P R E S S   A D V I S O R Y

40 years later
Prisoners still languish in solitary confinement

(Ottawa) August 5, 2014 – This Sunday, August 10th, is Prisoners’ Justice Day, a day when prisoners and their supporters honour the memory of the women and men who have died unnatural deaths inside prisons.

August 10th marks the 40th anniversary of the death of Eddie Nalon. Eddie bled to death in solitary confinement in Millhaven Penitentiary, despite attempts to summons guards for assistance. The inquest into his death found that the emergency call buttons in the unit had been deactivated by the guards. Prisoners at Millhaven honoured Eddie’s memory by a 24 hour fast and work stoppage on the first anniversary of his death.

Forty years later, as the inquest into the death of Ashley Smith revealed, the situation for Canadian prisoners remains a concern.

At a press conference on August, 6, 2014, Kim Pate (Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies), Catherine Latimer (John Howard Society of Canada) and Justin Piché (Criminology Professor, University of Ottawa) will speak about the significance of Prisoners’ Justice Day and the relevant issues for prisoners in 2014.

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Location: Charles Lynch Room
Time: 11h00
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