

MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Marilyn Brick, MLA St. Norbert**  
**4 December 2006**

**Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre**

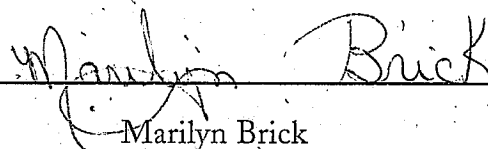
Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to speak about a very important resource in my constituency, the Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre. It recently celebrated its 20-year anniversary and was the recipient last month of the City of Winnipeg safety award for the development and delivery of a self-defence course.

Given the recent federal cuts to the Status Of Women, including staff in Winnipeg, it is essential that we recognize the important role of women's centres in supporting and empowering women. I have heard great things from the residents of St. Norbert who have participated in programs offered by the centre. They call the centre a welcoming environment that encourages the development of new skills, helps build self-esteem and fosters healthy relationships, while introducing them to a variety of resources they can access to assist them in the future. I would like to congratulate the women who access the resources at the centre that help them make positive changes in their lives.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the staff of the Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre, including Sharon Hunter, Executive Director, and the board of directors, including Heidi Magnusson-Ford, Janice Nagazine, Sandra Morrison, Lorna Kirkness, Deb Fay, Allison McCullough-Butchart, Michelle Periera, and Dana Thiessen, who work so hard to keep the centre operating in a nurturing, family-friendly fashion.

The drop-in centre runs a variety of programs for my constituents that includes a weekly program for moms so they can meet other moms in the community while their children play. The centre offers counselling and programs such as Women & Midlife.

I would like to congratulate the centre for offering workshops, education and special events dealing with issues such as domestic violence and childhood abuse. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.



Marilyn Brick  
MLA St. Norbert