

Winnipeg Public Library Board 2010

LITERACY GRANTS AWARDED

Winnipeg Public Library Board is pleased to award \$1,000 Community Outreach Language and Literacy grants to The Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba (EFS), Lord Nelson School and The Spence Neighbourhood Association. The grants' program was established in 2006 to assist community groups in developing language and literacy projects in partnership with one or more branches of Winnipeg Public Library.

EFS aims to expand its successful literacy program for incarcerated women by providing an enhanced program to women in the community. At St. John's Library, EFS will offer eight public workshops featuring culturally appropriate and women-centred activities that will focus on numeracy games, the writing of letters, journals and poetry, and art expression. Benefits will include improved communication skills, the opportunity for shared personal stories, healing, and the provision of an educational tool for the community.

Lord Nelson School will build on a partnership begun in 2009 with Sir Wil-

liam Stephenson Library, by continuing to develop a shared-use collection of dual language books that will support the learning of newcomers and increase their English language literacy while maintaining their customs and first languages. The 2010 focus will be on the acquisition of Vietnamese-English materials and their promotion to families through school and public library activities.

The Spence Neighbourhood Association, in partnership with West End Library, will hold summer Family Reading Days, designed to encourage families to read together as well as to connect with their community library. During the first of two special events, activities will include shared reading, games and family activities that promote literacy, including the opportunity to get a library card. The second event will be held at West End Library. Families will be shown how to get to the library either by bus or by walking, and then will be familiarized with the branch and its programs.

The selection panel thanks all applicants and congratulates award recipients.



Board's Community Outreach Chair, Jean Mabee (left) presents cheque to EFS Outreach Worker Heather Bristow (right).



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