community forum entitled *The Media: Messages of Hope or Despair*, organized by the Conseil des Églises pour la justice et la criminologie et l'ASRSQ. The forum focused on the impact of the media on the public's perception of crime, offenders and the reintegration process. At the Federal Training Centre, Johanne Vallée, Director General, l'Association des Services de Réhabilitation Sociale du Québec (ASRSQ), made presentations to staff and inmates on restorative justice.

Ontario Region

The Restorative Justice Committee at Kingston Penitentiary organized several events that were held during the week, including a staff assembly and training. On November 22, the Restorative Justice Initiatives of Windsor and Essex County sponsored a Community Justice Forum at the University of Windsor, featuring Wilma Dersken as its keynote speaker. Mrs. Dersken is a mother, wife, journalist, author, speaker, and facilitator of victims groups. The City of Windsor Council officially proclaimed November 18–25 to be Restorative Justice

Week. At Joyceville Institution, offenders were able to participate in restorative justice information sessions. Chaplains and staff had an assembly, a barbecue and were provided with resource materials on a daily basis to promote the week.

"Choosing restorative justice approaches offers us hope – the hope for inclusion and reparation for victims, the hope of holding offenders accountable in ways that encourage and promote responsibility-taking and personal commitment to safe reintegration, and the hope for more empowered, safer communities where there are healing opportunities for all."

Prairie Region

The Winnipeg Restorative Justice Committee invited Bill Pelke, co-founder and president of *Journey of Hope . . . from Violence to Healing*, to deliver his restorative justice message throughout the week at various venues. On November 18, the opening ceremony included a prayer/mediation event that featured members of various faith/cultural communities. The Regional Psychiatric Centre held two evening restorative justice workshops for the inmates and two lunch-hour sessions with staff focused on restorative justice.

Pacific Region

On November 22, Liz Elliot, Co-ordinator, Centre for Restorative Justice at Simon Fraser University, Marc Forget, Program Associate, Quaker Committee on Jails and Justice, and Meredith Egan, Deep Humanity Institute, gave staff and inmates at Matsqui Institution an introduction to the concept and values of restorative justice. On November 24, the Restorative Justice Coalition at William Head Institution hosted its third public symposium, attended by over 200 individuals, including offenders, victims and community partners in restorative justice. At Ferndale Institution's sixth annual restorative justice conference, participants were able to experience a full day of artistic expressions involving the restorative justice vision.

National Headquarters

Staff at national headquarters were afforded numerous opportunities to engage with each other, with criminal justice partners and community members throughout the week. Partnerships with the Department of Justice, the Law Commission of Canada and members of the public provided a full week of activities including: a launch, a demonstration in a live role play facilitated by Jamie Scott, Co-ordinator, Collaborative Justice Project; a preview of the new CSC video *Restorative Justice: Deep Roots, Many Branches*; and a presentation by Celine Lee, a woman whose mother and sister were killed in a house fire that occurred as the result of a break-in. She discussed the healing process she experienced through her participation in the CSC-supported Victim-Offender Mediation Program (VOMP) in British Columbia and in an interfaith celebration at the St. John's Church in Ottawa. ♦

From Nothing to Something Video Wins Big

By Ellen Henderson, Senior Communications Advisor,
CORCAN

Photos: Carleton Productions International

From *Nothing to Something*, a half-hour television show about an all-female construction crew at Nova Institution, has won the prestigious Gold World Medal at the internationally acclaimed New York Festival. The CTV network broadcast the documentary in the fall of 2001, but it will run again on a number of specialty channels throughout 2002.

For 43 years, the New York Festival has honoured excellence in communications media that touches the hearts and minds of readers, listeners and viewers worldwide. A collaborative project of CORCAN and the Women Offenders Sector and produced by Carleton Productions International, the documentary is

For Carleton Productions International President Mark Ross, winning gold in competition with entrants from around the world confirms what he had always known: this story is powerful. "We wanted people to see what we saw, and to feel what we felt when we filmed these women – that these people can change if they want to. And if they want to, it's important to give them as much help as possible."

For Ross, it's important to document these success stories. "Seeing is believing for most people, especially the public. It truly is. People who say these institutions are "Club Feds" have obviously never been to one, or spoken to the people inside. CORCAN projects are a big part of the healing process. I'm a true believer of that," he added.

Suzanne Kukko, the show's producer, found the experience to be a true eye-opener. "I learned that these CORCAN programs aren't just for learning specific job skills . . . They [the women] learned that working on the project is a privilege that gives your life structure and meaning."

For CORCAN Chief Executive Officer Sudin Ray,

the fact that the show title – *From Nothing to Something* – came from one of the offenders is fitting evidence of the power of work to transform lives.

"She was describing the feeling of seeing her accomplishments materialize day by day on the job," said Ray. "She had a twinkle in her eye when she talked about going from the ground level up in construction. When she said, '... It's like from nothing to something, you know?' she was talking about something more than the actual housing units. She was speaking about the her emerging sense of self-esteem."

"What more powerful evidence can there be that what we are doing works?" Ray asked. "I take my hat off to all CORCAN staff who do it quietly, every day!" ♦



**Producer/Creative Director
Bill (Butch) Buchanan**



**Writer/Producer/Director
Suzanne Kukko**

a moving portrait of the experiences and personal growth of a group of female offenders as they build a \$3-million residence for themselves behind the fences at Nova. Told in their own words, the story is a tribute to the healing power of work, especially in its capacity to restore personal dignity.

"As soon as I heard about the proposal, I sensed we had a winner," said Deputy Commissioner Nancy Stableforth. "It is a tangible demonstration of effective rehabilitation and reintegration. To have a chance like this to show Canadians what we in the Service do, day in and day out, to help offenders learn the skills and attitudes they will need to rejoin society as productive citizens is a wonderful opportunity. And to have the women trace their personal journeys in their own words is an added bonus."

2001 Ron Wiebe Restorative Justice Award

By Karen Robertson, Communications Advisor,
Communications and Consultation Sector

Commissioner Lucie McClung presented the Ron Wiebe Restorative Justice Award to Wilma Derksen, Director of Victim's Voice, in recognition of her outstanding achievement in the area of restorative justice. Shirley Wiebe, Ron Wiebe's wife, joined Commissioner McClung in presenting the award at the Queen's Theological College Dialogue on Restorative Justice on November 23, 2001, in Kingston, Ontario.

Kingston Penitentiary, honoured this year's distinguished nominees and award recipient. One of the nominees, Stephanie Coward, singer, musician and activist, provided songs during the award ceremony.

At the heart of the day was this year's recipient. Following the abduction and death of her daughter Candace in 1984, Wilma Derksen became a powerful justice advocate in Winnipeg and across Canada. She is dedicated to increasing public



Wilma Derksen (centre), Commissioner Lucie McClung and Cliff Derksen

Participants began their day by forming a circle to cleanse themselves in a smudging ceremony and prayer led by Elder Bob Lovelace. Special guest Dr. Chris Marshall, scholar, author and lecturer, travelled from New Zealand to deliver a message of hope.

"Restorative justice is more than simply a process. It's even more than a set of values. It's something that reflects the real nature of reality. Rather than seeing crime simply as a breaking of the law, we need to see it as a hurting of people and as a rupturing of relationships."

The award ceremony featured tributes to Ron Wiebe by friend Helgi Eyjolfsson, former Director General of Security, and son Jeff Wiebe, a correctional officer in the Pacific Region.

A presentation by Jane Miller-Ashton, Director General, Restorative Justice and Dispute Resolution, and Mike Ryan, Deputy Warden,

understanding of crime victims and their families and, through her courage and compassion, inspires audiences worldwide. Her work with all those affected by crime – victims, offenders and community members – enables her to create understanding and foster opportunities for healing and transformation.

Derksen was one of 26 award nominees, ranging in age from 17 to 80 and coming from all parts of Canada and from all walks of life. By modelling restorative justice principles and demonstrating a passion for justice in her daily life, she has helped to transform the lives of many individuals.

For further information regarding this award, please contact Carol-Anne Grenier, Project Officer, Restorative Justice and Dispute Resolution Branch, at (613) 943-5049 or by email: GrenierCA@csc-scc.gc.ca ♦

Provinces Getting Hooked On Offender Management System

By Sheila Liston, Communications Officer,
Offender Management System Renewal Project



Saskatchewan Corrections now has electronic access to the Offender Management System (OMS) in preparation for the start of a one-year pilot project, the aim of which is to better share offender information electronically with a larger number of criminal justice partners, including the provinces and territories.

This strategy relies on the mutual exchange of offender information held in either OMS or Saskatchewan's Correctional Management Information System (CMIS). The offenders must be in the custody of either CSC or Saskatchewan Corrections at the time of the electronic inquiry. Access to OMS is provided through a terminal with a customized OMS menu, located in the provincial facility. In return, Saskatchewan Corrections provides CSC with access to their corrections data.

Secure telecommunications have been established between the two organizations and the terms and conditions of information-sharing have been stipulated. CSC and Saskatchewan Corrections will each provide a single access point to OMS and CMIS in one institution. This institution will co-ordinate requests concerning incarcerated offenders and distribute the inquiry responses to the appropriate department.

"The project's main goals are to contribute to the safety of Canadians through the timely exchange of offender information, which leads to the successful reintegration of offenders," says OMSR Operations Leader Jeffrey Jones. "We must foster dialogue between Canadian correctional organizations that will lead to improved information-sharing."

Another priority is to identify legal, policy, technical and operational constraints that affect the ability of correctional organizations to exchange offender information.

The pilot project will activate the information-sharing strategy endorsed at the 1999 federal/provincial/territorial correctional services meeting and approved by CSC's Executive Committee.

The results of this pilot project will be used in implementing a production version of offender information-sharing, not only with Saskatchewan Corrections, but with other provincial correctional organizations as well. ♦

Tell Me What You Throw Out and I'll Tell You Who You Are

By Paul Provost, Senior Environmental Advisor

In the popular view, environmental protection is associated with the way we manage our waste. This perception is justified because what we do with our waste is one of the most highly visible, unavoidable and conspicuous facts of everyday life – and one that affects everybody. After all, every Canadian produces an average of almost a tonne of waste every year. So we have to stop thinking that the 20 million tonnes of waste Canadians produce each year does not affect our environment, or that it does not put a lot of pressure on our natural resources. And while we're thinking along those lines, how come certain institutions treat their waste as a resource instead of as garbage?

HOW ARE WE DOING AT CSC?

Our data show that Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) institutions that have only a rudimentary solid-waste recycling and composting program send an average of 2 kilograms/occupant/day to the landfill. But when a good recyclables recovery program is implemented in an institution, this average drops by 20 to 30 percent, to 1.6 kg/occupant/day. And if, on top of recycling, the institution composts its organic wastes, the average can be cut down by a further 50 percent, to 0.6 kg/occupant/day. So an institution that recycles *and* composts (whether inside or outside the premises) can reduce by 70 to 80 percent or even more the quantity of waste that would otherwise end up in a landfill. Are these numbers just hypothetical? No way! We have seen examples within the Service where waste has actually been reduced by 90 per cent, to an average of just 0.2 kg/occupant/day. Yet, a study conducted last year by Consulting and Audit Canada for CSC confirms that our corporate waste-production average is 1.6 kg/

occupant/day. These numbers show that we have indeed made some progress but we still have a long way to go if we are to meet the corporate target of 1.0 kg/occupant/day, as stipulated in the *Sustainable Development Strategy – Revision 2000*.

SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE

Since December 1998, Westmorland Institution in New Brunswick has operated an impressive sorting/recycling/composting facility. Serving Westmorland and Dorchester institutions and, more recently, Atlantic Institution, the facility processes approximately 20,000 cubic yards each year of food waste and manure from CORCAN farms. At the very least, this facility is an excellent example of a group effort to transform a large quantity of waste into a resource. Mike Colwell, Head of Engineering and Maintenance at Westmorland Institution, says that the compost produced in the facility is very good quality. He also points out that CORCAN benefits directly from the program – it uses the compost to fertilize its farms (which has reduced the amount of chemical fertilizer and pesticide used) and sells it to local residents. Also, since November 2000, these champions of composting have been using a low-cost method for transporting 8,000 kg/month of food wastes generated by Atlantic Institution, and have incorporated it into their already-extraordinary program.

So, while there are still some hurdles to overcome when it comes to increasing inmate participation and staff enthusiasm in the program, the future looks very bright for the composting plan.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES

It goes without saying that the practice of reducing the amount of waste disposed of in landfills is becoming more widespread in communities in which CSC has a presence, because everybody is interested in this aspect of environmentalism. In its *Sustainable Development Strategy – Revision 2000*, CSC revised its waste-reduction target from 0.6 kg/occupant/day to 1.0 kg/occupant/day once it realized how much work it would take to meet the original target.



Waste to be composted with a windrow turner (before composting/beginning of process) Westmorland Institution's composting facility



Mature windrows of compost (after composting/end of process), Westmorland Institution's composting facility

Waste-reduction performance varies significantly from one institution to another and from one region to the next. Evidently, it will take more than just a little push to move CSC close to the target of 1.0 kg/occupant/day – it will take years of perseverance. The challenge becomes even greater when we consider the problems associated with institutional composting. Yet even with all these difficulties, many of our institutions are pursuing waste-reduction initiatives; some institutions have only just received equipment to measure the quantity of waste they produce. And there is considerable evidence that measuring the waste acts as a wakeup call for those who previously used wishful thinking or blind faith to achieve waste reduction. For as we all know, the proof is in the pudding, so to speak! ♦

We have indeed made progress, but we still have a long way to go.



Alphonse Cormier (left) and Rémi Gobeil look on as Commissioner Lucie McClung signs the Atlantic Region change-of-command certificate.

Change of Command

By Denis D'Amour, Analyst, Communications and Executive Services, Atlantic RHQ

On November 14, 2001, in Montague, Prince Edward Island, Commissioner Lucie McClung presided over a change-of-command ceremony in which Rémi Gobeil took over from Alphonse Cormier as deputy commissioner for the Atlantic Region.

The brief ceremony coincided with the November meeting of Excom, attended by members of the Atlantic Regional Management Committee and regional administrators. To seal the deal, Commissioner McClung, Mr. Cormier and Mr. Gobeil signed a change-of-command certificate.

Mr. Cormier left the Atlantic for the Pacific Region where he took over as deputy commissioner, replacing Pieter De Vink, who recently retired from the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC). Mr. Gobeil, former deputy commissioner in the Prairie Region, is returning to the Atlantic Region, where he served as deputy commissioner between 1992 and 1995. ♦



Crisis Management Training Day

By Shannon Oickle, Staff Training Officer, Springhill Institution

On Monday, November 26, 2001, the staff training department hosted a crisis management training event for all staff at Springhill Institution. The agenda included a security briefing by the institutional preventive security officer (IPSO) which focused on the top 12 high-profile offenders currently housed at Springhill Institution, followed by an overview of the contingency plan.

The video *Forcible Confinement: A Survivor's Story* was shown to staff, who then broke off into discussion groups led by the Institutional Emergency Response Team (IERT) members, Critical Incident Stress Management/Employee Assistance Program (CISM/EAP) representatives, crisis managers and negotiators. Health Canada and the local fire department joined forces to deliver an anthrax presentation. Staff from Housing Unit 11 displayed an information table on the new Intensive Support Unit (ISU) designed to provide offenders with an environment free of intoxicants. Fundraisers were held throughout the day in support of the United Way. The day ended with an exciting demonstration by the IERT. ♦

Steward of the Year Award Goes to Dorchester Nurse

By Bill Rankin, Communications Officer, Communications and Consultation Sector

At the annual general meeting of the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada (PIPSC), six stewards, one from each region, received the Steward of the Year award. Margaret (McCoy) Elliott, a nurse at the Regional Treatment Centre, Dorchester Penitentiary in Moncton, New Brunswick, was chosen for her dedication to representing PIPSC and its members in the region over the past 10 years.

Marg has worked in many union capacities and according to Steward Co-ordinator Mona Tilhoff, "I have never known her to complain about the work these activities generate or to shy away from carrying out the responsibilities of the position."

Marg says she likes to solve problems the easiest way possible, which means at the lowest organizational level possible. The steward job came naturally.

"If you feel you have good resolution skills, it's important to step forward and use them," says Marg. "I'm honoured to be recognized by my peers, but the important thing is the work a steward accomplishes."

Congratulations, Marg! ♦

**"If you feel
you have good
resolution skills,
it's important to
step forward and
use them,"**

Crime Prevention Outreach Initiative

By Lynn Chaplin, Community Outreach Co-ordinator, Moncton

Many organizations joined forces in November 2001 to showcase an employment initiative at Westmorland Institution that has offenders constructing a home offsite to accommodate family members visiting for extended periods. Delegates from the New Brunswick Crime Prevention Conference (held in Moncton during the same month), the Moncton chapter of the John Howard Society, the Sisters of Hope, officials from Human Resources and Development Canada and CSC's Community Outreach Co-ordinator gathered to learn more about this worthwhile enterprise.

With funding from youth services, the building project employs offenders under the age of 30 for a 22-week period. Offenders acquire vocational skills during construction and are taught life skills one day a week. One participant said that he had

learned to work co-operatively with others, manage on-the-job conflict effectively and cope with frustration and disappointment. It is expected that training will improve offenders' chances in the job market.

A discussion followed about the benefits of this type of program and its connection with crime prevention, safe reintegration, and the importance of strong partnerships to accomplish shared goals. ♦



Two people on the left unidentified. Left to right: Lynn Chaplin, Community Outreach Co-ordinator; Danny Smyth, Acting Assistant Warden, Correctional Programs; and Gary Arbour, Community Police Officer, Fredericton.

Career Circuit

A Helping Hand to Build a Better Tomorrow

By Denis D'Amour, Analyst, Communications and Executive Services, Atlantic Regional Headquarters

True to its commitment to employment services, CORCAN is investing time, efforts and resources to help young people plan and build a better tomorrow.

CORCAN is now a member of Career Circuit, an initiative that offers valuable tools for practitioners working with youth (up to age 29) who are having difficulty developing their own employment strategies. While some of these youths are stymied by a lack of motivation, others have so little hope they cannot envision a future for themselves. Career Circuit offers access to an on-line network of member agencies (now over 5,200), a database of career resources, and thousands of other on-line and CD-ROM resources.

The Career Circuit program also offers practical training material to support work with youth in the form of a self-managed professional development tool that is available on-line, on diskette, on CD-ROM or in print (PDF format). This segment of the program, known as Circuit Coach, consists of approxi-

mately 90 hours of instruction to assist service providers in navigating through the variety of resources.

CORCAN Atlantic Region Co-ordinator for Offender Employment Karen Bradford is

one of the new trainers for the Career Circuit program and is now offering this same training to representatives from other government agencies and community service providers. ♦



In mid-December, Karen Bradford offered the Circuit Coach training to partners including the John Howard Society, the New Brunswick Department of Training and Employment Development and Moncton Headstart Recycles, to name just a few.

Turning Cans into Cash

By Bill Geier, Co-ordinator, Education and Personal Development, Dorchester Penitentiary

Inmates at Dorchester Penitentiary are using their recycling know-how to raise funds for charity. Money collected from the recycling of pop cans within the institution is being used to support local groups that benefit the community.

This past summer, \$1,200 from the recycling fund was used to sponsor two campers with special needs at Camp Rotary, a large Rotary Club summer program located outside of Fredericton.

Moved by the tragic events of September 11th, Dorchester's Inmate Committee helped to raise \$545 in individual donations for the Red Cross. ♦



Paul LeBlanc from the Fairfield Care Home and Lucille Gallant from LeBlanc's Care Home at Camp Rotary.

Can Do!

By Fred Tulk, Senior Parole Officer, Newfoundland and Labrador Parole

Terry Carey, a resident of the Newfoundland and Labrador Community Correctional Centre (CCC), approached Senior Parole Officer Fred Tulk with a proposal to set up a recycling program for pop cans at the CCC. Terry and other residents agreed to collect their pop cans and plastic bottles, bring them to the local depot every two or three weeks, and donate the money received to the Virginia Park Community Centre.



Terry Carey's innovative idea brings extra funds to the daycare program.

Terry left the CCC on November 30, 2001, but prior to his departure, he met with other interested residents who will ensure that this initiative continues. Terry and all the residents are to be commended for their initiative and their donations to the Virginia Park Community Daycare Program. ♦

Canines Search Community Correctional Centres

By Rob Landry, Parole Officer, Carlton Centre Annex



Left to right: Dana Cavanaugh, Senior Parole Officer; Robert Safire, Parole Officer; Paul Veino, Parole Officer; Rob Landry, Parole/Resource Officer; Constable Steve Langille, Halifax Regional Police; Joanne Hughes, Customs Officer; Dutch, drug dog; Constable Sean Martin, Halifax Regional Police

Partnering with the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency and the Halifax Regional Police Service, Halifax community correctional centres (CCC) are now using drug detection dogs in searches at the Carlton CCC and the Carlton Centre Annex in Halifax.

"This kind of initiative allows parole officers to assist offenders in their correctional plan by decreasing the likelihood of drug use within the CCC," commented Ron Lawlor, Halifax Metro District Director.

Mr. Lawlor believes this new tactic for search plans responds to public

concerns and reinforces the Halifax CCCs' commitment to zero tolerance of drugs and alcohol. "There's a clear recognition that a safe, drug-free environment is a fundamental condition for successful reintegration and that CCCs should provide such an environment." Mr. Lawlor said that he appreciates the contributions of the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency and the Halifax Regional Police Service.

Parole officers Paul Jewers and Rob Landry, both from the Carlton Centre, worked hard to make this inter-agency initiative a reality. ♦

Justice and Wisdom

By Dorma Grant, Parole Officer, Bath Institution (on a linguistic exchange at Drummond Institution)

On December 4, 2001, Drummond Institution hosted a restorative justice conference in recognition of Restorative Justice Week, November 18-25. Pierre Allard, Assistant Commissioner, Community Engagement Sector, led an afternoon session for staff, clergy and volunteers. He began with a brief introduction of how he became involved in corrections and the restorative justice movement. He described his early life as a young chaplain who was not directly involved with the victims of crime. His role, as he saw it, was to engage the offenders in chapel activities and assist them in their personal recovery process. He was satisfied with this work until he and his family became victims as the result of the brutal slaying of his oldest brother. The killer remains at large.

This act plunged him into a very different role in his work. Pierre says he returned to his prison chaplaincy position with mixed emotions; the person who had taken away someone he loved was probably like the people he worked with every day in prison. His sense of security and peace were destroyed, his life profoundly changed forever.

The aim of the restorative justice movement in Canada is to heal the breach left by criminal acts. Pierre Allard described a three-part process that brings together those affected and sets in motion a mediation process for healing and restoration of the participants' equilibrium.

LISTEN

The first step is to listen carefully to everyone involved, including statements of guilt from the offender. This does not simply mean admission of the details of the act, but the emotional and spiritual effects of being the perpetrator, and the perpetrator's sense of responsibility. The difference between regret and remorse must be identified. When regret is the main sentiment, efforts must be made to change the focus to remorse; otherwise healing cannot occur.

The victim(s) must also be lent an ear that is attuned to the expression of their personal circumstances, including their sense of loss, of

feeling unsafe, and of injustice caused by a legal system that pits person against person and people against the Crown. The very word "versus" used in court proceedings creates a bellicose atmosphere that raises defences and drains energy away from the recovery process. Revenge is the pitfall that so often occurs, which yields the inability to move beyond the sense of victimization. Healing can start only when the victim(s) moves past the very human need to extract from the perpetrator what has been lost.

Victims often need to tell their story again and again and a safe place is needed to do this. A careful balance must be struck between listening positively and enabling unproductive behaviour.

BALANCE

The second step is to restore the balance of all the people involved. There is little doubt that life will ever return to pre-crime harmony, but it can be restored to a level that allows everyone to build on the strength they gained during the crisis.

RESTORE

The last step is restoration. This is achieved when each person begins to feel in control of his life again and feels able to protect himself from future invasion. At its best, the restorative justice approach allows each person to take his/her life in a new and positive direc-

tion. Hence, justice and wisdom must be wedded in order to truly restore lives after the trauma of a criminal act.

After the conference, Pierre Allard met with some 30 inmates and presented the theory and aims of the restorative justice movement. They listened and asked many questions. They expressed their appreciation by asking if they could have a longer conference on this subject and on the community engagement initiatives.

This was the first time that many inmates and staff had heard about these initiatives in detail. The feedback was positive. There are many ways to tell if an audience is interested in the speaker's message, among them the number of people who leave after the coffee break. To our delight, the room remained full and some staff even showed up on their own time. This encourages us to continue engaging prison staff in dialogue on ways to do our jobs better.

That evening, Pierre Allard was a guest speaker at the Drummondville Rotary Club. It was an interesting time as many of the club members had not heard about the restorative justice initiative and had little knowledge of the efforts to engage the community in the reintegration of inmates. The audience received Mr. Allard's talk with enthusiasm and asked for more information. Films and books have been distributed and more dialogue is expected later this year. ♦

The New Structured Living Environment: A Great Success!

By Céline Laplante, Project Officer, Joliette Institution

On August 31, 2001, Joliette Institution's corporate, social and community partners and five representatives of the media attended the opening of the institution's new Structured Living Environment (SLE). The opening marked the end of one phase in the implementation of the Intensive Intervention Strategy announced by the Solicitor General on September 3, 1999. Corporate guests included the Senior Deputy Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner for Women, Nancy Stableforth, and the Deputy Commissioner for Quebec Region, Richard Watkins.

Daniel Méreineau, Joliette's Acting Warden, commented that the Structured Living Environment is supposed to resemble community living as closely as possible. "The ultimate goal is to get the residents back into the regular population as quickly as possible with a view to their eventual community reintegration. This will contribute to fulfilling the values and objectives stated in our Mission."

He then described some of the problems the institution encountered from the time construction first started on the SLE last January. "I don't want to get technical, so I'll say only that having a

construction site right on the penitentiary grounds required infinite patience and understanding from staff and inmates both.”

In closing, Mr. Méryneau expressed his gratitude for the unfailing efforts of the institution’s staff over the past few months, especially Chantal Lanthier, the project manager, for the professional attitude she exhibited at all times during the project.

Before everyone headed over to visit the Structured Living Environment, media representatives had a chance to interview employees and managers. To close out the event, guests were invited to a cold buffet.

In view of the enthusiastic comments from the participants and the favourable media coverage, we can say that the event was a great success in every way. It even made the local television news!

On October 5, employees of Joliette Institution were invited to tour the Structured Living Environment and talk to staff. The Acting Warden used the occasion to award certificates of recognition to staff members. On October 12, the inmates and volunteers toured the new facility. It is always such a treat to invite volunteers to functions such as this one; they are so appreciative of being included in our activities.

The first phase of the Intensive Intervention Strategy is now complete, but that doesn’t mean the employees of Joliette Institution can rest on their laurels. The second phase was started some time ago and will be ready around September 2002 to receive maximum-security women offenders. ♦



On the way to the Structured Living Environment



Staff members of the Structured Living Environment in front of their new building. Front row, left to right: Danie Roberge, Manon Roussel, Nadia Deslauriers, Louise Geoffroy, Andrée Marion, France Aubut and Diane Beaudoin. Back row, left to right: Lyne Chénard, Renée Richard, Marilou Dufour, David Lapierre, Thérèse Boudreau, Sonya Forget, Normand Chartrand, Rachèle Madison, Daniel Cournoyer and Maryse Marois

A Spiritual Visit Filled with Faith and Hope

By Daniel Méryneau, Acting Director, Joliette Institution

There was much emotion and joy as Joliette Institution residents, volunteers and employees paid homage to the shrine of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus on November 13, 2001.

Thérèse Martin was born in Normandy in 1873. The youngest in a family of nine children, she grew up in a very religious environment. By the time she was 14, she

had already decided that she wanted to join the convent. When she was 16, she travelled to Rome and was able to meet the Pope. She obtained special permission to enter the Carmel convent in Lisieux, after having been refused by her bishop. She lived a very quiet existence. Throughout her life, St. Thérèse of Lisieux demonstrated absolute confidence in God and unconditional love for Jesus Christ. Before she died of tuberculosis at the age of 24, she affirmed her intention of doing nothing but good deeds during her time on Earth. She never left her convent and was named patron saint of the Missionaries.



St. Thérèse of Lisieux at age 22. This photo was taken by her sister, who also joined the convent after their father’s death.

What an amazing woman!

Eight volunteers arrived to see the shrine, and approximately 30 residents and several employees took part in the prayer service. During the service, participants read psalms, sang hymns and made prayer requests in a peaceful room filled by St. Thérèse’s presence, as well as the hope and faith of all those in attendance.

A simple action, but one filled with emotion and trust, took place after the service. All of the participants humbly placed a hand on the saint’s shrine and confided in her.

The volunteers and employees attending the service were especially warm and accommodating, and the residents left happy and satisfied with the experience. ♦

A CSC Instructor in Mali

By Denis Cantin, Federal Training Centre

In January 2000, the Government of Mali and the World Bank set up a project to consolidate occupational training in Mali. As part of this effort, vocational training experts from Canada were invited to help Mali correct deficiencies in its education system. Essentially, it was a question of reforming training for the construction trades, including masonry.

A delegation approached masonry expert Germain Fillion, who teaches at the Federal Training Centre. He is also recognized for his many roles — including trainer, judge and consultant — in regional, national and international vocational training competitions. He was the ideal candidate to go to Mali and review their educational infrastructure, programs of study, pedagogical materials and teacher upgrading programs.

And so, having had his medical examinations, vaccinations and cultural introduction to this largely Muslim country, Mr. Fillion left Quebec for a 12-week stay in Africa. Ahead of him lay a huge task.



Left to right: Makan Cissoko, Germain Fillion, Boubacar Houdo Diallo and Tahirou Diawara

His major challenge was to adapt to local work habits, teaching methods and materials. He and three Malian trainers reworked training techniques and models. In the end, they were able to deliver to the authorities a full session including a study program, teachers' manual and evaluation guide.

According to Mr. Fillion, life in Mali was surprisingly secure and pleasant because the laws are applied so strictly. Despite their poverty, the people were friendly and outgoing, and they were very much interested in the expertise we can provide. The warm temperatures in January and February were also appreciated!

Back in his masonry workshop in Quebec, Mr. Fillion is sharing his African experience with inmates, pointing out that our efforts may lead to recognition far beyond our borders. ♦

CSC Is Finalist in Energy Conservation Competition

By Michel Bleau, Regional Headquarters,
Technical Services Division



Left to right: Martin Gagnon, Yves Desormaux, Richard Bernier, Henri Dion, Daniel Roy, Jocelyn Martel and Michel Bleau

On October 25, 2001, it was announced that a Correctional Service of Canada construction and maintenance project had been named one of three finalists in the “institutional building” category of the 12th *Énergia* competition, organized by the AQME (Quebec association for energy conservation).

The purpose of the competition is to recognize excellence and achievement in the area of energy efficiency and conservation in Quebec's public and parapublic institutions as well as in the private sector. It provides an excellent opportunity for participants to make their achievements known. The projects submitted to the competition often become a source of inspiration for others.

As a first-time competitor, CSC decided to submit its steam trap replacement project. Analysis has shown that this project pays for itself after a period of just four months. For all Quebec institutions combined, the project should enable the Region to save \$438,000 a year on its operating budget.

Although the CSC project made it all the way to the finals, top honours went to the heating plant renovation project submitted by the Charles Lemoyne Hospital in Greenfield Park.

CSC representatives used this opportunity to find out more about sound energy management, discuss technical issues with colleagues who manage energy at a variety of institutions in Quebec, and share experiences.

The Region would like to thank all technical services staff at the institutions as well as construction staff at CORCAN. Their efforts made this project possible and the recognition is well-deserved. Congratulations! ♦

Praise for a Champ

By Sylvain Parenteau, Parole Officer, Leclerc Institution

Correctional Officer Todd Ring, Leclerc Institution, competed in the National Law Enforcement Games in Hamilton last June and, for the second year in a row, walked away with the gold medal. He also won the bronze medal for a team effort with Dan Doyon from Guelph, Ontario. At the International Law Enforcement Games in Florida in August 2000, he placed among the top 10, which is quite an achievement considering the calibre of participants at this international competition. He is the only Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) employee to have participated in the Law Enforcement Games.



Todd Ring in training

Todd's most outstanding performance was in the Toughest Competitor Alive event, which consists of eight challenges in a row: a 5-kilometre run, shot put, 100-metre dash, 100-metre swim, rope climb, chin-ups, bench press and finally an obstacle course.

Key assets in these events are mental and physical preparation, including maintaining the right weight. Most competitors aim for a weight between 185 and 195 pounds in order to achieve a good mix of strength and speed. Among elite athletes, physical performance is fairly equal, so proper mental preparation is what makes the difference.

Concentration played a key role in Todd's success, as did advice from his coaches, Mr. Morency and Mr. Kramer, well-known trainers of Olympic athletes. Intensive training and a will to succeed



Todd with Bruny Surin

won Todd a certificate of merit for his performance and sportsmanship, as well as recognition and admiration from the other competitors, his colleagues at work, and his trainers at the Laval Swim Club.

Since the start of his career with CSC, Todd has shown a sustained interest in security and emergency response. It has led him to participate in training sessions with the Ontario Provincial Police and with the emergency task forces of the Montreal and Toronto police services. These contacts enabled him not only to develop his tactical expertise, but also to see that his performance compared favourably with members of these specialized units.

In order to become competitive, Todd has made many sacrifices, spending long hours developing his strength, endurance and agility.

In order to become competitive, Todd has made many sacrifices, spending long hours developing his strength, endurance and agility. Over the past two years, he says he has trained between two-and-a-half and three hours a day, six days a week – all on his own time! Todd says that no one can get results in athletic competition without intensive training or support from relatives, friends and colleagues.



Left to right: Mark Kraft, Uniform Division, Todd Ring, Samuel Schrader, Uniform Division, and their faithful friends from the Canine Explosives Detection Team.

Aside from moral and financial support from CSC, Todd has enjoyed the sponsorship of Adidas, Oakley, Chlorophyll and Supplement Technology Superior.

Participating in competitions allows Todd to meet and talk to peace officers from all over the world. He also earns privileges normally reserved for diplomats: he has been invited to the White House, met President George W. Bush and the First Lady, visited the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Secret Service, and toured the Capitol Building.

CSC is proud to recognize the achievements of one of its correctional officers in international competition. His efforts have boosted our reputation worldwide. Way to go, Todd! ♦

Professional Visitors Receive Recognition

By Reverend Joan Shanks, Editor, The Montreal Anglican

On a recent Sunday, two members of the Anglican Communion, Janet Stewart and Stan Wilson, were honoured on their 85th birthdays for their dedication to the prison ministry.

Both of these energetic seniors have for many years visited prisoners in the various institutions around Montreal and Quebec City. Janet is just beginning her 17th year of volunteer service. She visits two inmates at Leclerc Institution, one of whom has AIDS, and three lifers at the Federal Training Centre. She also keeps in touch with two men at Donnacona Institution and attends the chapel service each Sunday at Archambault Institution. Stan Wilson has assisted countless young men and helped them deal with rejection, poverty, drug addiction and lack of self-worth.

Reverend David Shantz, Chaplain at the Federal Training Centre in Laval, where the ceremony took place, spoke of how both Stan and Janet have enriched the lives of so many. He praised their generosity, love and patience. ♦



Janet Stewart and Stan Wilson (seated) with a group of well-wishers celebrating the volunteers' 85th birthdays

Supper and Song for Volunteers

By Peter Harper, Volunteer Co-ordinator, Pittsburgh Institution

On December 5, 2001, Pittsburgh Institution held an extremely successful annual volunteer appreciation evening with over 110 people in attendance, including members from various local organizations and chapel volunteers from as far away as Ottawa.

The institution was represented by Warden Thérèse Gascon, Deputy Warden Ron Fairley, Acting Assistant Warden Ann Ewing and Volunteer Co-ordinator Peter Harper. Pittsburgh chaplains also were on hand along with 25 offenders from the Community Service Program (CSP) and Letting Inmates Network their Knowledge of Substance Abuse (LINKS) programs. A wonderful dinner was prepared by food service staff and offenders and served by offender volunteers.

Master of ceremonies Peter Harper introduced the speakers for the evening: Thérèse Gascon, and citizen escorts Roger Gipson of Festival of the Islands and Kelly Murphy from the Kingston Humane Society. Warden

Gascon spoke of the many contributions that volunteers make to the institution and the need for offender contact with people other than staff. Kelly and Roger both spoke of the hard work and talent contributed by offender volunteers to their organizations and the value of the CSP.

On behalf of Pittsburgh inmates, Kim Austin thanked all volunteers for assisting offenders like himself. He said that through the volunteers' efforts, offenders feel respected and gain the confidence needed to re-enter society.

Fifteen local community agencies were presented with framed certificates for their ongoing participation in the institution's CSP. Offenders participating in the LINKS program and the CSP were also presented with certificates of appreciation.

The Pittsburgh Choral Group, consisting of community volunteers and offenders, performed two 20-minute sessions to great reviews. The evening concluded with all

volunteers and participants joining in with the choral group on a few favourite Christmas carols.

Hopefully, 2002 will be an even more successful year with more volunteers becoming an integral part of CSC's reintegration efforts and community outreach initiatives. ♦

On behalf of Pittsburgh inmates, Kim Austin thanked all volunteers for assisting offenders like himself. He said that through the volunteers' efforts, offenders feel respected and gain the confidence needed to re-enter society.

Criminal Justice Issues on Cable TV

By Bill Rankin, Communications Officer,
Communications and Consultation Sector

Photos: Bill Rankin



On Monday, January 7, 2002, the fourth show in a five-part series on criminal justice issues was broadcast on Kingston's COGEGO Cable Inc. The purpose of the series is to create awareness of the criminal justice system in the Kingston community. This is yet another initiative stemming from the Kingston Outreach project, being implemented by the Communications and Consultation Sector and CSC's Ontario region.

The show, which deals with conditional release and the role of parole officers, was hosted by veteran television journalist J.C. Kenny, with a panel composed of Kingston Parole Officer Peter Longarini, Lifeline worker John Leeman, and Trish Crawford, Executive Director of the Kingston branch of the Elizabeth Fry Society. Ms. Kenny fielded calls from the viewing public and their questions were answered by the various panel members.

Of note was a call from the wife of an offender serving a life term who expressed her appreciation for the work done by John Leeman in helping her husband cope with his long prison term.

"Making the series was a great opportunity for CSC to work with traditional and non-traditional criminal justice partners," said Chris Stafford, CSC Community Outreach Co-ordinator, Kingston. ♦



Left to right: Peter Longarini, John Leeman, Trish Crawford and host J.C. Kenny

Institutional Emergency Response Team Graduates

By Bill Rankin, Communications Officer,
Communications and Consultation Sector

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of institutional emergency response teams (IERTs) in the Correctional Service of Canada. The national Arrest and Control, Self-Defence and Baton certification courses were held at the Ontario Region Staff College in January 2002.

Congratulations, graduates! ♦



Back row, left to right: Ron Wartman, Bath Institution; Jacques Brien, Quebec Staff College; Doug Senior, Ontario Staff College/Collins Bay Institution; Bob Trainor, Ontario Staff College/Kingston Penitentiary; Todd Yolland, Pacific Staff College
Middle row, left to right: Steve Loeb, Pacific Staff College; Mark Timson, Millhaven Institution; Jobert DeGuzman, Joyceville Institution; Dan O'Rourke, Warkworth Institution; Jean-Luc Chamailard, Fenbrook Institution; Michel Richtot, Quebec Staff College
Front row, left to right: Dennis Bally, NHQ, Course Designer; Butch Snider, Ontario Staff College, Course Instructor; Karl McLaughlin, Ontario Staff College, Course Instructor

Partnership Reaps Mutual Benefits

By Greg Basky, Editor, On Campus News

The University of Saskatchewan (U of S) and its neighbour, the Regional Psychiatric Centre (RPC), are close not just geographically, but also in their working relationship. A formal bond was officially forged in an affiliation agreement in 1984 between the Government of Canada and the University.

The affiliation document spells out the research and education links between the organizations, providing RPC staff with access to University resources and enabling students in family medicine, psychiatry, psychology and nursing to gain valuable practical experience. Many of the Centre's own in-house research and clinical staff have part-time teaching appointments in departments and colleges at the University.

LOCAL LEARNING LAB

"Besides offering a ready clinical setting for University students, RPC provides a novel laboratory for research. Because this is a specialized institution, every offender-client is unique," says Dr. Steve Wormith, chair of Forensic Psychology in the Department of Psychology. "It offers a tremendous forensic learning environment for students and for

me. And, for the same reasons, it offers any number of research possibilities."

Although psychiatric centres in Canada's other four Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) regions have ties with universities, Saskatchewan's link was the first and remains the closest, according to Wormith, whose position was created in 2000 with the support of a five-year grant from CSC.

Given the psychology department's close ties with the psychiatric centre, it's a natural host for the research-focused biennial Symposium on Violence and Aggression. The event, featuring presenters from across North America, attracts researchers, mental health workers and corrections staff from the Prairie provinces. Another research-sharing forum is the Custody and Caring Conference, hosted by the College of Nursing and RPC. The biennial workshop brings together nurses from across North America and around the globe to compare notes on issues related to nursing within the criminal justice system.

UNIQUE FACILITY AND RELATIONSHIP

Wormith says the psychiatric centre is, in many ways, similar to a teaching hospital. "It's on University property," explains Wormith.

"There are both formal administrative links, plus links between faculty here and employees of the institution, as well as students. Teaching hospitals though, are common educational structures; teaching correctional environments are not."

The biennial workshop brings together nurses from across North America and around the globe to compare notes on issues related to nursing within the criminal justice system.

That sentiment is echoed by Dr. David Keegan, Acting Head of the Department of Psychiatry in the College of Medicine, and the designated university representative on the RPC board for 10 years. "It provides us with a real strength in this area [training]," says Keegan. "Without the RPC and the staff there, we would be less able to teach our psychiatry residents." The forensic component means his program produces graduates with a unique skill set not found in general psychiatrists.

UNIVERSITY REAPS BENEFITS

The University's College of Nursing has for many years used RPC as a site for clinical placements in a mental health setting. Dr. Beth Horsburgh, Dean of the College of Nursing and the University's current representative on the RPC's board of governors, says there is growing excitement about building on that relationship to become a national leader in the relatively young field of forensic nursing.

"It's a relationship we value and intend to develop even more over time," says Horsburgh. "Hopefully we can develop a national centre of excellence in the area



Photo: Greg Basky

Graduate and doctoral students from the U of S psychology program regularly visit the Regional Psychiatric Centre as part of their studies. This photo was taken just inside the facility's main gates. Left to right: Danny Krupp, MA student, Applied Social Psychology; Karen Parhar, MA student, Applied Social Psychology; Abigail Malillin (front), MA student, Clinical Psychology; Keira Stockdale (back), MA student, Clinical Psychology; Dr. Stephen Wormith, Chair in Forensic Psychology (U of S); Dr. Cindy Presse, RPC staff psychologist and U of S adjunct professor; Shannon Costigan (front), PhD student, Clinical Psychology; Michael Sheppard (back), MA student, Clinical Psychology

[forensic nursing]. Certainly that's our vision. There's consensus on the part of the College that forensics be one of our foci. There is money in the College's budget earmarked for 14 new tenure-track positions in a forensic nursing program."

Like the College of Nursing, the Department of Psychiatry wants to establish a forensic program, with dedicated faculty positions and fellowship opportunities for grad students. Keegan and colleagues are now putting the finishing touches on the necessary funding arrangements and recruiting a program head. They hope to make an announcement within the next few months.

"The relationship between the RPC and the University of Saskatchewan has seen us develop knowledge and skills that are being applied to some of the biggest challenges in our criminal justice system."

BENEFITS RUN BOTH WAYS

RPC benefits in many ways from its close ties with the University, according to Tim Leis, the facility's executive director. "Having a working relationship with the University provides us with the infrastructure for training and research that enriches our approach to our work," says Leis. "The exposure to students also refreshes the perspective of our clinical and research staff, enabling them to look at things in new ways."

As well, the collaborative research helps the RPC to share information about its work throughout Canada and the world. "Research is an international mode of communication, and we benefit from that," says Leis.

"The research and teaching links between the two organizations have enabled the Psychiatric Centre to become a centre of excellence in the treatment of high-need offenders," says Leis.

"The relationship between the RPC and the University of Saskatchewan has seen us develop knowledge and skills that are being applied to some of the biggest challenges in our criminal justice system." ♦

Saskatchewan Penitentiary Teams Up for the Community

By Eugene Stevens, Event Co-ordinator and Unit Manager, Saskatchewan Penitentiary



Left to right: Correctional Officer Bruce Moan; Acting Deputy Warden Arthur Ding; Acting Warden Peter Guenther; Chairperson of the Citizens' Advisory Committee Marge Nainaar; Chairperson of the Inmate Welfare Committee Ronald Mathieu; Event Co-ordinator Eugene Stevens

The staff and inmates at Saskatchewan Penitentiary have given back continuously to the community of Prince Albert and the surrounding area through a wide variety of volunteer efforts. These efforts continued throughout the International Year of the Volunteer and culminated with special events in December 2001.

During that month, staff and inmates held fundraising activities to purchase presents for more than 85 immigrant children. The Inmate Welfare Committee, chaired by Ronald Mathieu, raised an astonishing \$762, and staff members were able to generate \$1,050 by staging a number of social events, including a pancake breakfast, potluck social and a COR-CAN raffle. With a total donation of \$1,812 and some generous discounts offered by Walmart, Unit 2 staff members Heather Adamson and M. Annette Schaan purchased 100 gifts, most of which were wrapped and personalized for specific children.

On December 18, these gifts plus an additional \$222 were turned over to the Prince Albert Multicultural Centre for distribution. Those in attendance were entertained by a talented inmate band led by Reverends Steven Brewer and Deborah Tanasichuk, and provided with refreshments from Mr. Benmarzoug and the food-service staff.

In addition to being addressed by Acting Warden Peter Guenther, Acting Deputy Warden Arthur Ding, Correctional Officer Bruce Moan (the local president of UCCO) and city council member Lee Atkinson, the audience received a thought-provoking speech

from Inmate Welfare Committee Chairperson Ronald Mathieu. He downplayed the inmates' donation and spoke about the importance of people working together for worthwhile causes.

Most moving of all were the appreciative words of the tireless Marge Nainaar (Chairperson, Citizen's Advisory Committee) and Mohamed Daoud (who recently arrived from the Sudan), General Manager and Program Co-ordinator of the Prince Albert Multicultural Council. They accepted the donations on behalf of all the children. The majority of the families who received these gifts came from wartorn Yugoslavia, various parts of the Middle East, Kenya and other African countries.

The event received extensive media attention from the CBC, CTV, 900 CKBI, cable television Channel 10, and the *Prince Albert Herald*. It was followed up on Saturday, December 22, when Arthur Ding (who originally conceived the idea of the gift donation), Lee Atkinson and Marge Nainaar delivered the presents to the children's homes. Seeing smiles on the children's faces was a very heart-warming experience.

The employees and residents of Saskatchewan Penitentiary are grateful for the opportunity to improve relations between staff, offenders and the community while contributing to the public's welfare. Most important is the hope that this gesture will provide Prince Albert's newest citizens with a warm welcome to their new homes. ♦

Pound Puppy Excels at Drug Detection

By Donna Kell, Senior
Communications Associate,
City of Brampton



Tucker the Springer Spaniel, who was taken in by the City of Brampton Animal Shelter last summer, has excelled in training and earned a job sniffing out drugs at a federal prison in Alberta.

The nine-month-old brown and white puppy was given to the shelter in July 2001 when allergies prevented his owners from keeping him. Staff at the shelter quickly discovered Tucker's talents and had him assessed by Darryl Martin, Dog Master with Canada Customs. Darryl sensed a winner and sent him for training.

"He excelled very quickly," said Daniel T. Massey, Tucker's trainer for 10 weeks in Rigaud, Québec. "He finished at the top of the class in obedience and drug detection, and his learning curve was impressive."

The 50-pound high-energy canine has already shown his skills at Bowden Institution. Working with Massey, the institution's Search Co-ordinator and Dog Handler with Correctional Service Canada (CSC), Tucker has detected narcotics in different locations on the prison grounds, on people and in vehicles.

Massey says Tucker's small stature is an advantage, allowing him to wiggle into tight spaces and to search high elevations as well.

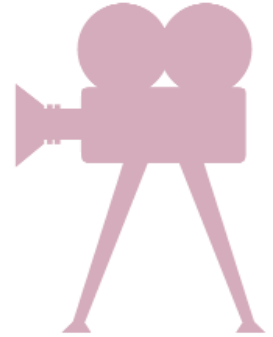
"He's an amazing dog and has already begun to establish his reputation in the month since we've been here," Massey said. "It would take hours to manually search the areas Tucker and I search in only minutes, so he's a very cost-effective partner."

Tucker's friends at the Animal Shelter wish him success. Tamara Taylor, Supervisor of Animal Services with the City of Brampton says, "We miss him, but we know he couldn't have gotten a better home." Taylor said a second dog, picked up as a stray and brought to the shelter, is now being considered for the program.

CSC began its detector dog program a year ago and intends to place 48 dogs across the country by the end of 2003. The detector dogs are used to increase safety and security for employees, inmates and nearby communities. ♦

Aboriginal Peoples' Television Network to Film at Stony Mountain

By Gaylene Romero, Correctional Officer,
Stony Mountain Institution



Stony Mountain Institution (SMI) will form the backdrop for a half-hour documentary entitled *Inside the Walls*, in which First Nation inmates in federal institutions will share their stories and experiences. The program is to be produced by APTN (Aboriginal Peoples' Television Network) and the Native Brotherhood Organization (NBO).

Although the target audience is Native youth, the production will be of interest to all those who would like to hear about experiences of Natives in the criminal justice system. The inmates featured in the documentary range in age from mid-20s to 50, have sentences ranging from several years to life/indeterminate and are involved in institutional education and work programs. Each of them volunteered for this project.

SMI's Social Cultural Development Officer (SCUDO), Art Eck, is co-ordinating the production. Art has more than 15 years in the Correctional Service of Canada, with over half of that time in the program area. The SCUDO mandate deals with cultural and social issues that connect offenders with the community.

The commentary is expected to be an appealing educational tool that can be used to direct youth towards a law-abiding path in life and as a deterrent to gang affiliation. It is anticipated that the documentary

will reveal CSC's commitment to support incarcerated Natives in the preservation of their ancestry.

CSC accommodates the cultural needs of Native inmates by providing Aboriginal liaison workers, facilities and resources for indigenous ceremonies, and spiritual lodges within the institution and in the community.

NBO guides First Nation youth as part of its outreach incentive and has received full support from Gunar Ivans, Assistant Warden, Management Services. Mr. Ivans feels this is a good opportunity to show the public the true consequences of criminal life. A selected Elder will also be included in the program. CSC recognizes the special relationship offenders develop with Elders and hopes that the guidance provided will create positive outcomes.

The program is scheduled to air in the fall of 2002. ♦



CACs Reach Out to Communities

By David S. Dick, Acting Assistant Warden, Management Services, Kent Institution

During Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) Appreciation Week, members of Kent and Mountain institutions' CACs set up an information booth at Cottonwood Mall, the largest shopping mall in Chilliwack. As part of their outreach program, this activity was held to increase awareness of their function, the role of the Correctional Service of Canada in the community, and to recruit new CAC members.



Left to right: Leroy Burden, CAC Chair, Kent Institution; Paul Urmson, Warden, Kent Institution; Ella Pretty, CAC Chair, Kwikw̓exwelhp Healing Lodge; Alex Lubimiv, Warden, Mountain Institution; Ron Hardy, CAC Chair, Mountain Institution; Jack Byers, CAC member, Mountain Institution

Several members of both committees came out during the day to help Leroy Burden and Ron Hardy, chairs of the Kent and Mountain CACs. A very special participant, Ella Pretty, a member of the Kwikw̓exwelhp/Elbow Lake Institution CAC and one of the pioneers of CACs within the CSC, was also on hand. Wardens Paul Urmson and Alex Lubimiv of Kent and Mountain institutions and Dave Dick, A/AWMS from Kent, joined them.

CAC members fielded many questions from the public about the CAC's role within CSC. The display included a video presentation, that was originally prepared for Kent Institution's 20th anniversary. It gave viewers a glimpse of the original construction process and a current look at the facility in operation. Recruiting information proved to be particularly popular as the local University College of the Fraser Valley offers a two-year criminal justice certificate program.

CAC members were pleased with the public's response and are looking forward to doing more outreach activities. Several members of the public expressed interest in becoming involved and the chairs from each committee will be inviting them to future meetings. ♦

Crisis Negotiation Training

By Jim Tenhoeve, Correctional Officer, Matsqui Institution, and Adele Buhay, Correctional Supervisor, Kent Institution

From October 22 to November 2, 2001, crisis negotiator training was presented to 23 participants at the new RCMP Pacific Region Training Academy located in Chilliwack. Pacific Region conducted two 5-day sessions with participants, including 18 Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) staff members and five British Columbia Corrections staff members from the Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women.

Jim Tenhoeve, Correctional Officer, Matsqui Institution, and Adele Buhay, Correctional Supervisor, Kent Institution, were the primary trainers. Lucy Bellavance, Social and Cultural Development Officer, Ferndale Institution, and Doug Milino, Correctional Officer, Kent Institution, presented the second week of instruction and were certified as instructors at the end of the week.

The course consisted of overviews in two main areas: general psychological strategies and CSC negotiations and the guidelines under which they are applied. Practical experience was gained through a variety of role-playing situations and intense mock scenarios. CSC managers greatly enhanced the training through their participation in these staged events.

Pacific Region has used negotiators successfully many times, thereby preventing situations from escalating, and resulting in peaceful outcomes. With the completion of this training, Pacific Region has added 15 crisis negotiators to its team and certified two additional instructors. Trainers are planning to conduct another five-day session early in 2002. ♦



Top Row, left to right: Jim Tenhoeve, Janice Sandeson, Rhonda Cochrane, Diane Knopf, Jeff Spooner, Dinah-Lee Hnetka, Rob Thomas, Doug Milino, John Romaine
Bottom Row, left to right: Lynn Sutherland, Linda Hosier, Carol McCaughan, Caralynn Morris, Adele Buhay, Lucie Bellavance.



Back row, left to right: Mike O'Dell, Scott Puttee, Don Saunders, Diane Knopf, Karleen Scott, Tami Magee, Brad Wiens. Middle row: Martina Cahill, Deborah Pollard, Jackie Anderson, Suzanne Tarlier, Donna Seaweed. Front row: Instructors Doug Milino, Adele Buhay, Lucie Bellavance and Jim Tenhoeve

Computers for Schools Hosts Open House

By Lisa Bayne, Community Outreach Co-ordinator, Vancouver

The Computers for Schools program hosted an open house on October 30, attended by approximately 50 people, to celebrate its new location in Burnaby.

The computer repair shop was established through a unique partnership between Computers for Schools and the Correctional Service of Canada. It teaches federal offenders on conditional release how to repair used computers donated to schools. Since 1998, participants in this program have refurbished and donated more than 3,000 computers!



Sergeant Griff Simmonds, Vancouver Police School Liaison Program, passes a computer to Chief Arnold Solomon.

Chief Arnold Solomon of the Toosey Native Band in Riske Creek attended the open house and accepted donations of computers for the Band's new elementary school. Sergeant Griff Simmonds of the Vancouver Police School Liaison Program presented computers to another very grateful Vancouver school. Other special guests included Sarah Chilvers of the Vancouver Foundation, members of the Vancouver School Board, and Doug Evans, Acting Mayor of Burnaby.

The open house resulted in increased enthusiasm and commitment to the expansion of the project. As was repeated by many voices throughout the morning, "This is a win-win situation for everyone!" ♦

Section 84 Conference

By Lisa Bayne, Community Outreach Co-ordinator, Vancouver Area Parole

The conference, held in November 2001, introduced the concept of Section 84 to chiefs, social service and legal agencies in the Lower Mainland and opened up lines of communication in order to increase the numbers of Section 84 releases. Raising the public's awareness of corrections was also a major goal. A total of 110 invitations were sent and 42 invitees attended.

The morning began with an opening prayer song by former Chief Leonard George of the Burrard Band. Brian Lang, Director of Community Corrections, Pacific Region, formally welcomed the participants. Patricia Shea and Joanna Moore made a presentation on Section 84 and then responded to questions from the audience with the assistance of Dave Owen, RHQ, Aboriginal Programs.

After lunch, Fraser Simmons and Evelyn Blair from the National Parole Board spoke about the Board's experience with Section 84. Marge White, Executive Director of Circle of Eagles Society spoke of her organization, followed by Elder Bruce Williams from Mission, B.C., who talked about the role of the institutional



Leonard George, former Chief, the Burrard Indian Band and Marge White, Executive Director, Circle of Eagles Society

Elder. Lisa Bayne spoke about the need for Aboriginal volunteers and staff. The day ended with a speech by parolee Joe Manitopes and inspiring words from Glenn Campbell of the United Native Nations.

The conference succeeded in increasing awareness among the many social service agencies. Letters will be sent out to each invitee that did not attend, offering a representative from the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) to come to their community to explain Section 84 and other CSC-related issues. ♦

Sewing Shop Opens

By Arlene Thygesen, Assistant Warden, Ferndale Institution



On December 20, 2001, Ferndale Institution celebrated the opening of its new textile shop with a Christmas luncheon and tours of the new building. Heather Bergen, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Sudin Ray, Chief Executive Officer of CORCAN, and Warden Dianne Brown participated in the ribbon cutting. Members of the Ferndale Citizens' Advisory Committee, local customers of CORCAN and Ferndale staff members and offenders toured the new facility.

The CORCAN textile shop provides employment opportunities for up to 30 offenders while teaching job skills and good work practices. Revenue from the items produced makes the shop a self-sustaining venture and contributes to the correctional process at minimal cost to the taxpayer.

The shop produces a variety of specialty

items for local customers as well as equipment and accessories for the Correctional Service of Canada, including security officer equipment such as duty belts, flashlight/baton holders, gloves and handcuff pouches. CORCAN also manufactures lanyard identification card holders, portfolio cases, institutional mattress covers and shower curtains. The staff works closely with customers to assist them in defining their needs, then develops the products accordingly. Innovative solutions have even created new products for local volunteer search and rescue teams, such as patient/ equipment bags and emergency response vests.

For further information on CORCAN products, contact Sandra Thiessen, Regional Director, CORCAN, Pacific Region, at (604) 870-2549. ♦

Dogs Aided by Sumas Offenders

By Lori Chortyk, Director of Community Relations, British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Offenders at Sumas Community Correctional Centre in Abbotsford are part of a new and innovative program to help increase the adoption rate for homeless and abused dogs. Through the program – the first of its kind in Canada – offenders provide daily obedience training for “potentially adoptable” shelter dogs from the Lower Mainland. A new kennel that will house up to 24 dogs has been built at the Sumas Centre for dogs-in-training, funded by the federal government and the British Columbia (BC) Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

Erwin Berg, Area Director, Fraser Valley Parole District, says, “This kind of program will benefit the offenders. It encourages good work habits, a sense of responsibility, and an opportunity for the men to develop relationships of trust and affection

– something they may not have experienced in their lives.” Currently, there are seven men signed up to take part in the program.

Offenders at Sumas will work with dogs to curb negative behaviour and make them more attractive to would-be owners. “Our partnership with the Sumas Centre means we now have a place to send these dogs for help, and we know it is going to greatly increase their chances of being adopted,” says Bob Gordon, a BC SPCA officer who helped create the program.

The dog rehabilitation project, which organizers hope will serve as a model for other institutions across Canada, is the second partnership between the Sumas Centre and the BC SPCA. The two organizations currently sponsor the Ark project, which provides temporary shelter for up to 600 SPCA cats annually. ♦



Left to right: Erwin Berg, Area Director, Fraser Valley Parole District; Alphonse Cormier, Deputy Commissioner, Pacific Region; Doug Brimacombe, Chief Executive Officer for the BC SPCA; Brian Lang, Director of Community Corrections, Pacific Region; Donna Yates, Chairperson, Fraser Valley Citizens' Advisory Committee

William Head Holds Restorative Justice Symposium

By Dennis Finlay, Communications Officer, Communications and Consultation Sector

William Head held its third annual symposium on the Restorative Justice Coalition on November 24, 2001. The Coalition includes anyone who wants to join in, but it comprises mostly inmates and volunteer citizens from the Greater Victoria area. Since July 9, 1998, the Coalition has held a dialogue and study circle inside the institution that focuses on restorative justice. The theme of this symposium was “Healing the Harm,” and many speakers were involved. Approximately 200 people (154 from the community) attended the one-day event. The Coalition has previously produced two written publications and hopes to produce a third based on this symposium.

Coalition activities have been captured and depicted in two recent documentaries about restorative justice. Gumboot Productions completed these two half-hour programs and was delighted to be able to screen them at William Head where so much of the material and support for the work was based. “Spiritual Roots of Restorative Justice” gives a broad overview of restorative justice from a variety of perspectives, and “Journey to the Centre” demonstrates restorative justice in action through a collaborative project with Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria and William Head inmates on work release. “Journey to the Centre” was completed in association with Vision TV. ♦