

**P4W 25 Years Later:
Memory, Art and Action**
Linda Mussell and Rachel Fayter

SPECIAL ISSUE EDITORS

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SPECIAL ISSUE THEME

The Prison for Women (P4W) in Kingston, Ontario was Canada's only federal prison for women from 1934-2000. Just four years after P4W opened in 1934, the Archambault Report recommended its closure due to "disgraceful conditions", yet it remained open until the year 2000. Since the closure of P4W, several federal women's prisons have been opened across the country.

We invite submissions reflecting on questions raised by the twenty-fifth anniversary of the closure of P4W.

1. Have you done time in a prison or healing lodge for women? Would you like to share art and/or write about the current conditions inside?
2. In your experience, what role does art play in survival and resistance within and outside women's prisons in Canada?
3. If you were inside P4W, what do you remember and what do you try to forget? What has changed in women's prisons since the closure of P4W and what has remained the same?

We especially invite contributions to this special issue from people who have been imprisoned in women's prisons in Canada. We particularly

invite people who were imprisoned at P4W and Kingston Penitentiary (e.g. Regional Treatment Centre) to send in submissions. We also encourage collaborative essays or dialogues between current/former prisoners and from people on the outside. If you are interested but want to chat first, please feel welcome to reach out to us (see contact information below).

These questions are especially pressing, given the sale of P4W to a private developer who plans to turn the prison into a mixture of residential, office and retail space. While P4W has been designated as a “recognized heritage building”, there has been little formal recognition of the site’s social history and its enduring impact on the lives of people who were imprisoned there.

CONTRIBUTION FORMATS

This special issue welcomes contributions in a wide range of formats, including:

- Art
- Poetry
- Photos
- Interviews or discussions
- Essays
- Scholarly research articles
- Book reviews

We welcome shorter written submissions (around 800 words, which is 1.5 pages, double-spaced and typed), lengthier written submissions (up to 5,000 words, which is 20 pages, double-spaced and typed), and everything in between. Poetry can be much shorter than 800 words. Art can include drawings, paintings, collages, beading, and more.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

At the *JPP*, we support incarcerated people’s right to exercise freedom of expression pursuant to section 2 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and embedded in national constitutions elsewhere across the world. We believe that publishing the writing of incarcerated people is a

necessary tool to facilitate transparency in carceral settings. We welcome submissions from all current and former prisoners, and are eager to hear your input on the above-mentioned issues. Please share this notice with anyone who may be interested in contributing to our journal. We ask that those who choose to submit include a short biographical statement and let us know if you would like to be published anonymously. We look forward to reviewing your submissions that follow the journal's guidelines below and hope to hear from you soon.

- The Journal will not publish any subject matter that advocates hatred, sexism, racism, violence or that supports the death penalty.
- The Journal does not publish material that usually focuses on the writer's own legal case, although the use of the writer's personal experiences as an illustration of a broader topic is encouraged.
- The Journal does not usually publish fiction and does not generally publish poetry. Illustrations, drawings and paintings may be submitted as potential cover art.
- Articles should be no longer than 20 pages typed and double-spaced or legibly handwritten. Electronic submissions are gratefully received.
- Writers may elect to write anonymously or under a pseudonym.
- For references cited in an article, writers should attempt to provide the necessary bibliographic information. Refer to the references cited in past issues for examples.
- Editors look for developed pieces that address topics substantially. Manuscripts go through a preliminary reading and then are sent to review by the Editorial Board. Those that are of suitable interest are returned to the author with comments or suggestions. Editors work with writers on composition and form, and where necessary may help the author with referencing and bibliographic information, not readily available in prisons. Selected articles are returned to authors for their approval before publication. Papers not selected are returned with comments from the editor. Revised papers may be resubmitted.
- Please submit biographical and contact information, to be published alongside articles unless otherwise indicated.

IMPORTANT DATES

Submissions by authors: soumissions par auteurs :	1 December 2024 decembre 2024
Editorial decision and reviewer comments to authors: décision éditoriale et commentaires aux auteurs :	1 February 2025 février 2025
Revised manuscripts: manuscripts révisés :	1 May 2025 mai 2025
Final editorial decision to authors: décision éditoriale finale aux auteurs :	15 July 2025 juillet 2025
Publication date: date de publication :	2025 2025

SUBMISSIONS

Via email to p4w25years@gmail.com or by mail to the address below:

Journal of Prisoners on Prisons
Special Issue on P4W
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JOURNAL OF PRISONERS ON PRISONS
CALL FOR WRITING & ART 
P4W 25 YEARS LATER

—HAVE YOU DONE TIME IN A PRISON OR HEALING LODGE FOR WOMEN? WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE ART AND/OR WRITE ABOUT THE CURRENT CONDITIONS INSIDE?

—IN YOUR EXPERIENCE, WHAT ROLE DOES ART PLAY IN SURVIVAL AND RESISTANCE WITHIN AND OUTSIDE WOMEN'S PRISONS IN CANADA?

—IF YOU WERE INSIDE P4W, WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER, AND WHAT DO YOU TRY TO FORGET? WHAT HAS CHANGED IN WOMEN'S PRISONS SINCE THE CLOSURE OF P4W, AND WHAT HAS REMAINED THE SAME?



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