

Margaret Lowe Benston LECTURE SERIES IN Social Justice

**Simon
Fraser
University**

**Wednesday
October 22
1997**

Sharon McIvor

**Matrimonial Property Rights
of First Nations Women**

HALPERN CENTRE, BURNABY CAMPUS, 12:30 PM

**Building a Healing Lodge:
First Nations Women and Corrections**

SEGAL CENTRE, HARBOUR CENTRE CAMPUS, 7:30 PM



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SHARON MCIVOR, a mother and a grandmother, is a member of the Lower Nicola Band, and currently a doctoral candidate (LL.D.) at the University of Ottawa. McIvor's work is guided by her major interest in the rights of Aboriginal women. She has been on the executive of the Native Women's Association of Canada, and now is a member of its Board of Directors. McIvor is interested in promoting community-based justice systems and is the Chair of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee for the federal Commissioner of Corrections. She has had experience in the building of a healing lodge for aboriginal female offenders, something she worked on with the First Nations Penitentiary in Southern Saskatchewan.

Matrimonial Property Rights of First Nations Women

12:30 pm, Halpern Centre
Burnaby Campus

Upon divorce, Canadian women have legal recourse for division of matrimonial property. Not so for women married to Indian males on reserve because such recourse would disrupt the land scheme as set out in the Indian Act. But this inequity between groups of women, says Sharon McIvor, creates a clear violation by Canada of Section 15 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Sharon McIvor will discuss why government simply must act to address this inequity.

Building a Healing Lodge: First Nations Women and Corrections

7:30 pm, Segal Centre,
Harbour Centre Campus,
515 W. Hastings Street, Vancouver
The successes of the Healing Lodge for Aboriginal Female Federal Prisoners in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan - Neekaneet Indian Reserve: Sharon McIvor lays out the work of the aboriginal women comprising the Aboriginal Planning Circle, its philosophy and its actions in making the Lodge a success story.

DR. MARGARET LOWE BENSTON

was a much-loved teacher, a respected colleague, and a tireless advocate of social justice. Her academic career encompassed the fields of chemistry, computing science and women's studies. Of particular concern to Benston was the lack of women in the sciences, and in 1981 she helped found the Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology. Margaret Benston's commitment to social justice, and especially to the cause of women, distinguished her as a model activist academic. She spent her life putting her beliefs into practice and brought honour to Simon Fraser University and the community she served.

THE MARGARET LOWE BENSTON LECTURE SERIES ENDOWMENT FUND has been established to provide in perpetuity the core funding for this annual program. Persons and organizations interested in furthering the cause of social justice and in recognizing one of Canada's outstanding social activists are invited to contribute to the Fund.

Donations may be directed to the Office of University Development, Simon Fraser University, 8888 University Drive, Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6. For more information, call (604) 291-5315. Contributions are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.

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