



P.O. BOX 78005  
1755 EAST BROADWAY  
VANCOUVER, BC  
V5N 5W1

Ailsa Watkinson, President  
Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies

Madame President

February 12, 2003

On behalf of Joint Effort I want to thank the Canadian Association on Elizabeth Fry Societies for initiating this systemic review of human rights violations against women in prison by the Correctional Service of Canada and the Canadian Government.

I most especially want to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of Executive Director, Kim Pate in bringing together representatives of national equality-seeking groups to work as one on the issues surrounding this complaint. The February meetings of representatives was very important in that it gave us the opportunity to express and understand all areas of the complaint as viewed by each of the organizations making presentations. Equally important was the opportunity to make presentations directly to the Canadian Human Rights Commission and other government representatives. The process of relating your experience face-to-face was invaluable. Finally these meetings helped to build the bridge of solidarity between organizations who may not have otherwise met.

We look forward to working together on these crucial issues.

Sincerely

Phyllis Iverson  
Co-ordinator  
Joint Effort