

For Immediate Release  
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## **Lieutenant Governor's "Faith in Action Award" Winners Announced**

**Sister Connie MacIsaac and Sister Mary Morris**

Atlantic School of Theology is pleased to announce that Sister Mary Morris, CND, and Sister Connie MacIsaac, CND, co-founders of The Marguerite Centre, are the recipients of the 2009 Lieutenant Governor's Faith in Action Award to be presented at the Atlantic School of Theology convocation on Saturday, May 2, at 2:00 P.M. Convocation 2009 will be held at St. Andrew's United Church, 6036 Coburg Road, in Halifax.

The Faith in Action Award honours exceptional community outreach that is recognized as having provided significant benefit to the wider community. The outreach by Sister Mary and Sister Connie in their service to The Marguerite Centre is driven by their religious commitment to their faith tradition.

The Marguerite Centre is a 12-bed long-term residential facility for women in recovery from addictions and abuse. The Centre provides shelter and other fundamental living needs in a residential setting; the staff offers counseling support, holistic programming that empowers women to understand their addictions and abuse as they move towards recovery, and further advocates and supports women to access wider community resources.

Sister Mary and Sister Connie saw the need many years ago for such a long-term transitional program for women in difficulty to recover their lives. Since 1989, they have worked tirelessly to meet this need, first opening Exodus House, then in 2002, opening The Marguerite Centre. In their mission they have been inspired by the work and life of St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, founder of the Congregation of Notre Dame. St. Marguerite is known for her dedicated compassion and vision in assisting women and children who were suffering during the late 1600s in Quebec. The Marguerite Centre is named and modeled after this saint's commitment. Both Sister Connie and Sister Mary belong to the Congregation of Notre Dame (CND).

It is a testimony to their deep faith to see how they are tirelessly animated by the spirit of the Christian Gospel and the work of St. Marguerite in reaching out to marginalized and oppressed women. While this program is inspired and animated by the faith of its co-founders, it is available for the benefit of the larger community.

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