

Library Board Announces 2009 Outreach Grant Winners

The Winnipeg Library Board is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2009 Community Outreach Language and Literacy Grants. The \$1000 grant winners are [Cecil Rhodes School](#), [Pregnancy and Family Support Services](#) and the [Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba](#). The grants program was established in 2006 to assist community groups in developing language and literacy initiatives in partnership with one or more branches of the Winnipeg Public Library.

Tanis Maynard, Teacher Librarian at Cecil Rhodes School, in partnership with Sir William Stephenson Library, will purchase a collection of children's Aboriginal literature and audio visual materials. This collection will be first used to develop and promote an Aboriginal storytelling unit. The program will run from May to December. Two professional storytellers will perform for the students. With the help of materials purchased, the students will create their own stories. On completion, Sir William Stephenson will host a family literacy night for all participants and their families to watch the children perform their creations.

Elaine Morris, coordinator of the Pregnancy and Family Support Services will partner with the West End Library for a family story-sharing project targeting at risk, low income families and newcomers. The program, running weekly on Monday or Friday at the West End Library in May and June, will encourage parental involvement and educate families about library services. One of the selected books will be given to each family after the session, to promote continued reading.

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba will partner with St. John's Library for a women's literacy book project. The participants will be women incarcerated in the Winnipeg Remand Centre and the Portage Correctional Institute as well as eight women from the community who are clients of EFSM. Running from July to September, the participants will create a collection of writings to be published in a booklet. Participants will contribute whatever is meaningful to them: stories, recipes, drawings, poems or children's stories. Eight public workshops would be held with a local writer-in-residence and an artist available to provide support.

The selection panel thanks all applicants and congratulates the winners, whose project ideas reflect the diversity of literacy needs in our community. We look forward to your proposals for 2010.

• **Jean Mabee, Chair**
Winnipeg Public Library Board's Community Outreach Committee