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» INTERCOM



**Singing the
Praises of a
Champion**
Todd Ring

**The Correctional
Service of Canada**
Nominated during the
12th AQME Énergia
Competition

**Genuine
Teamwork**

Respect

The Correctionnel Service of Canada, as part of the criminal justice system and respecting the rule of law, contributes to the protection of society by actively encouraging and assisting offenders to become law-abiding citizens, while exercising reasonable, safe, secure and humane control.



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GREAT SUMMER

Have a Great Summer

Your editorial committee.



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Increasing Public Awareness: A Shared Responsibility

Good communications play an essential role in the activities and management of Canada's entire public service. The purpose of the Treasury Board Secretariat's new communications policy which came into effect on April 1, 2002 is "to ensure that communications across the Government of Canada are well co-ordinated, effectively managed and responsive to the diverse information needs of the public".

More specifically, it is the policy of the Government of Canada "to provide the public with timely, accurate, clear, objective and complete information about its policies, programs, services and initiatives". We are also required to be visible, accessible and accountable to the public.

At the Correctional Service of Canada, Quebec Region, we use various ways to enhance our visibility and inform the public about what we are and what we are doing. For example, we organize employee and public surveys, participate in public forums, open houses, fairs and exhibitions, work closely with Citizen Advisory Committees and our volunteers, and welcome delegations from other countries. We also maintain a proactive relationship with the media, organize media days such as the special CBC network program on the prison system, and develop new communication channels through the Intranet and Internet.

Our main objectives include working with our partners and getting the community more involved so that they support our efforts to reintegrate offenders safely. As the Commissioner said recently, CSC is committed to serving Canadians and contributing to the communities where we work and live. By participating in various community projects such as "Community Liaison" and "Giving Back to the Community", both staff and offenders are helping to make our communities safer. All these activities help to generate a more realistic, accurate and balanced image of CSC and increase public awareness.

In order to be able to give us more support, the public must know more about our role, mandate, responsibilities, activities, programs and achievements in our penitentiaries as well as in the community.

According to the latest surveys done by Léger Marketing in Montreal and Laval in March, it is important to inform people about CSC's activities because crime is a major concern for 75% of the population. The surveys also indicate that the correctional system is misunderstood and that perceptions about CSC are coloured by the media. Also, the public thinks that punishment and reintegration should be CSC's main priorities.

Therefore, we have to work to inform and reassure the public because the parole system alarms people, and their fears are exacerbated by spectacular instances of recidivism which unfortunately sometimes happen in the community.

On the positive side, the survey also indicates that people have more confidence in the correctional system than the justice system and they agree with having treatment centres and transition houses in their communities but want to know about them. The public also thinks that the community has a role to play in facilitating the reintegration of former inmates, especially by being tolerant and open-minded.



Richard Watkins

Pressure from the general public and the media is increasing: they want to know what we do, how we do it and what our results are. We must debunk the myths and give the public more information about our correctional activities. Public security comes at a cost and the public wants us to be accountable in regard to how effectively we carry out our mandate.

As CSC employees, we are answerable for the relevance of the information we convey about our organization and the quality of our day-to-day relationships with our coworkers, partners, family and friends, as well as the general public, and must promote CSC's image of excellence at all times.

Just What is "Le cœur à l'ouvrage"?

LORETTA MAZZOCCHI • STAFF COLLEGE AND CAROLE PLANTE • EAST-WEST DISTRICT, QUEBEC REGION

Le cœur à l'ouvrage is the theme adopted by Regional Staff Committee to reach Correctional Service of Canada staff in the Quebec Region during conferences held on March 12-13 and April 17-18 at Le Chantecler hotel in Ste-Adèle in the Laurentians.

In creating the committee, the Deputy Commissioner drew inspiration from the Women's Committee at National Headquarters and in other regions.

The main objective of the committee was to define a mandate and guide discussions towards activities that could benefit all employees.

Inspired by Core Value 3, which reminds us that "our strength and our major resource in achieving our objectives is our staff and that human relationships are the cornerstone of our endeavour," the mandate aimed at creating activities for the various groups of staff members, enabling them to help improve relations in the workplace.

Le cœur à l'ouvrage events have allowed nearly 250 staff members from all operational units to work together for a day and a half to develop a "provocative proposal," that would make it possible to improve the quality of human relationships within CSC.

A number of people have been involved in order to make this happen. The firm Improbable provided both facilitation and support throughout the exercises, creating links with the initial objective. The reflections and words of the key individuals, including Pierre Allard (Assistant Commissioner, Community Engagement), Richard Watkins (Regional Deputy Commissioner), and Laval Marchand (Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Corporate Services) were a source of inspiration, just like all the other participants present. They worked in teams, laughed, had a good time and met new people, which helps improve the quality of human relationships.



A group of participants.



Richard Watkins with a participant.



Left to right:
Pierre Allard and Laval Marchand.

Singing the Praises of a Champion

SYLVAIN PARENTEAU • LECLERC INSTITUTION

Todd Ring, a Correctional Officer at Leclerc Institution, took part in the *National Law Enforcement Games*, held in Hamilton in June 2001, and brought home the gold medal for the second consecutive year. He and his teammate Dan Doyon, from the Guelph Region (Ontario), also walked away with the bronze team medal. Between these two competitions, he also competed in the *International Transfer Law Enforcement Games* in August 2000 in Florida. There he placed among the ten best, which is excellent given the very high calibre of this international competition.

» TCA: the Ultimate Challenge

Todd really stood out, however, when it came to the *Toughest Competitor Alive* (TCA) competition. The TCA is made up of eight events: a 5-km run, shot put, 100-m sprint, 100-m swim, rope climb, bench press, pull-ups, and an obstacle course. The events are run in series, ending with the obstacle course.

» Training: the Key to Success

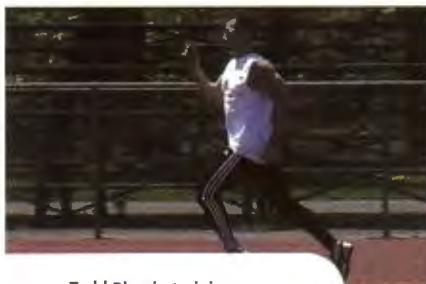
Striking a good balance between body weight and sound physical and mental preparation are key elements in performing well at such competitions. Most athletes target a body weight of 185 to 195 pounds in order to maintain a good balance between strength and speed. Sound mental preparation is important since the differences in performance of the top athletes in the group are fairly small. The ability to concentrate therefore becomes a key factor in the final outcome. In the case of Todd, the advice provided by his instructors, Mr. Morency and Mr. Kramer, both well-known trainers of Olympic athletes, played an essential role in his preparation. His intensive training and drive to perform earned him a certificate of merit for his performance and sporting spirit as well as the recognition of the other competitors, his co-workers, and his trainers at the Club de natation Laval.

» An Interest in Security from the Very Beginning

Right after being hired by Correctional Service of Canada, Todd Ring demonstrated a sustained interest in intervention groups (IGs) and security. This interest led him to take part in several training sessions organized by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), the Montréal police force's Special Weapons and Tactical Team (SWAT), and the Toronto Police Emergency Task Force (ETF). These experiences enabled him to develop his tactical expertise, while providing him with the opportunity to gauge his performance against that of the members of these specialized teams, which led him to believe that he could hold his own with them.

» Genuine Sacrifices

In order to become a real competitor, Todd made many sacrifices and spent long hours training in order to develop his strength, endurance, and agility. He said that, over the



Todd Ring in training.

last 2 years, he has been training from 2.5 to 3 hours per day, 6 days a week. It's a lifestyle that calls for a lot of sacrifices, especially since Todd has had to do it all on his own time. In his opinion, this level of success is impossible without intensive training and the support of family, friends, and workplace. Moreover, Todd was the only Correctional Service of Canada staff member taking part in this competition.



Todd Ring with Bruny Surin.

In addition to the moral and financial support of the Correctional Service of Canada, Todd was able to enlist a number of sponsors such as Adidas, Oakley, Chlorophyle, and Supplement Technology Superior.

It was a great adventure...and a lot of hard work.

» Outstanding Encounters

Taking part in these competitions gave Todd the opportunity to meet and get to know peace officers from around the world and to enjoy privileges normally reserved for diplomats (VIPs). He was invited to the White House to meet President George Bush and the First Lady, and visited the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), offices of the United States Secret Service (USSS), and the Capitol.

The Correctional Service of Canada is proud to call attention to the participation and performance of one of its Correctional Officers in these international competitions. Todd's efforts have reflected very positively on the CSC around the world.

» Our heartiest congratulations, Todd!

Genuine Teamwork

DENIS MÉTHÉ • MONTREAL METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

You may not realize it, but Martineau CCC was converted into a Community Mental Health Unit about two years ago. Because of this shift in vocation, the CCC added to its staff experienced nurses who are thoroughly familiar with the Correctional Service of Canada's clientele.

Mental-health services are rigorously delivered at all times and the nursing staff also provides basic health-care services.

Ellen Paquet thought that Brian Webber had been showing signs of shaky physical health for some time such as drawn appearance, somewhat apathetic, and pallor. When questioned about his general condition, Brian simply claimed that he felt all right. Ellen, however, kept watching and noticed that he was often out-of-breath, sometimes drowsy, and somewhat worn out.

Since Brian had an appointment that day to see the psychiatrist who had recently adjusted his medication, Ellen suggested that his blood be tested to validate the symptoms she had observed over the preceding days.

The inmate was therefore referred to a medical clinic. The results of the blood tests, delivered to Réal Larouche, indicated that Brian's blood-glucose level of 18 was three times higher than normal. Réal thought that the level was so high that Brian must have eaten a large amount of sugar-rich food just before his blood sample was taken. But, to set his mind to rest, Réal suggested to his colleague Pierre Maisonneuve that the test should be run again with a blood glucose monitor. While this type of equipment can't rival a blood test for accuracy, it does a fairly good job of indicating blood-glucose level.



Seated: Brian Webber

Standing, left to right: Pierre Maisonneuve, Ellen Paquet, and Réal Larouche.

When Pierre ran the test, the blood glucose monitor came back with an alarming rating of 28. In fact, it was so high that Pierre immediately took steps for his colleague to assume operational management alone while he rushed Brian to the hospital for another blood test. The test confirmed the glucose monitor reading and Brian was immediately given an intravenous solution to bring his blood-glucose level back to within normal limits. If Pierre hadn't acted so promptly, Brian could have slipped into a diabetic coma or even have died from undiagnosed diabetes. In fact, subsequent analyses revealed that Brian's diabetes had been caused by medication that he had been taking for a while.

He was hospitalized for nearly 15 days so that he could get his health back.

Since returning to the unit, he has had to learn how to use the blood glucose monitor himself and occasionally give himself insulin injections. Above all, he is truly indebted to the nursing staff at Martineau CCC whose observation, perspicacity, and initiative made it possible for Brian to regain his health and calmly preparing for taking full charge of managing his condition.

The Correctional Service of Canada Nominated During the 12th AQME Énergie Competition

MICHEL BLEAU • REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS, TECHNICAL SERVICES

On October 25, during the 12th edition of the Énergie competition organized by the Association québécoise de la maîtrise de l'énergie (AQME), a building and maintenance project of the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) was selected as one of the three finalists in the "Institutional Building" category.

The Énergie competition aims at recognizing excellence and merit in the area of energy efficiency and control in the private sector and in public and parapublic institutions in the province of Quebec. The competition offers participants an excellent opportunity to publicize their achievements in the area of energy efficiency. The projects presented often become a source of inspiration based on concrete experience.

As its first entry in this competition, CSC presented a project entitled "*Programme d'audit de vapeur et de remplacement de purgeurs à vapeur défectueux*" (Program for auditing steam and replacing defective steam traps). The project's break-even analysis revealed that the system paid for itself within four months, which is quite fast. This project should enable us to save more than \$438,000 per year from the total operating budget for all institutions in the Quebec Region.

The CSC project held its own among the energy-conservation projects presented right up until the end, when the project for renovating the power plant of the Charles Lemoyne Hospital (Greenfield Park) took the top honors.

CSC representatives took the opportunity to acquire new knowledge about sound energy management, exchange ideas with other colleagues in technical disciplines who manage energy use in various organizations in Quebec, and share their respective experiences.

We would like to thank all the staff with institutional technical services and CORCAN's construction operations that brought about this project whose merit was recognized during the Énergie competition.



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

Resourcing Day for Program Staff at Archambault Institution

GILBERT ROBITAILLE • ARCHAMBAULT INSTITUTION

Following the conference organized by Regional Headquarters in November 1999 which brought together the Programs, Training and CORCAN Industries divisions, working relationships were formed between employees at Archambault Institution which resulted in an outstanding degree of cooperation.

At a resourcing day on November 9, institution management decided to recognize the outstanding work of its teachers, program officers, social development officers, CORCAN instructors and its administrative support team. It also took the opportunity to make a progress report regarding activities in 2000-2001, raise employee awareness of Aboriginal spirituality and personal well-being, present a summary of achievements, and identify the challenges to be met in the coming year.

During his opening speech, Pierre Bernier, Assistant Warden, Correctional Programs, highlighted the solidarity and dynamism of the employees in these groups who organized numerous activities throughout the year to improve the reintegration of the institution's inmates.

Next, Aboriginal Liaison Officer Jules Bacon performed the traditional Smudge Ceremony and talked about the role of the Healing Circle, which encompasses the four races, the four elements, the four aspects of the individual and nature, the four seasons and the four cardinal points. He also explained what some sacred objects are used for.

André Corriveau, Community Parole Officer and an experienced speaker, captured everyone's attention when he discussed personal well-being and shared his experience which was cleverly punctuated with numerous examples his listeners could relate to.

Every day, most of the prison population is working, studying or taking programs in the institution and, admittedly, few problems arise. According to Yves Fafard, Archambault Institution Warden, this is attributable to the fine work done by the employees. He added that employability is still the main challenge facing them and that the program team is the key element in achieving this objective.

Next, the CORCAN Operations Manager and Program Manager presented commemorative plaques to highlight the performance of some employees. Recipients included Louis Gernaey, Coordinator, Services and Staffing, Instructors Pénélope Charbonneau and Lise Roy, Social Development Officer Raymond Bertrand, and Michel Baroudi, CORCAN Instructor in the leather workshop. All participants received a picture frame made in CORCAN Industries workshops, which they really appreciated.

Finally, Program Manager Gilbert Robitaille reported on the achievements of all the team members.

After going round the table, all the participants said they were extremely satisfied with this meeting.

Congratulations to the organizers of this very successful day.

Respect
Humane
PROTECTION
Justice Rights

Archambault Institution Staff Members Receive Recognition Award

SYLVIE GRAVEL • ARCHAMBAULT INSTITUTION

Archambault Institution took the opportunity offered by the holiday season and the Christmas lunch for current and retired staff members to organize a ceremony for giving Recognition Awards on December 20, 2001.

Danielle Pelletier, René Asselin, Alain Giguère, and Gilles Pelletier were celebrating 15 years of service with the Public Service of Canada, while Gilles Fournier, Yves Lachapelle, Pierre Leblanc, Claude Maillé, André Meunier, and Marcel Nadeau were celebrating 25 years of service.

Warden Yves Fafard also took the opportunity to thank certain staff members and call attention to their significant involvement in inmate intake processing related to the *2001 Summit of the Americas* last April. A Certificate of Recognition and keepsake were given to Jeanine Beaulieu, Christiane Gérin, Monique Rémillard, Benoît Bertrand, André Bissonnette, Normand Breton, Jean-Guy Brunet, Christian Caron, Jean Cloutier, Richard Demeule, Alain Giguère, Mario Labrèche, Serge Nepton, Guy Rivest, and Marcel Soucy.

Moreover, Michel Baroudi, Work Supervisor, Protected Workshop in the Regional Mental Health Center, received a Certificate of Recognition for his effectiveness and availability for shoemaking jobs, which made it possible to carry out several projects for inmates sooner and at lower cost.

Lastly, Certificates of Recognition were also given to the Food Services team at Archambault Institution for the outstanding service they offer on a daily basis and during special events. Certificates were awarded to Jean-Guy Brunet, Gilles Arsenau, Guylain Boulay, Jean-Pierre Castonguay, Gaston Labrecque, and Mohamed Laghzali.



Left to right: André Courtemanche, Gilles Fournier, and Yves Fafard.



Kneeling, left to right: Guy Rivest, Janine Beaulieu, Mario Labrèche, Serge Nepton, and Monique Rémillard.

Standing, left to right: Richard Demeule, Christian Caron, Yves Fafard, Marcel Soucy, André Bissonnette, Normand Breton, and Alain Giguère.



Left to right: Yves Fafard and Michel Baroudi.



Kneeling, left to right: Mohamed Laghzali and Jean-Pierre Castonguay.

Standing, left to right: Gaston Labrecque, Yves Fafard, Ninon Paquette, Guylain Boulay, Sylvie Gravel, and Jean-Guy Brunet.

A Representative from Hong Kong's Correctional Services Visits Quebec

FRANCINE JOURDAIN • REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS

In February, Sylvia Chung, Warden of an institution for women in Hong Kong, took advantage of her training period with the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) to visit a number of institutions in the Quebec Region and sit in on the National Review Committee meeting at the Federal Training Centre attended by Commissioner Lucie McClung and her assistants.

While in Quebec, Ms. Chung visited Joliette Institution for Women as well as the maximum-security institution Regional Reception Centre. She was also able to meet Regional Deputy Commissioner Richard Watkins and some of his assistants.

A skilled communicator, Ms. Chung has an extremely dynamic, colourful personality. Her vivaciousness and humour impressed and interested our managers everywhere she visited.

In Canada to learn about our correctional model, Ms. Chung generously spoke about her culture and correctional operations in Hong Kong, which delighted all the staff members she met.

In response to the cordial welcome she received, Ms. Chung claimed that she was very impressed with the quality of our relations with inmates and the services we offer them. She will keep very fond memories of her stay in Quebec.



Sylvia Chung accepting a keepsake from Deputy Commissioner Richard Watkins.



Left to right: Guy Villeneuve, Guy Petit-clair, Sylvia Chung, Richard Watkins and Laval Marchand.

A Humanitarian Gesture

JOHANNE BRISSON • PORT-CARTIER INSTITUTION

Under the *Fée des étoiles* Program, the Programs Division of Port-Cartier Institution took the initiative of setting up a service to drive home people who have had too much to drink during the holiday season.

Staff members from the Sports, Sociocultural, and Programs sectors, the school board, and CORCAN Industries paired up time and effort to prevent people from driving while drunk during the festive season, in response to an ongoing need in our communities.

The idea began with discussions among Programs staff members in October 2001, when team members were looking for a way to add a creative and pleasant aspect to their work.



Volunteers for the
Fée des étoiles Program:

Kneeling, left to right: Irène Rancourt, Nancy Roy, and Diane Ouellet.

Back row, from left to right: Guy Alarie, Robert Rodgers, Alain Delaunay, Normand Bonin, Richard Lacroix, Johanne Brisson, Daniel Landry, Reine Gendron, Mary-Ann Bourassa, Jean-François Gaudreault, Dorothe Leblanc, Robin Roy, Daniel Côté and Donna Walker.

Hundreds of suggestions were made, many of which were farfetched. Everyone, however, was pleased with the selected suggestion, which was the *Fée des étoiles* Program, an annual event in Sept-Îles. The suggestion was submitted to the other sectors of the Programs Division and 17 staff members enthusiastically agreed to take part in the project.

Staff members had many reasons for getting involved in this activity:

- Be creative in implementing national substance abuse standards by accompanying drivers and their vehicles back home safely, while taking advantage of the occasion to share with the public the Correctional Service of Canada's efforts related to substance abuse.
- Enable staff members in the different sectors of the Programs Division to exchange ideas and share in an activity outside of the work environment because the daily routine often leads to isolation.
- Demonstrate the involvement of CSC staff members as volunteers in our communities.
- Take part in an enjoyable activity while contributing to the community's well-being.

The operation began with the first call at 7:00 PM on December 19. The volunteers, who were novices, gathered around Donna and listened excitedly as she took down the address, which was given to the first team. Throughout the night, two individuals worked as dispatchers, taking the calls and assigning them to five teams of three people each, who provided the accompaniment service. Over the course of the night, more than 60 calls were logged and tips amounting to \$400 were collected and distributed to local organizations who applied to the *Fée des étoiles* Program.

The last team of volunteers rolled in at 3:50 AM. They, like the other team members, were tired but pleased with what they had accomplished. Everybody shared their experiences, talked about what happened during the night when accompanying people, and expressed their pleasure at having taken part.

The institution's management participated in its own way by allowing available CSC vehicles to be used for the project and giving staff volunteers some well-deserved time off to recover from their "night on the town."

People are already thinking about repeating the experience next year. Moreover, several staff members from other sectors expressed an interest in taking part in the program in 2002.

Wouldn't it be great if, during the 2002 holiday season, the *Fée des étoiles* (or Red Nose) Program could be implemented in the institutions, districts, and communities within the Quebec Region?

Consider it a personal invitation!

World AIDS Day

DANIELLE PELLETIER • ARCHAMBAULT INSTITUTION

As part of World AIDS Day, which was held on December 1, the team of the Health-care Centre at the Archambault Institution organized special activities to raise employee and inmate awareness of this terrible disease.

Tours of the institution and meetings both involving staff and inmates were organized with the close cooperation of Viviane Bain, Liaison Officer for the Peer Counseling and Education Program (CEP) and Gaétane Trépanier, nurse at the Health-care Centre and CEP Coordinator. The tours were geared to familiarize participants with Ms. Bain's role with respect to offenders with HIV who were about to be released or who had already been released. Moreover, the team took the opportunity to award certificates to the offenders who completed CEP training.

Furthermore, a fund-raising activity was held on November 30. A small booth was set up at the institution's main entrance and staff members were solicited to make a donation. Each staff member who made a donation was given a red ribbon (international symbol representing AIDS), along with a muffin and coffee. A total of \$304.65 was raised.



Left to right: Ninon Paquette, Vivian Bain, Alain Lessard, Danielle Pelletier, Gaétane Trépanier, Rémi Cartier, Yves Fafard, and Pierre Bernier.

Inmates, through their Committee, donated \$343. A grand total of \$647.65 was turned over to Alain Lessard, representing the Maison Sida-Amitié in St-Jérôme, which is an organization dedicated to helping people struggling with HIV and with whom the institution has been working closely for number of years.

In closing, the Health-care Centre would like to thank everyone involved in this project and invite all the institutions in the Quebec Region to encourage this type of event.

Together we can beat this terrible disease and proclaim VICTORY!



Kneeling: Stéphane Auclair.

Standing, left to right: Sébastien Ménard, Gaétane Trépanier, Mario Filion, Luc Lagacé, Alain Lessard, and Vivian Bain.

» Workplace Charitable Campaign

Gaétane Messier
Regional Headquarters

As part of the Workplace Charitable Campaign, the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), Montreal Metropolitan District, received a Silver Certificate, which was given to Réal Charbonneau, Campaign Chair, 20000 Sector, in recognition of his achieving a 70% contribution rate among his employees.

This level of success can be attributed to the participation of Campaign Coordinators in their respective units and the generosity of staff members. The Coordinators received a copy of the Silver Certificate in recognition of a job well-done.



Left to right: Réal Charbonneau and Richard Watkins.



Richard Watkins and Réal Charbonneau surrounded by the Greater Montreal Sector's coordinators

Visit by a Polish Delegation

JEAN-PAUL MAURICE • COWANSVILLE INSTITUTION

On January 29, 2002, two Polish government representatives, Pawel Moczydłowsky, a key player in the reform of the prison system in Poland, and Kajetan Dubiel, a senior government official responsible for social questions related to inmates, spent a day at Cowansville Institution discussing the prevention of infectious diseases in a prison environment.

The delegation was accompanied by consultant David Garmaise, Ralf Jürgens, Executive Director of the Canadian Legal HIV/AIDS Network, and Suzanne Blais, Coordinator of International Visits at National Headquarters.

Chantal Fontaine, Regional Head of Health Services, made a presentation that was well received by our hosts regarding the nature and scope of our interventions with inmates who have HIV and hepatitis viruses.

The visitors then had the opportunity to meet with Unit Manager Manon Bisson and Parole Officer André Cadorette to discuss how workers coped when prophylactics and bleach were introduced as a way to limit the spread of infectious diseases, a subject which the Polish delegation was particularly interested in.

Our hosts then met with Program Officers Sébastien Girard and Gil Martineau to learn more about the Violence Prevention Program. They also had the opportunity to talk to an inmate who had just finished this program.

The visit concluded at the Health Centre where, in addition to meeting the staff working under the supervision of Hélène Boissonneault, Acting Head of Health Services, and visiting the hospital, our guests talked to the inmate working as a peer helper with other inmates in regard to the prevention of infectious diseases.

Before they left, Acting Warden Régis Charron asked the members of the delegation to sign the institution's distinguished visitors book.



Signing Cowansville Institution's distinguished visitors book.



Left to right: Jean-Paul Maurice, Pawel Moczydłowsky, David Garmaise, Régis Charron, Ralf Jürgens, Suzanne Blais, Kajetan Dubiel and Hélène Boissonneault.

Skennen'kó:wa

CYNDY WYLDE AND CAROLINA SOULIÉ • REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Skennen'kó:wa is a Mohawk word meaning "peace". This was the theme chosen for the Third Conference of the Quebec Native Women's Association (AFAQ) entitled "*La Pointe du jour*". The Conference was held on November 21, 22 and 23 at the Renaissance Hotel in Montreal. One of its objectives was to focus on youth-related issues such as education, justice, health, non-violence and prevention.

One of the main themes discussed at the Conference was "**Justice and social peace**". The AFAQ understands that a community's social equilibrium depends on the efforts made by its members and the ability of its public service workers to understand and organize its justice system.

Increasingly, Aboriginal communities are mobilizing their members with a view to developing common strategies to deal effectively with the problems they are experiencing. One of these relates to the Canadian justice system. The Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) shares their concerns about Aboriginal over representation in the federal prison system. The AFAQ Conference presented an opportunity to dialogue in this regard.

Several plenary sessions and workshops dealt with the issue of public security. Julie-Christine Lainey, Project Manager at Regional Headquarters, and Cyndy Wylde, Aboriginal Community Development Officer, both with CSC, talked about the reintegration process for Aboriginal offenders while Yvon Gaudreau represented the National Parole Board (NPB). This was a unique opportunity to invite the communities to develop partnerships, share CSC's current strategies which promote the safe reintegration of First Nations members, and inform the communities about CSC's enhanced services.

CSC also took this opportunity to set up a booth on the theme of **Restorative Justice**. Organized by Carolina Soulié, Regional Coordinator, Restorative Justice, the booth presented information on different CSC programs and services including those related to restorative justice, Aboriginals and female offenders.

We wish to thank the following for their help in making this booth a success: Hélène Pellerin, France Simard, Julie-Christine Lainey, David Shantz, Johanne Perreault, Chantal Chartrand, Marc-André Laberge, Gratien Tremblay, Cyndy Wylde and Carolina Soulié.

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Awards Ceremony for Corrections Exemplary Service Medal (20 and 25 years) and Certificates of Recognition

CAROLE BOUSQUET • LA MACAZA INSTITUTION

As part of the Awards and Honours Program of the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), a ceremony to award Corrections Exemplary Service Medals was held at the Centre sportif et culturel de l'Annonciation on December 5. Members of the Citizens' Advisory Committee as well as representatives of the union, municipalities in the region, and the Sûreté du Québec attended the ceremony.

Certificates were also presented to employees for their involvement over several years as volunteers in the Association de hockey mineur de la Vallée de la Rouge (minor hockey association) as well as in other volunteer activities.

Lastly, a commemorative plaque was given to the staff of the Sex Offenders Treatment Clinic to call attention to the CSC's first Francophone program to be accredited by a panel of international experts. This type of accreditation confirms the excellence of both the program and the care-delivery team.

The Regional Deputy Commissioner for the Quebec Region, Richard Watkins, joined Warden Karol Prévost in awarding Exemplary Service Medals, a 25-year Public Service Award, and Certificates of Appreciation.

The atmosphere at the ceremony was quite festive.



**Recipients of the Corrections
Exemplary Service Medal**

Seated, left to right: Farid Tawil, Martin Boileau, Van Johnson, Karol Prévost, Richard Watkins, Monique Therrien, and Jacques Pelletier.

Standing, left to right: Pierre Bélisle, Gilles Tremblay, Robert Girard, Mario Desjardins, Serge Taillefer, Denis Clément, Daniel Bonin, André Pilette, Christian Gamache, Nicole Fecteau, Jean-Guy Paiement, Serge Fouquereau, Yvon Borduas, Denis Lalande, Jacques Deslauriers, and Denis Lévesque.



**Recipients of Certificates
of Appreciation**

Left to right: Martin Boileau, Richard Watkins, Karol Prévost, Joëlle Kergoat, and Martin Caron.



**Honours Memorial Award
presented to the staff of the
Sex Offenders Treatment Clinic.**

Presentation of Corrections Exemplary Service Medals (20 and 30 years)

GAÉTANE MESSIER • REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS

On December 17, a ceremony was held at the Staff College to present Corrections Exemplary Service Medals (20 and 30 years).

Congratulations to All the Recipients!



East/West District, Quebec

Left to right: Richard Watkins, Lucie Lachapelle, Normand Granger, Marie Sarrasin and Vital Filion.



Federal Training Centre

Left to right: Normand Aubertin, Richard Watkins, Jean Rochette, Lise Bouthillier, Normand Belval and Serge Bouchard.



Montée St-François Institution

Left to right: Richard Watkins, Robert Stedman, Michel Roussy, Réal Charbonneau, André Gosselin, Robert Houde and Alain Chênevert.



Leclerc Institution

Left to right: Michel Girard, Jeannot Pilon, Gilbert Ranger, Jean-Guy Sarrazin, Richard Watkins, Guy Lacasse, Lucie Chicoine, Martin Paquet, Marie-Claude Lavigne, Richard Bernier, Bernard Hurtubise, Johanne Boyer, Pierre Nelson, Denis Cloutier and Raphaël Examé.

This was a very special ceremony since Corrections Exemplary Service Medals are only awarded to people who have worked for at least 20 years in a Canadian correctional service, including 10 years with inmates in a detention centre or in parole or probation services.

This decoration is granted by the Governor General and administered by the Chancellery of Canadian Orders and Decorations. The medal comes with a certificate signed by the Governor General attesting that the decoration has been granted. Bars which are worn on the ribbon on which the medal hangs are also awarded for each additional 10 years in a correctional service.

Presentation of Exemplary Service Awards at Drummond Institution

SYLVA MARCHESSEAU • DRUMMOND INSTITUTION

As part of the Correctional Service of Canada Awards and Honours Program, Exemplary Service Medals (20 and 30 years), Public Service Awards (15 and 25 years) and a Certificate of Appreciation were presented at the Quebec Emergency Services (SIUCQ) Hall in Drummondville on October 24, 2001.



Recipients of the Exemplary Service Medal (20 years)

Left to right: Richard Watkins, Claude Bizier, Robert Van Houtte, Denis Chouinard, Gilbert Girard, Daniel Lessard, Gaétan Parent, Gilles Gosselin, Michel Leblanc, Bernard Lavault and France Poisson.



Recipient of the First Bar (30 years)

Left to right: France Poisson, Sylva Marchesseault and Richard Watkins.

During the ceremony, a Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Jean-Rock Roussel to highlight his outstanding career at the Correctional Service of Canada.

Richard Watkins, Deputy Commissioner for the Quebec Region, joined Drummond Institution Warden France Poisson to present the medals, awards and certificate to the following employees:



Recipient of the Certificate of Appreciation

Left to right: France Poisson, Jean-Rock Roussel and Richard Watkins.



Recipients of the Public Service Award (25 years)

Richard Watkins, Carole Ouimet, Michel Duval, Roland Denault and France Poisson.



Recipients of the Public Service Award (15 years)

Left to right: Richard Watkins, Reynald Leblanc, Camille Gauthier, Réjeanne Fontaine, Claude Morissette, André Mercier and France Poisson.

Presentation of Corrections Exemplary Service Medals (20 and 30 years)

GAÉTAN ÉTHIER • REGIONAL RECEPTION CENTRE

On February 8, a ceremony was held at the Lorraine Community Centre to present Corrections Exemplary Service Medals (20 and 30 years).

Regional Deputy Commissioner Richard Watkins presented medals to 40 employees from the Regional Reception Centre and Archambault and Ste-Anne-des-Plaines Institutions.

Hearty congratulations to all the recipients.



Regional Reception Centre

Left to right: Pierre Chapleau, André Audette, Alain Bélanger, Dominique Poissonnier, Robert Labrèche, Jean-Claude Bilodeau, Richard Lacasse, Réal Lapalme, Réal Lévesque, Johanne Gauvreau, Yves Marcoux, Christiane Thériault, Robert Poirier and Pierre Sigouin.



Archambault Institution

Left to right: André Courtemanche, Richard Paquin, Denis Haspeck, Michel Godin, Michel Coune, Alain Goyette, Michel Dagenais, Gervais Lalancette, Jean-Pierre Carrier, Michel Désormeaux, Pierre Desrosiers, Richard Labelle, Gilles Broué, Suzanne Pelletier, Jean-Cloutier, Mario Lévesque, Monique Laflamme and Gilles Plouffe.



Ste-Anne-des-Plaines Institution

Left to right: Louise Desrosiers, Jean-Claude Chaumont, Ronald Gadbois, Jean-François Monarque, Roger Bastien and Jean-Marais Verdure.

Homage to a Co-worker

LISE GODON • COWANSVILLE INSTITUTION

Marc Healy, Correctional Officer at Cowansville Institution, worked furiously to develop a 12-hour work schedule. This innovation inspired many other institutions to adapt their schedules to Marc Healy's model.

This type of work requires time, patience, determination, and ingenuity.

Marc, your efforts are greatly appreciated. Your fellow Correctional Officers at Cowansville Institution extend their sincerest congratulations for this achievement!



Marc Healy

Award

Regional Mental Health Center (RMHC) Staff Member Receives Award of Excellence

SÉBASTIEN PILON • ARCHAMBAULT INSTITUTION

The *Award of Excellence* Program enables institution staff members to recognize one of their peers based on the criteria of professionalism, initiative, and team spirit.

During the RMHC Pavilion Day on December 12, the Selection Committee presented the Award of Excellence to Nicole Larivière, Assistant to the Assistant Warden of the RMHC.



Left to right: Ghyslaine Carrier, Mélissa Vallée, Nicole Larivière, and Réal Delcourt.

VIVA Celebrates its Fifth Anniversary

Charles Pinard
Leclerc Institution

The VIVA suicide prevention service at Leclerc Institution celebrated its fifth anniversary on December 6, 2001.

This event highlighted VIVA's suicide prevention efforts at Leclerc Institution and provided an opportunity to share this success.

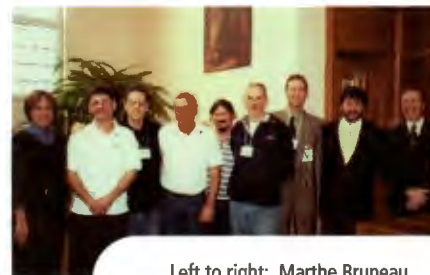
Approximately 50 people from the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), the general public and inmate suicide prevention peer helpers attended the ceremony. An audiovisual presentation, made by and for inmates about VIVA, was followed by a presentation by VIVA coordinator Marthe Bruneau, who talked about some facts

related to suicide in prison, statistics collected over the past five years, the services currently offered to suicidal inmates and some of VIVA's great moments.

There were also stories from inmates who had been helped and from inmate peer helpers who supported them.

Warden Denis Cloutier and Raoul Cantin, Assistant Warden, Correctional Programs, presented certificates to new volunteers attesting to their training as suicide prevention peer helpers and a pin bearing the Correctional Service of Canada's emblem.

Guy Villeneuve, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Operations, concluded the ceremony by emphasizing CSC's concern regarding the problem of suicide.



Left to right: Marthe Bruneau, followed by five peer helper residents: Pierre Comte, Robert Landry, Jocelyn Labarre, Jean Piché and Jacques Grégoire, Daniel Vachon, a former peer helper resident, Charles Pinard and Raoul Cantin.

» Seventh Book Fair

Gilbert Robitaille
Archambault Institution

On October 18, 2001, Archambault Institution held its seventh Book Fair, a unique opportunity for the residents to read and buy books, educational games, music, software, stationery, etc. This year, the Paragraphe and Renaud-Bray bookstores visited the institution bringing a wide variety of items.



A selection of items available in a bookstore.

The residents often take this opportunity to buy gifts for their children and pick up books and other items that can help them in their academic as well as personal development.

Once again this year, the event was a great success with staff as well as residents. Nearly 200 people visited the Fair just for fun as well as to buy things. Sales reached a record level: over 107 orders totalling \$4,056.23.

A flood of positive comments came from all sides after the Fair. We should also mention that Radio-Canada television was there as well.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all the participants, residents and staff because, without them, the Book Fair would not be what it is. We would also like to thank institution management who, once again this year, allowed the Fair to be held and we hope to be able to repeat this wonderful experience next year.



Organizing team of the Archambault Institution Book Fair.

» Two Toddlers Describe Santa's Visit to Joliette!

Louis-Philippe and William
(2 years old)
Joliette Institution

The opening of the presents under the Christmas tree for children of the employees at Joliette Institution took place on November 25, 2001. Louis-Philippe and William, both aged two-and-a-half and whose mothers are front-line workers at Joliette, told us their story. Here's what they said.

"We want to tell you a wonderful story that happened to us one nice Sunday in November. Our mothers, Jean-Christine Laberge and Louise Laliberté, organized a meeting with none other than Santa Claus. It was a magical day! The party was held in a large room packed with kids like us. There was music, a toy corner, face painting, and activities for the bigger kids with prizes.

Even our best friend Winnie the Pooh was there!

Our eyes weren't big enough to take it all in! Our mothers told us that were 120 people there. That's a lot of people!



William Côté sitting on Santa's knee.

But the most exciting part was when Santa Claus and the pretty Christmas fairy arrived directly from the North Pole! WOW! We went crazy, we were so happy! His sack was full of gifts, one for each of the 61 children who were at the party. You'll never guess what happened to Santa! Really!! His chewing gum got stuck in his beard! Which made us laugh! They had to cut off some of his beard. Poor guy, but with luck it will grow back! Unfortunately, Santa had to leave to go back to his toy workshop, but the party was far from over. There was a draw for about thirty door prizes. Our mothers told us that they had been generously donated by different stores in the area.



Louis-Philippe Larivière with Santa and the Christmas fairy.

After we had a great time playing, there were lots and lots and lots of desserts. Yum! It was fantastic!

We were very happy but also very tired after our day! It was time to go to sleep in the car. Imagine what we dreamt about on our way home...

Finally, our mothers asked us to say a big thank you to everyone who volunteered to help organize this unforgettable Christmas party, for us little tikes to enjoy.

Until next time, Santa!

» A Corrections Officer Describes his Experience Working as a Volunteer at the Summit of the Americas

Camil Leclerc
Donnacona Institution

Working as a volunteer at the Summit of the Americas was a most exciting experience!

Imagine 400 volunteers, all dressed in a similar uniform, performing a wide variety of functions in a wide variety of places, including inside the security perimeter, at the Quebec City airport, in nearby hotels, etc.

I was assigned to the media centre for the weekend and could walk around inside the Convention Centre and security perimeter from which I could see at close quarters how the demonstration was going. This dramatic event was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

I started work around 8 pm. At 11 pm all the doors were locked. No one was allowed to leave the Centre because the tear gas outside was unbearable. It was not until nearly 3 am that we finally managed to leave the Convention Centre with wet cloths over our faces.

The number of police officers and security systems was an incredible sight.



Camil Leclerc with a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

I was able to witness the general demonstration just like the heads of state, and it was something I will never forget. For me, one of the highlights of the Summit was when I spoke to and photographed the President of the United States, the Right Honourable George W. Bush. You should have seen how many people turned to watch me (security officers, RCMP officers, FBI agents, etc.) when I took the picture. I was lucky my camera was not confiscated.

To my great surprise and that of all the volunteers, on Sunday afternoon on the last day of the Summit, we were all invited by the Prime Minister of Canada to have a drink in the ballroom of the Château Frontenac, to thank us for our work during the Summit.

It was my turn to be "at the summit"! A truly unforgettable experience!

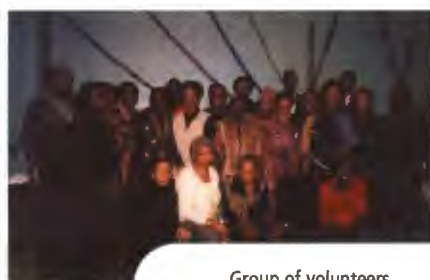
» Cowansville Institution Celebrates Kwanzaa

Michel Cloutier
Cowansville Institution

On January 26, as part of the multicultural activities at Cowansville Institution, the Black Inmates Committee, in collaboration with institution management, organized a Kwanzaa, a spiritual and cultural celebration bringing together representatives of the North American black community. Kwanzaa is something like their Christmas party.

Twenty-three volunteers of Haitian, African, Jamaican and other nationalities came to celebrate the event with about one hundred inmates from the institution.

The day of celebration began with greetings and speeches, followed by prayers, songs, dialogues and presentations by the guests. African tam-tams provided an accompaniment for the spiritual and cultural messages.



Group of volunteers.

A delicious meal comprising a wide variety of exotic fruits, which had been prepared in advance by six inmates representing the visible minorities group, gave everyone the chance to taste fruits from their country of origin.

The atmosphere of the celebration was calm and peaceful, encouraging dialogue between the participants and volunteers.

In short, everyone enjoyed it. In view of its success, the organizers plan to repeat the experience next year for the third consecutive year.



Guest speaker.



Camil Leclerc in front of the flags representing the different countries at the Summit of the Americas.

» Training Day for Correctional Service of Canada Chaplains

Michel Beauchamp
Regional Headquarters

On January 9, the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) team of chaplains met for a training day at the main building of the Université de Montréal.

An Unprecedented Meeting...

For the first time, employees from institutions in the Quebec Region representing Security, Programs, Reintegration and Administrative Services joined the team.

Guest speaker Pierre Allard, Assistant Commissioner, Community Engagement and a doctor of theology, presented the biblical foundations of restorative justice. At the end of the day, a panel comprising Mylène Jacoub of the School of Criminology and Jean-Marc Charron, Dean of the Faculty of Theology of the Université de Montréal, had the task of reacting to Mr. Allard's presentation.

A Real Precedent

The idea behind inviting Correctional Service of Canada staff to participate in a training day for chaplains was to provide an opportunity to think and talk, to encourage alliances and solidarity, and to show in concrete terms that the principles of restorative justice are not just the responsibility of the chaplains.

And why was the Université de Montréal chosen as the meeting place? Because by welcoming CSC, the Faculty of Theology highlighted its recent partnership with the Correctional Service of Canada with a view to developing a restorative justice training program for chaplains, volunteers, CSC staff, various workers and interested members of the public.

At the end of the day, I said to myself: "This is a good way to start a new year!"

» Volunteer Appreciation Evening

Raoul Cantin
Leclerc Institution

On March 22, about sixty volunteers responded to the invitation from Leclerc Institution management to participate in an appreciation evening for their excellent work with inmates during the 2001-2002 year. Inmates who had participated continually in one of the activities facilitated by volunteers were also invited.

The francophone and anglophone Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) group, francophone and anglophone Narcotics Anonymous (NA) group, HIV-AIDS group, peer helpers from the VIVA group, volunteers with the catholic and protestant chaplains and other religions, volunteers in ethnocultural activities and representatives of the Citizen Advisory Committee were some of the organizations represented at the event.

After the meal, the guests enjoyed a presentation by Carole Mainville regarding the benefits of daily laughter therapy, which was followed by a variety of presentations put on by the inmates, who wanted to express their appreciation with a song, piece of music, poem or simply a personal message.

All the volunteers who provide invaluable services at Leclerc Institution really enjoyed the evening.

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» Inmates Care about their Nutrition

Rosianne Ayotte
Joliette Institution

In November 2001, Rosianne Ayotte, a nurse at Joliette Institution, and Catherine Dumont, a regional dietitian at the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), organized a workshop about diabetes and hypoglycemia for the inmates.

The objectives of this workshop were to:

- Inform the prison population about a healthy diet low in concentrated sugars and fat;
- Encourage the inmates to manage their nutrition and health;
- Promote health education by giving the inmates more information about diabetes and hypoglycemia;
- Learn about living with diabetes or hypoglycemia from a diabetic volunteer.

One volunteer and fourteen inmates, three of whom suffer from diabetes and two from hypoglycemia, participated in the workshop. In addition to learning more about diabetes, the inmates were taught how to manage their diet better and to read labels, enabling them to make a more informed choice.

They particularly appreciated the story of Diane Brunet Charron, a volunteer and member of the Lanaudière Diabetes Association, who described what her daily life as a diabetic is like.

The inmates often come from an environment that is not conducive to health promotion and prevention generally, and they lack the knowledge and tools to eat properly. They therefore appreciated this workshop which met their need for information about health and well-being, and made them interested in participating in future workshops.

The institution's Health Services team wants to help the inmates take control of their health and is planning to provide them with the tools and knowledge they need. Through ongoing health promotion, it also encourages the development of their self-care abilities. The team is always proactive and will continue its efforts to put on workshops on health-related subjects to meet the special needs of women in prison. A previous workshop on heart health was held in February 2001.



Catherine Dumont,
Regional Dietitian.



Animal Therapy Program at the Regional Reception Centre

Gaétan Éthier
Regional Reception Centre

In April 2001, the Regional Reception Centre started offering its female inmates a weekly animal therapy program.

Every Wednesday afternoon, Raymond Bertrand, an instructor at Archambault Institution who is responsible for the program, comes to meet with the inmates and brings his dog Patch, a one-year-old 90-pound bull mastiff. During this weekly meeting, the inmates get used to Patch by talking to him, stroking him, brushing him and playing with him.

The knowledge needed to communicate with an animal and make it obey are some of the things they learn during the course. As a group, they also talk about the principles of cleanliness, respect and fear when dealing with an animal. The program also helps to reduce the participants' aggressiveness and encourages contact and interchanges between them, the animal and the instructor.

The participants told Raymond Bertrand that Patch offered them unconditional love and they had a nice, relaxing, fun time. For a little while they managed to forget they were in prison. They also said it helped them to vent their emotions. Over the weeks, contact with the animal has developed to the point where the inmates now say that Patch has become their friend.



Patch and his instructor, surrounded by inmates.

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Theater at Leclerc Institution

Roger Ménard
Leclerc Institution

On Friday, January 17, 2002, more than 150 persons including staff members, guests, teachers, and inmates of the school attended a matinee put on in the Leclerc Institution's chapel. A second showing was given for the inmate population in the evening.

Natalie Loiselle, teacher, and four inmates from the institution put on a play by author Eugene Ionesco entitled *La cantatrice chauve* (*The Bald Soprano*).

Ms. Loiselle had the idea of carrying out this project as part of a French-language teaching program. Based on the success of a similar project in 1999, school inmates agreed to join in. Classes and rehearsals started in September 2001 and lasted nearly five months.



Serge Carrier, a drama therapist, offered his time and experience in staging the play and directing the troupe.

Moreover, the collaboration and enthusiasm of all the teachers at the school contributed considerably to the success of this challenging endeavour. Indeed, Ms. Loiselle insisted on pointing out that the project would not have been possible without the valuable support of the "entire school team."

The audience ovations at the end of both presentations demonstrated just how successful the performances were.



Various scenes from
La cantatrice chauve.

Some of the superb roses donated by Germain Lampron (left) and Germain Courchesne (right). In the centre, Daniel Méryneau and Stivia Clermont presenting them with a painting as a token of appreciation.



Roses Are Important!

Jacques Filion
Joliette Institution

For centuries, flowers, and particularly roses, have conveyed messages that make us feel good. They are often presented at the beginning and end of life and fortunately on many other important occasions.

Sometimes roses are delivered to both employees and inmates, for no other reason than to give pleasure.

Since Joliette Institution opened, this gesture has been made possible thanks to the generosity of two people: Germain Lampron, owner of Roses Drummond and his associate, Germain Courchesne.



A better view of the wonderful painting by Isabelle Blanchette.

Four or five times a year, completely voluntarily, Mr. Courchesne calls to announce that he is coming with baskets full of roses.

Recently, Warden Daniel Méryneau joined Inmate Committee Chair Stivia Clermont to thank them in a special way by presenting them with a wonderful painting done by Isabelle Blanchette when she was a resident at Joliette Institution. This gesture of gratitude was much appreciated.

The painting now occupies pride of place at Roses Drummond's greenhouses!

It was another opportunity to realize that there is as much pleasure in giving as receiving.

L'Expression par l'art at Joliette Institution: an Effective Program

Diane Beaudoin
Joliette Institution

Background

In June 1999, Huguette Noury, art instructor at Joliette Institution, set up a new activity for female inmates with mental-health problems based on the theme *Expression par l'art* (*expression through art*). It was so successful that the Mental Health Committee at Joliette Institution decided to make it a paid program while maintaining the same admission criteria. This program, which is adapted to inmate needs and capacity for involvement, allows participants to express themselves, improve their self-image, and discover new talents and different skills, while earning a wage and studying art. It offers inmates great opportunities for developing their potential to adjust in the institution and to community life.

Art Shows

Since 1999, art shows displaying the work of participants have been put on annually. Indeed, the inmates take great pride in presenting their creations at these shows and build their self-esteem through their efforts.

On December 7, the institution's gym was transformed into a exhibition hall with all kinds of work gracing its walls: canvas paintings, plaster engravings, pottery, collages, montages, and joint endeavors. The quality of the production attests to the creativity and artistic ability of the participants. Staff members, volunteers, and female inmates came to admire the work on display.

Joint Endeavors

Many of the participants worked very hard individually and collectively to produce magnificent works of art. For example, in fall 2000, the participants painted a banner with colored silhouettes of women calling to "*End violence against women!*". The banner was proudly carried around the perimeter of the institution and through the streets of Joliette and New York City as part of the *World March of Women*.

Moreover, in 2000, the walls of the institutional school were covered with magnificent frescoes depicting the age of the pharaohs. The creators of these works also took part in the *Expression par l'art* program. This project, which lasted a month, required a great deal of energy, enthusiasm, and creativity.

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* and the 10th anniversary of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, the Inmate Committee at Joliette Institution, with the management's support, actively invested in the "Grande murale de droits" project as a social partner. This 5' X 8' canvas entitled *L'ALLIANCE*, depicts a man and a woman forming an alliance with a child in the centre. The image is bound on both sides by parchments, one in French and one in English, representing child protection.

Art Therapy

The concept of arts having a therapeutic effect on the soul is not new. Greek theater, the painting of icons in the Middle Ages, sacred chanting, Freud's and then Jung's questioning about the creative process, the growing interest in outside art, and the creative potential of the mentally ill have clued specialists into realizing that artistic expression has a healing effect the soul. What is new, however, is the idea of blending therapy and creation together in a form that is structured and involves play. This new form of personal development is referred to as art therapy. (*Le pouvoir de la création, Guide ressources*, April 1999)



Overview of artwork.

Skills and Media

Participants in the program explore their artistic abilities, make use of their creativity, develop new avenues, and discover, to their surprise and pleasure, new talents. They use a wide variety of media such as clay, India ink, acrylics, dry pastel, grease crayon, charcoal, sanguine, gouache, and papier-mâché. These media enable them to produce creations rich in color and originality, such as statuettes, wood engraving, still lifes, murals, masks, plaster engraving, sculptures, mixed techniques, canvas paintings, drawings, and many others.

Psychological Repercussions

Lastly, *Expression par l'art* enables participants to take part in a creative, manual activity that develops self-worth. Since such women have faced many failures throughout their lives, learning how to work with different media allows them to grow, to discover a new form of stimulation, and to realize that they are capable of artwork. In the case of women who have difficulty integrating into regular programs or work, *Expression par l'art* provides a preferential means and place for developing greater self-esteem.

Under the guidance of a specialized educator, the group encourages participants to extend their limits by commending them for work underway or completed. This makes it easier for female inmates to come to grips with their fears, develop self-confidence, open themselves up to other ways of doing things, and develop flexibility. The approach enables each new artist to gradually appreciate the results of their work and polish their creations. In doing so, they progressively break free of their concerns, which gives way to inspiration and taking pleasure in getting involved with the work underway. It also lets them discover a whole new world while providing the means for investing in their well-being.

Learning teamwork and developing altruism figure among the skills participants acquire. Each participant must take care of her equipment, clean up her work area, learn to work without intruding on her neighbor's, coordinate tasks with other participants when working on a group project, and take part in group discussions about problems encountered and possible solutions. Participants must demonstrate that they are responsible for the projects agreed on and for the supplies and equipment used.

It's fairly common to hear a participant say that she could start up a small business selling her artwork or that she will continue her artistic endeavors after release into the community.

Participant Comments

There are currently four female inmates in the Expression par l'art program. Three of them have agreed to share their comments with us.

"I got a great deal out of the course. I discovered things about myself that I hadn't realized, such as I am a perfectionist, capable, and patient. And I have a lot of other talents that I wasn't aware of. That's going to be a help on the outside since, instead of taking drugs or getting into trouble, I'm going to spend my time making things... I realize that I am worthwhile and that I have hidden talents and love, all of which enrich me. I tell myself: Just look at yourself. You can do good things, not only bad. I am happy with myself!"

"The art program let me go into myself from dream to reality and helped me bring my emotions to the surface."

"This program is a gold mine with veins of poetry, drawing, and painting just waiting to be mined. I can see now that there is more to life than violence."

Comments from the Art Instructor

Ms. Noury: *"I've noticed that most of the art program participants are usually surprised to discover that they have artistic ability and that they are able to paint, sculpt, model, and so on."*

The program therefore allows them to discover their creativity and their artistic talents, and to get in touch with themselves in a positive manner.

They also discover how to channel their energy into interesting activities that are good for self-image. That allows them to enjoy themselves and unwind.

You also become aware of the personality of each participant: their interests, temperaments, concerns, and often even their anguish through the themes they express and the colors they choose."

For myself and on behalf of the participants in the Expression par l'art program, I would like to thank Ms. Noury for her work with this clientele.



Overview of artwork.

» Certificates of Training Awarded to Inmates of the Federal Training Centre

Michel Huard
Federal Training Centre

On December 6, an award ceremony was held at the Federal Training Centre (FTC) to present certificates of training to inmates. The event included a number of representatives of the provincial department of education, the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), and the Seigneurie-des-Mille-Îles school board (CSSMI). In acknowledgment of their efforts, 18 FTC inmates received either a certificate of training, diploma, or certificate in a vocational area.

With high-school teacher Nicole Kouri looking on, inmate François Gagnier received his high-school diploma from Robert Bisailon, Assistant Deputy Minister for elementary and high-school education with the provincial department of education (MEQ).

Richard Watkins, CSC Regional Deputy Commissioner, accompanied by Germain Fillion, bricklaying/masonry instructor and Canadian expert with Skills Canada, awarded vocational diplomas to Stéphan Ménard, John Grenier, and Denis Paré.



Left to right : Guy Villeneuve, Daniel Bazinet and Michel Renaud.

FTC's first certificates of training in cabinet-making were awarded to inmates Jean-François Deschamps and Daniel Bazinet by Guy Villeneuve, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Operations, and teacher Michel Renaud.



Left to right : René Bourassa, Alain Lefebvre and Gérald Bellerose.

René Bourassa, CSSMI's Head of Continuing Education, accompanied by Gérald Bellerose, Assistant Supervisor, Food Services, had the pleasure of awarding a certificate of training as salad-maker / vegetable processor and sauce/soup cook to Alain Lefebvre as well as two certificates as salad-maker / vegetable processor and pastrycook to Éric Blais.

After successfully completing eight courses and an internship in the SIS program, Laudalino Leite received a certificate of socioprofessional integration as a sporting goods technician from Lise Lavoie-Gauthier, Executive Director of CSSMI, and Pierrette Simard, prehigh-school teacher.

Lise Bouthillier, FTC Warden, and Mireille Boisvert, teacher and Coordinator of the Socioprofessional Integration Program, awarded seven other inmates, including Jean-François Deschamps, their first certificates for job market preparation courses (PMT).

Going back to school after a number of years, like Gabriel Goyette did, means tackling new challenges after suffering many failures; accepting to spend several hours a day studying French, English, math, and science; and taking



Left to right: Richard Watkins, Germain Fillion and John Grenier.

concrete action aimed at creating a better occupational future. It also demands a great deal of courage and determination from the adult student and requires a teacher who is able to convey the material while bringing out the student's inherent motivation.

CSC advocates excellence in education. There Service's priorities consist in effectively equipping inmates so that they can maximize their employability and occupational potential.

Many inmates have taken the challenge and the management of the Federal Training Centre as well as the invited representatives of the various administrative and government bodies, including Robert Bisailon, are proud to call attention to their perseverance.

The invited representatives took the opportunity to tour the institution's classrooms and training workshops.



Left to right : Lise Lavoie-Gauthier, Laudalino Leite and Pierrette Simard.



A Visit to the
Bricklaying/Masonry Workshop.



Left to right : Lise Bouthillier, Jean-
François Deschamps and Mireille Boisvert.



Left to right : Gabriel Goyette
and Mireille Boisvert.



Restorative Justice at Donnacona Institution

Dominique Daigle
Donnacona Institution

The Annual Ron Wiebe Restorative Justice Award was presented on November 23, 2001 at the Donald Gordon Centre in Kingston, Ontario. The award honours the late Ron Wiebe, formerly Warden of Ferndale and Elbow Lake Minimum Institutions, for his outstanding commitment and leadership in the field of restorative justice.

The award is made annually to a group, organization, or individual that meets the following requirements:

- Applies the principles of restorative justice in serving justice and peace.
- Demonstrates that it is possible to improve human relations through one's work or lifestyle by promoting communication between and reconciliation of individuals in conflicts, whether they be victims, offenders, co-workers, family members, or neighbours.

This year, 26 individuals and organizations that particularly distinguished themselves were selected as candidates, including H  l  ne Pellerin, librarian at Donnacona Institution. For the occasion, she was given a certificate of merit for being a model in terms of approaches based on restorative justice serving justice and peace. Only 3 of the 26 candidates received this certificate.

Donnacona Institution is proud to have someone like H  l  ne Pellerin as a staff member.

Our heartiest congratulations!

Respect
umane
PROTECTION
Justice Rights

» A Spiritual Visit Filled with Light, Warmth, and Faith!

Daniel Mélineau
Joliette Institution

On November 13, the inmates, volunteers, and staff members of Joliette Institution welcomed the reliquary of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux (The Little Flower) with much emotion and pleasure.

Thérèse Martin was born in Normandy in 1873. The last child in a family of nine, she grew up in a very religious environment. By the time she was 14, Thérèse wanted to enter a convent. At the age of 16, she traveled to Rome and was granted an audience with the Pope. She then obtained special dispensation to enter a Carmelite convent despite the fact that her bishop had denied her permission. There she lived a very quiet and untroubled life. She devoted her days to modest work and, on the eve of her death, a nun remarked that *"after her parting, there won't be anything to say about her because she never did anything."* Throughout her life, Thérèse showed that she had absolute confidence in God and a heart filled with the love of Jesus. Before dying of tuberculosis at the age of 24, she stated that she intended to spend her time in heaven doing good on the earth. While she never left her convent, Thérèse was named patron of missions and became the companion of all the men and women committed to spreading the word of Christ throughout the world.

Thérèse of Lisieux has had an amazing impact!

By 7 AM, 8 volunteers were there to welcome the reliquary, while over 30 inmates and a number of staff members had gathered for the ceremony scheduled for 8 AM.

Psalms, songs, and prayer intentions were delivered in a silence filled with the presence of Saint Thérèse herself as well as with the faith and hope of the participants. Although the inmates welcomed this opportunity to share, they were there mainly because they had something to say to this woman who, still today, is doing wonderful things.

The ceremony ended with a gesture that was simple but filled with emotion and trust. All those present confided in Saint Thérèse by laying a hand on her reliquary and imploring her help. While it wasn't clear what was happening, something very important was obviously occurring. The volunteers were especially valiant; staff members were particularly open and welcoming. The inmates, after demonstrating a high level of interest, went away happy from this experience.



Photo of Saint Thérèse at about age 22 taken by her sister who, upon the death of her father, also entered the convent.



The reliquary containing parts of the remains of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. It's a work of art produced by a Brazilian craftsman in 1927. The reliquary has been to 22 countries in 7 years. Its Canadian visit will take it to 41 dioceses.

» **Activities of the Regroupement des fonctionnaires retraité(e)s des pénitenciers fédéraux, Quebec Region (RFRQ)**

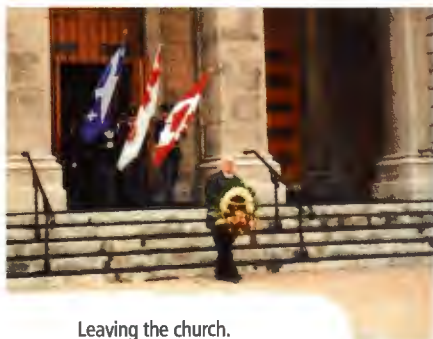
Armand Ménard
President, RFRQ

Activities for the 2001-2002 Season

By the time this issue comes out, this season will be drawing to a close and we will already be planning our 2002-2003 edition. During the year, we organized dinner meetings at Boisé Papineau Block on September 14 and December 21, 2001 and on February 8 and May 10, 2002. All had a very friendly atmosphere. As we prepare to go to press, plans are underway for a group outing to the SAQ and, in the spring, a sugaring-off party at an area sugar-house.



Solemn procession to the cenotaph.



Leaving the church.

Commemorative Day

On November 3, 2001, the RFRQ held its annual ceremony to honor staff members who have died while on active duty. A solemn mass was held at Saint Vincent de Paul Church, followed by a ceremony at the cenotaph located opposite the Staff College, where a buffet was served afterwards.

This year, we were pleased to have the Tellier family attend, including Raymond Tellier's three sons. This initiative pleased many of our retirees who were working for the Correctional Service of Canada when the tragic incident leading to Mr. Tellier's death occurred.

Many people attended, mostly retirees and a few staff members from the institutions. We would like to thank Céline Bélisle and Gaétane Messier, Communications Division, Regional Headquarters, for their assistance in planning this ceremony.

Legal Constitution

The RFRQ is duly registered with the Quebec government (Inspecteur général des institutions financières) and, consequently, is a legal entity according to the law. We also belong to the Table de concertation des Aînés in Laval. We would like to invite anyone who has retired from the CSC (Quebec Region) who doesn't already belong to the Regroupement to contact us at (450) 435-5619.

The cenotaph commemorating staff members who died while on active duty.



Meditation.

Deadline

Articles and photos for next Intercom should be sent at the latest on **August 30th, 2002.**

N.B. : Articles should be sent by electronic mail. The address is 301-COMMUNICATIONS.

Intercom

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Material submitted may be edited for style and length.

Editorial Committee:

Sylvie Brunet-Lusignan, Francine Jourdain,
Normand Daoust and Gaétane Messier.

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» Well Done, Nathalie !

Chantal Fortier
Port-Cartier Institution

In May 1999, Nathalie Méthot started as an intern in the general office at Port-Cartier Institution under the National Youth Internship Program.

Nathalie seized the opportunity offered by this program to develop personally and professionally (knowledge and skills), which reawakened her desire to continue her studies.

Last March, Nathalie came back to work in the general office for a three-week internship under the Workplace Integration Program for students at her school. Her internship went very well and at the end of the year, Nathalie proudly obtained her vocational diploma (DEP) in secretarial studies.

The National Youth Internship Program is designed to help young people enter the job market. Port-Cartier Institution management was pleased to collaborate in this program by allowing a young intern to work in the institution.



Seated: Nathalie Méthot

Rear, left to right: Nicole Hamilton,
Judith Robillard, Marie Dignard,
Prisca Gagnon, Chantal Fortier
and Karine Bacon.

Recently Retired:

Louis-Roger Gagné
Regional Headquarters
2002-04-03

Michel Deslauriers
Regional-Headquarters
2002-04-06

Nicole Collin
Archambault
Institution
2002-01-15

Normand Dufault
Archambault
Institution
2002-04-25

Roger Gauthier
Archambault
Institution
2002-02-26

Hercule Geffrard
Archambault
Institution
2002-04-13

Hervé Champagne
Federal Training
Centre
2002-01-17

Guy Dufour
Federal Training
Centre
2002-02-28

Yvon Nadeau
Federal Training
Centre
2002-03-30

Gilbert Boulé
Regional Reception
Centre
2001-12-31

Paul-André Charest
Regional Reception
Centre
2002-05-04

Gustave Goulet
Regional Reception
Centre
2002-01-15

Dominique Poissonnier
Regional Reception
Centre
2002-05-04

Bernard Théoret
Regional Reception
Centre
2001-12-29

Richard Bélisle
Donnacona Institution
2002-02-01

Guy Caouette
Donnacona Institution
2002-03-18

André Gagnon
Donnacona Institution
2002-01-03

Jacques Michaud
Donnacona Institution
2002-03-12

Serge Bélanger
Drummond Institution
2002-04-04

Claude Préville
Drummond Institution
2002-02-08

Michel Belzile
La Macaza Institution
2002-02-15

Louis-André Cadieux
La Macaza Institution
2002-03-24

Marielle Giguère
La Macaza Institution
2002-03-16

Aldo Foschi
Leclerc Institution
2002-03-16

Michel Paiement
Leclerc Institution
2001-11-03

Gilbert Ranger
Leclerc Institution
2002-04-20

Ghislain Rioux
Leclerc Institution
2002-01-09

Daniel Gélinas
Montée St-François
Institution
2002-04-17

Richard Mailly
Ste-Anne-des-Plaines
Institution
2002-04-13

Jacques Beauchamp
East/West District
2002-02-16

Suzelle Bourassa
East/West District
2002-02-05

Marie-Andrée Alié
Montreal
Metropolitan District
2001-12-22

Gabriel Savignac
Montreal
Metropolitan District
2002-04-03