



Elizabeth Fry  
Society of Saskatchewan

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2021-2022**



# Land acknowledgement

ᑕᓂᑦ! Tansi! Tawnshi! Edlanat'e! Aba washded!

Many of the problems we encounter in our work with the justice system have direct roots in the long history of colonialism in North America. With that in mind, we acknowledge that our Saskatoon office is located in Treaty 6 territory - the traditional lands of the Cree, Saulteaux, Dene, Dakota, Lakota, Nakota, and Métis nations.

We hope that this recognition inspires you to look further into the treaty system and the long and vibrant history of traditional Indigenous lands. For our part, we consider how we can better treat each other and fulfill the spirit of the Treaty 6 agreement.



# Vision, Mission and Values



We are a strong and sustainable organization that:

- Works with women and girls before, during and after involvement with the justice system to provide legal assistance, access to information and programming, and support for community integration.
- Advocates for the human rights, dignity and self-worth of all women and girls.

1. Women and girls involved in the justice system deserve compassion and respect and opportunities to realize their full human potential.
2. We believe that women's rights are human rights.
3. We are guided by the truth and reconciliation calls to action.
4. We focus on a holistic client-centered approach.
5. We believe in a just community.



The Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan strives for a just community, advocating for the rights, freedoms, and fair treatment of all women and girls involved with the justice system.

# Message from the Board Chair



Efry has had a busy year as Covid mandates allowed for the organization to move back towards “normal”! At the Board level, we are happy to have a full Board compliment with a few significant changes. Our Board Chair, Patricia Farnese, was appointed to the Bench of Belize, and as such was required to resign as Chair. I stepped into the role following Patricia’s resignation with Talia Pfefferle assuming the role of Vice Chair. Efry also recently accepted the resignation of the Executive Director, Kayleigh Lafontaine. On behalf of the Board, and organization, we wish Kayleigh success in the future and are grateful for her contributions to EFry. In the interim, we are lucky to have Patti Tait and Sydney Wouters share in the role of Acting ED. The Board will be busy this fall starting the search process to fill the Executive Director role. The Board continues to work towards a primarily governance mandate, and will be resuming some fundraising activities in the coming year.

Thanks for all your support!

Jamesy Patrick, Chair



# Board Members

Member	Position
Jamesy Patrick	Chair
Talia Pfeferle	Vice-Chair
Amy Engel	Secretary
Bailey Woloshyn	Member at Large (Finance)
DeeAnn Mercier	Member at Large (Housing)
Pat Walker	Member at Large (Finance/Housing)
Susan Mulligan	Member at Large (Policy)
Chelsie Rodriguez	Member at Large (HR)
Elizabeth Plishka	Member at Large (Governance/Policy)
Hayden McGuire	Member at Large (HR)





## Dr. Nancy Poon

In January we lost a sister, friend, and fierce advocate of prison abolition. This pint-sized dynamo was the spark plug of the Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan for over 25 years! She was a fierce advocate for the many women it serves and has served. Nancy was a maverick. She was a constant and dedicated board member, a mentor to many, and most importantly the keeper of information on all things pertinent to the Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan and Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies.

## Brighter Futures Grant

In memory of the work of Dr. Nancy Poon we have created a fund that will assist our clients who are integrating back into their community after incarceration, this micro grant will be open to individuals who have costs associated with securing transitional housing and education-related costs.



# Message from Our Executive Directors



It is our pleasure to write this letter as the Co-Interim Acting Executive Director of the Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan (EFS SK).

We would like to first thank Kayleigh Lafontaine for her leadership and guidance through the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Kayleigh stepped into the role in the spring of 2021 and used her previous experience of working in the justice system to build relationships with stakeholders and offer the best support to the women and girls that we serve. We want to wish her the best on her next journey and thank her for her support and guidance over the last year.



In the past year, we have been able to create a strong operational team and have had valuable people who have joined our board. We want to thank them for their drive and motivation as we continued to navigate the global pandemic. Without them, we would not be able to do the valuable work that we do on a daily basis. The staff of this organization is a resilient and fierce team that goes above and beyond to support each other and the women, girls, and LGBTQ2S+ people.

This year we were challenged as things re-opened as we continued to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. In September of 2021, we were welcomed back into Pine Grove Correctional Centre and were able to continue our in-reach visits. This allowed us to better support women through the court process and through reintegration. We also were able to open our drop-in services where we saw anywhere from 10 to 30 women coming daily. We were able to help facilitate programming for our clients such as parenting classes (thanks to CFS Saskatoon) and Financial Literacy (thanks to READ Saskatoon).

We would like to thank and recognize all our funders and donors. Without you, the work we do would be impossible. Most notably The Law Foundation of Saskatchewan funds The Ground-breaking Justice project, which is comprised of Women's Legal Services, a Parole Preparation program, a Record Suspension program, a Court working program, and the Gladue Writing program. We would also like to say a thank you to the Government of Saskatchewan for continuing to fund our Reintegration services. To all our other funders, thank you for seeing the worth and importance of the work we are doing. It is greatly appreciated.

Most importantly I would like to acknowledge our clients, you are the heart of our organization. I continue to see such resilience, power, and strength through meeting each one of you. I reflect on where this organization has been and where it strives to go.

Most importantly, we want to thank and honor those who access our services. You are the reason we are still here, and we will continue to advocate and help your voices to be heard. We continue to see the strength and power in each one of the women and girls that we serve. As we move through this next year, we have you in mind with each decision we make. Thank you for trusting us to be a part of your journey.

With care,  
Sydney Wouters and Patti Tait

# Operational team

- Patti Tait Cultural Advisor/CAEFS Regional Advocate
- Sydney Wouters Social Worker/ Prison In-Reach/ Reintegration
- Chelsea Roy Court Worker Advocate
- Robynn Lafond Court Worker Advocate
- Marlene Hastings Court/Outreach Worker
- Jocelyn Trotchie Outreach Worker
- Samantha Larose Receptionist
- Krystle Johnstone Support Staff
- Jessie Buydens Provincial Prison Lawyer

*Thank you!*

Jessica Big Eagle  
Gillian Gough  
Cheyenne McDonald  
Darrelyne Bickel



## 2021-2022 Students

Samantha LaRose- Sociology Katrina McCallum-Social Work  
Jennifer Nobel- Social Work Amanda Eaton-Youth Care Worker  
Leah Gareau-Social Work Veronica Dirk-Pothier-Psychology  
October Ewert-Social Work Callie Keller- Psychology

We want to say a special thank you to Kayleigh Lafontaine who served as our Executive Director in the past year. We thank her for her fearless leadership and wish her the best on her new journey.





# PROGRAMS & SERVICES

109 storybooks recorded by incarcerated mothers and sent to their children in various locations across the country.



In September 2021 we were allowed to return to Pine Grove Correctional Centre. Staff attended PGCC 10 times.

120 women served a week in our drop-in centre

**We continued to hold weekly sharing circles**

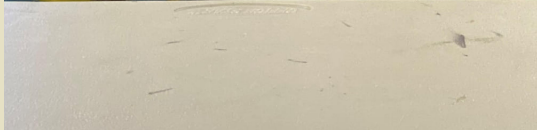
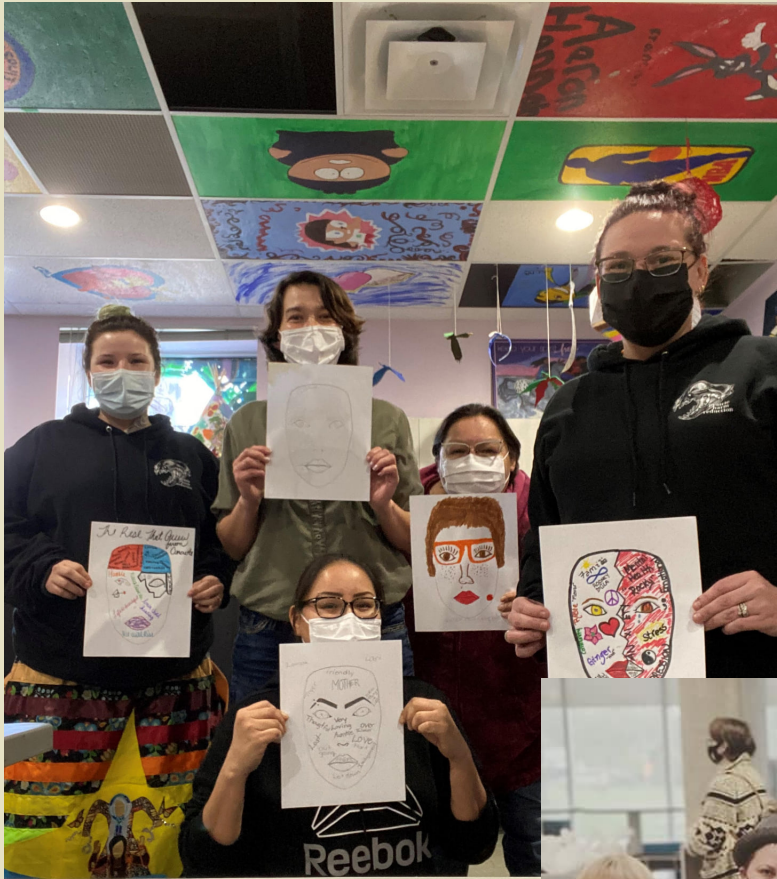
**86 bail plans were created for women.**

32 reintegration leave plans were created with women in PGCC.

14 Record suspensions were started

Started attending Saskatchewan Hospital monthly.

# Staff in the community



Elizabeth  
Society of

Break

When you be  
you help inspi  
kindness, plan  
hope, and bre  
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nity fo



# Community Action and Engagement

Canadian  
Aboriginal AIDS  
Network

Saskatoon Police  
Advisory Committee  
on Diversity

Justice League-  
Anti Racism  
network

Canadian  
Association of  
Elizabeth Fry  
Societies

Saskatoon Poverty  
Reduction  
Partnership

Needle pick up  
at PHR

Saskatoon  
Mental Health  
Strategy

National Truth and  
Reconciliation Day  
with CHEP and  
Chokecherry Studios

Pathway to  
Pimachisowin  
Network

Saskatoon  
Interagency  
response to  
COVID

Volunteering  
with other  
agencies

International  
Overdose  
Awareness day

EFS SK staff honoring Truth and Reconciliation Day 2021 (Orange T-shirt Day).



# 2021-2022 Funding partners



Saskatoon  
Community  
Foundation



United Way  
Saskatoon & Area



Community  
Initiatives Fund



Government  
of  
Saskatchewan



City of  
Saskatoon



AMISKUSEES  
SEMAGANIS WORME  
FAMILY FOUNDATION

Saskatchewan  
Liquor and Gaming  
Authority



Femmes et Égalité  
des genres Canada

Women and Gender  
Equality Canada