

FALL 2012



B The Voice of BIRTHRIGHT

* 24-hour Hotline: 1 800 550 4900



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TRUE STORIES OF MOTHERS AND BABIES HELPED THROUGH BIRTHRIGHT.

Katie saw our poster and called, in tears. Her mother was putting tremendous pressure on her to have an abortion and had told the rest of the family to exclude Katie. When Katie came to Birthright she felt overwhelmed by her mother's rejection. She didn't want to abort her baby but wondered how she could parent. I let her know there was help through Birthright. I gave her my home number. Katie and her boyfriend got an apartment and found work but when Katie was 23 weeks pregnant, her boyfriend left. Her best friend again told her she should have an abortion. She called me at home one night. We met for lunch the next day. I prayed silently she would find the strength she needed to give her child LIFE. I let her know Birthright would help her for as long as she needed us. In time, she gave birth to her baby!

Anna was beautiful and had a quiet dignity about her. An older woman, She had recently married. As we were drinking hot chocolate and talking she said, "This place is different. I called two abortion clinics and it seemed all they wanted was money. I look around and you have pictures of babies and everything is so comforting." Anna's husband had left her. He said he wouldn't return until she had an abortion. She was unemployed and no food at home. Birthright bought her a week's worth of groceries. The next week she got a temp and in time was given a full-time position. She held strong and gave birth to her baby. In time, her husband returned.

NEED A SPEAKER?

Birthright's Speakers will be happy to deliver a presentation for your school, church, or civic group. Call our office for more information or to schedule a speaker for your special event.



FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Birthright Friends,

As you get ready to enjoy a wonderful holiday season with family and friends I bring you greeting from the Board of Directors and volunteers of Birthright Fredericton Inc. We are hoping that during this hectic time you can take a moment to see if you can help us in our on going work to help women with troubled pregnancies.

Our Fredericton Birthright Office is blessed with a dedicated and hard working group of volunteers who desire to help. In order to reach the women who need our help and friendship it is vital that we get the word out to the public about what Birthright is about and the vital role we can play.

Getting the word out about Birthright in an ever crowded media market place is a great challenge and requires substantial financial resources. That is why we are hoping for an increased level of support from our generous supporters to help us spread the work about Birthright.

Any financial support you can give us at this time would be greatly appreciated. We hope that you continue to recognize the unique and vital role the Birthright plays in helping the unborn and their parents and can support us in our time of need. If you can help please forward your tax-deductible donation or forms for automatic withdrawal to Birthright Fredericton Inc. Po Box 3035 Fredericton N.B. E3A 5G8.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to thank you for your support and wish you and your family as we head into this holiday season.

Sincerely Yours,
Paul Wentzell, Chairman of the Board
Birthright Fredericton inc.

MEET: MICHELLE ANDERSON



Hi! My name is Michelle. I am currently a second year student at Mount Allison University. The goal I have set for myself after Mount Allison is to become a Translator, whether for the U.N. or a Government role somewhere in Japan or South America. It's a good thing that I'm minoring in Cultural Studies.

I received a call from my aunt to ask if I had heard back on any potential job offers for the summer. She proposed the idea for me to work at Birthright, a small pregnancy-crisis clinic she volunteers at on her days off. Here at Birthright, I am the Summer Student. I field calls and messages, relay information to the Board of Directors if need be, and update all the contact information for the Resource book. On my first day, I read the book that the founder of Birthright, Louise Summerhill, wrote about her experiences of establishing the organization and how it came to be what it is today. While reading this book, it became clear to me that the world needs more people like Louise. A passionate, caring woman who realized she needed to offer this organization to women who felt that they had no other choice with their pregnancy. She made sacrifices along the way in her personal as well as her professional life, to make Birthright what it is today.

Every woman has a plan for her future, whether it's the perfect career, the perfect spouse, having children, or getting the white picket fenced home. However, not every woman has the same plan, nor does it always work out the way they want it to. Women come to Birthright to seek guidance and to make a decision. They don't realize that they already made a big decision, by finding the number or the address to Birthright and then talking to someone. That's the first step to finding the answer they are looking for. I believe that Ralph Waldo Emerson understood this when he said "Whatever you do, you need courage. Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you that you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising that tempt you to believe your critics are right. To map out a course of action and follow it to an end requires some of the same courage that a soldier needs. Peace has its victories, but it takes brave men and women to win them." *(Michelle Anderson)*



Janet Matheson and Pamela Bryson-Weaver (Co-directors of Birthright Fredericton attended Birthright International Convention - San Francisco, June 7-10, 2012. **The theme was "Birthright, gateway to love & life.** Some of the speakers: Melissa Ohden "Loved into Life: One Abortion Survivor's Story"; Roberta Jacobs-Meadway "The Public Face of Birthright; George Maloof "Recognizing Mental Illness in Your Clients"; Chuck Byers & Buford Barr "Reaching Today's Client ... Confidentially"; Kirstin Heydel "Adolescent Relationship Abuse and Sexual Coercion".

We visited some of San Francisco's famous landmarks and vista points, such as, the Golden Gate Bridge, Chinatown, and North Beach, the Pacific Ocean, the ever-changing waterfront and the financial district. We also enjoyed a relaxed 2-hour cruise, spectacular sunset view, live guitar music and we cruised past the infamous island of Alcatraz, around Angel Island National Park, under the majestic span of the Golden Gate, and along the beautiful shorelines of Tiburon and Sausalito, as the sun set over the Pacific Ocean. **What a trip!**

Thank you for your support and prayers.
(Co-directors; Pamela Bryson-Weaver / Janet Matheson)

IMPORTANT BIRTHRIGHT ANNOUNCEMENT

- ♥ Birthright Fredericton is now on the web at: www.birthrightfredericton.com
- ♥ To receive our E-Newsletters by Email in color instead of snail mail:
- ♥ (saving postage and printing costs) email us at: birthright.fctn@bellaliant.com
- ♥ **(Send us your name and email address)**



Birthright Creed

*"It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth,
and the right of every child to be born."*