Our present capacity is 95. That is:

- 9 six person houses: 54
- 2 eight person houses: 16
- SLE, 4 each side: 8

The Max unit has 2 five person pods with 3 of the units prepared for double-bunking; while the segregation unit houses 4.

Three new 6 bed houses are ready, but will not always be fully occupied as one will be the Mother/Child house, and another reserved for women with special needs.

SLE (Structured Living Environment): An addition of four rooms, two on each side, is well underway, and occupancy is planned for the end of next month (June 2013).

A 20 bed Minimum House is being built outside of the security fence, across the reserve road from FVI. Foundations have been poured and work continues. Planned completion date is the end of February 2014. The Warden advised that:

- Women in the house will be as autonomous as possible
- There will be two stories, each accommodating 20 women
- Two stoves for every 10 women
- Visiting area in the building
- Programming area within the building
- Health care vestibule
- Mother/child room

There will be two dedicated Primary Workers, one Parole Officer and program staff as needed. Preference will be given to women closest to release, and emphasis will be given to Work Releases and UTA’s.

**Prison Population:** April 17th, 2013

*Total Count:* 74

*Classification:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Count</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>19</td>
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</table>

There are presently 2 women doubled-bunked in the Max Unit, and 2 women in Segregation. Five of the women are in Max because they are not yet classified, and 2 are temporarily detained.
Committees Operating:

Lifer’s Group
Sisterhood
Inmate Committee

The committees have worked together on several events. There is at least one Rep from each committee on the Program Advisory Council and we now have a Rep from Max who will attend her first meeting in May.

Staff: The management team as of May 23rd is as follows:

Warden: Carol Ann Reynen
A/Deputy Warden: Sheri Schwaezel
Ass’t Warden Operations: Dana O’Dell
Correctional Mgr IIS: Meachel Chad
Mgr. IIS (Unit D): Attila Turi
Ass’t Warden Management Serv.: Chris Szafron
Ass’t Warden Interventions: Kristan Brodoway
Programs Manager: Nellie Taylor
Chief, Health Services: Susan Nolan

Mental Health Services:

There are now four Psychologists, one Psychiatric Nurse, one Psychiatric Assistant and one Clinical Social Worker serving FVI.

Human Rights in Action

Led by Christine Lamont, the group meets the third Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9pm. The HRIA Collective is open to all prisoners currently incarcerated at FVI, those who have been released and other women in the community who support the aims of the project. Our main focus presently is on overcoming the systemic obstacles to all kinds of releases (ETAs, UTAs, work releases, day parole and full parole), by the women’s eligibility dates. CAEFS regional advocates are part of this group, and we share information and go to Max together when possible.

Program Advisory Council

This council has been in existence since the prison was opened in 2004, and is made up of one-third CSC, one-third federally sentenced women and one-third community members, listed below.

Pacific Region E. Fry Societies Human Rights in Action
Douglas College E. Fry Society of Greater Vancouver
University of the Fraser Valley Partners in Learning
Positive Living Women’s Resource Society of the Fraser Valley
Positive Women’s Network Anne Davis Transition House

These Community representatives are a knowledgeable and vibrant group of women who are bringing programs in to the prison and are working to secure ETA’s and UTA’s for women to attend their facilities. Reps from UFV have introduced a “Prior Learning Assessment” and a course in Portfolio Building to encourage the women to look at prior useful experience as part of education.

There is also a Citizen’s Advisory Committee at FVI, but CAEFS members do not attend.
Fraser Valley Institution Regional Advocates Report: May, 2013

CAEFS advocacy at Fraser Valley Institution is carried out by a team of three; Mollie Both, Louise Richards and Kathi Heim, at least two of whom attend each month. Following are the current issues:

Secure Unit

We still cannot meet with the women in the living areas of the maximum security unit pods. The reason given is ‘invasion of privacy”. We now meet in the hobby room or one of the other small rooms, and meet only with women who have asked to see us. We have also been unable to go into the segregation area, although we know of at least one woman who would have met with us if she had known we were there. We have met with a few women “through the glass”.

There is a dedicated Elder for the secure unit, and we are advised that the new Sweat Lodge adjoining the Max is well used. We are told by senior management that they are now working to have women excused from the two year rule. Good news.

Aboriginal Women

There is now an Aboriginal Liaison Officer. He is working successfully to get the women released on Sections 81 and 84. He also accompanies women who are released to their bands to be sure of a smooth integration.

Private Family Visits

Management has told the women that they are responsible on a 50/50 basis for ensuring that the PFV house is supplied with furnishings, bedding, toys and other supplies comparable to “community standard”. We were also told that this is national expectation.

Programming

We are assured by management that programs, particularly those for Aboriginal women, have short waitlists and high success rates, and have heard no comments to the contrary.

Health/Medical Issues

There have been fewer complaints about the delivery of health care services, but dispensing of medication still poses problems. One of the women who has had foot surgery while at FVI and now needs further treatment indicated that she was advised that CSC no longer pays for foot care or orthotics. At FVI the Health Care Unit reports directly to the Region rather than the Warden, so we are trying to track down the responsibility on this.

Staff/Prisoner Relations

There continues to be a concern about sleep interruption caused by staff when conducting the night checks. Unfortunately, the women are reluctant to use the grievance system.

Submitted by CAEFS Regional Advocates: Mollie Both, Louise Richards and Kathi Heim