

# **Regina PhotoVoice Project 2007**

## **Public Showing**

**CATALOGUE, DECEMBER 3, 2008  
Part 4 of 5**

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Contact Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence, Regina, Saskatchewan  
[pwhce@uregina.ca](mailto:pwhce@uregina.ca), (306) 585-5727, or 535-9570 regarding use of photos.

## Notes to Display

**All photos were taken in Regina.**

**People in the photos signed a consent form.**

**For some photos the person being photographed posed for the photo to illustrate the situation.**

Children



### **Is This Help?**

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90% of the jobs we're qualified for are evenings and weekends, yet less than 10% of our daycares are open after regular business hours. We're charged \$10 for every 10 minutes we are late at the end of the day. I've spent years without having fun at night. I've spent weeks looking for a job that would accommodate my hours of availability. The worst part of it is that I'm not the best parent I could be. As our survival is threatened, resentment builds between the daycare, the parent and the child.



### **Empty Shells**

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Poverty takes so much from children that often all that's left is an empty shell of what could've been. They live in trashy houses, wear out-dated clothes and are brought up in an atmosphere of anxiety and guilt over money. The threat on their survival breeds hostility, violence, shame, and fear. If you've been through it, you wouldn't wish it on anyone.

# Playgrounds



### **The Kids Aren't Alright**

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One of the first things you learn as a child is the ideals of how life is supposed to feel: magical, warm, fun. Then you start Kindergarten and learn "Oh Canada". You sing it every day and strive for good grades, knowing that you may never find yourself successful at anything. Why don't the best teachers go to the poorer schools, and why don't they do what they can to help the struggling students? Kids need a lot more attention than what they're receiving.



## **Awaiting**

Motionless, silent.

To be played with, to be moved.

Awaiting my child.



## **Public and Common Spaces**

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Are a positive place for all. Purposeful and positive play areas allow our community to flourish. Public gathering places and parks ought to be promoted for the benefit of all for friendship, fun, and future community building opportunities.

# Public Spaces



### **Dark Reality**

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A city park in the summertime; annually poverty is brought into stark focus.

Open to everyone, music spilling all over, it was once a place to see and be seen. Now when the sun goes down the barriers go up. There are those who can get in and those we can't. There are people on the inside and people on the outside.

Poverty means you'll be left on the outside.



## Poverty Means Absence

When I was doing the 2001 Census a friend said, "I don't agree with that definition of poverty. I prefer defining poverty as disappearance from your community because you aren't seen going out for coffee or at social events."

Poverty is when you don't show up in your life. You don't buy concert tickets or theatre subscriptions or join in the football season. You don't go out for lunch. You don't go to events because they require money.

People say: "I haven't seen you around for a long time." That's because you just don't get above the basics and social forays out into your world are few and far between.



### **Imprisoned in Myself**

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- crying inside to be free
- of the genocide
- dealing with the o.d.'s and suicides
- our women in the streets living a lie
- our warriors clicked up to survive
- living a life of do or die
- where we all crave for loyalty
- respect for us is royalty



## 5th Avenue View

Sitting here thinking of my harsh reality  
Simply wishing for the day to be set free  
Hustling in these cold streets, living in poverty  
Struggling to be true to me

Our people selfish and blinded to open their  
eyes and see  
How our streets turned out to be  
Our children getting younger and younger as we  
speak  
Our children are running ruthless in the streets

We are fighting each other one way or another  
We are sisters and brothers  
Living in a world of jealousy, hate, and envy  
Our prime suspects pain and poverty

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### **Empty and Lack of Life**

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Loneliness and green with envy is how this photo strikes me - emptiness with a stillness and quiet - poverty is first that green with envy in what I see when I struggle to get out of the can to be not as lonely and I am able to see over the edge of the lid to a more positive life.

Life seems in the can always trying to get out of poverty and see the end of being stuck and to see the table rather than the top of the can (garbage).

## Paired and Alone



Always a pair, never separate.

Unfortunately in life there are those that have pairs and those that do not — twins: similar, alike characteristics.

For me there is no pair — I was never a match — be alone, struggle, adapt, move as best you can with what you have — I like to have “pairity” with the rest of the world — someday — pipe dream — — — maybe? Life — — possibly? Reality for the poor and for me—achievable — to be made a pair of and with society.

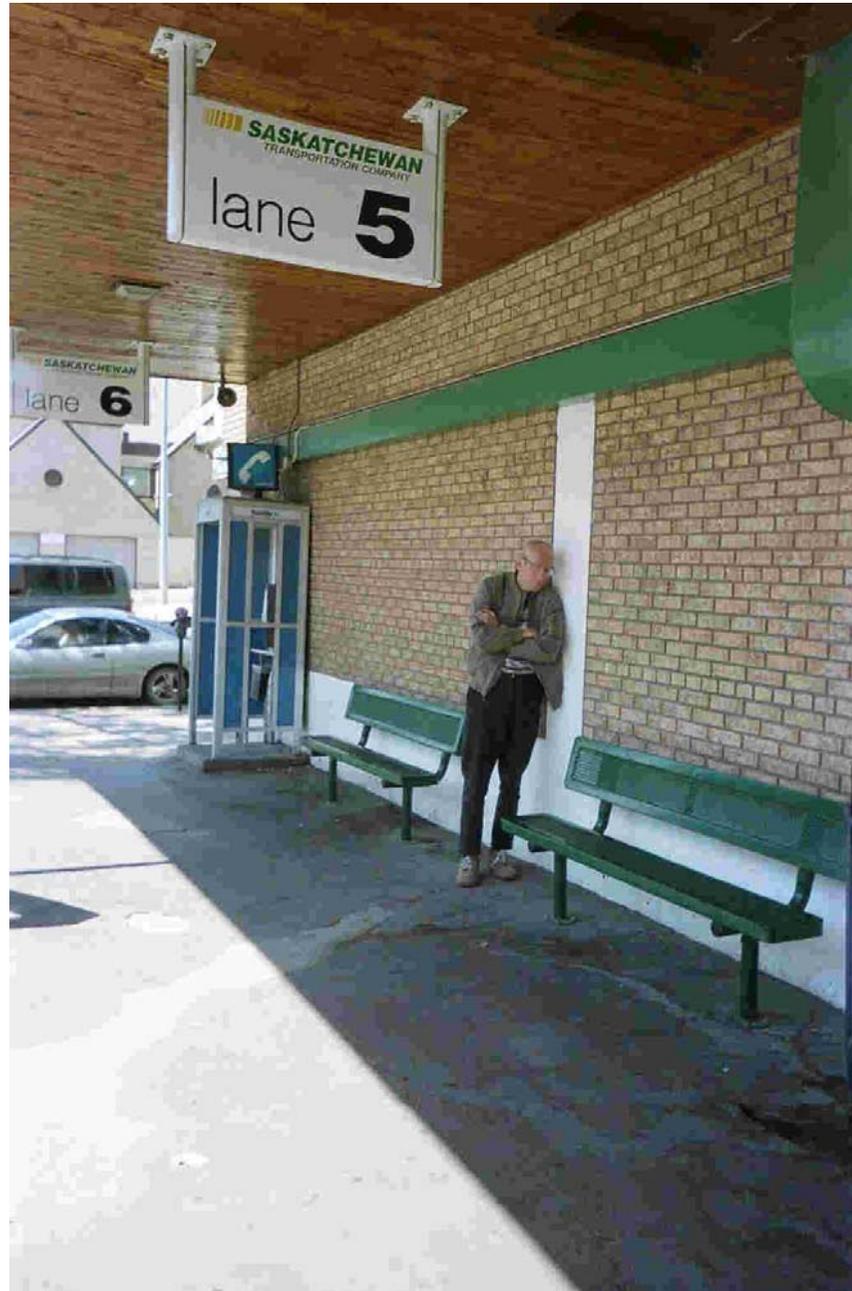
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## Tunnel Vision

In my life I have been subjected to poverty, addiction and abuse. My life is a journey. Like this tunnel, it is sunny on the other side. At times, I feel incapable of reaching the "sunny side".

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## Loneliness

This person wants to go visit his family out of town. But because he is on Social Assistance he can't afford it. He spends the day watching the Greyhound buses going out.

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