



APPENDIX A: Media Backgrounder - Victims First Canada - About the Founders

Debbie Vance and Christopher Ducharme met through conversations about shared values in Frank Caputo's social media posts, particularly a petition for mandatory Electronic (GPS) Monitoring of high-risk federal offenders in intimate partner violence cases. Their stories, while different, had several parallels; the most pressing issue is their concern for their own personal safety with the upcoming parole eligibility and release of their perpetrators.

Christopher's mother, Patricia (Patti) Ducharme, a mother of four living with her 3 dependent, minor children, was smothered, strangled to death with a TV cord, stabbed to the pelvis, and chopped in the head with an axe on March 22, 1996, and left in the bathtub for three days. **Brock Joseph-William Graham**, Patricia's live-in boyfriend, was a former Vancouver Police Department Officer and, unknown to Patti at the time, Graham was under RCMP Surveillance as the primary suspect in the 1993 murder and dismemberment of his former intimate partner, Lynn Duggan of North Vancouver.

Graham is serving two life sentences for the second-degree murders of Lynn Duggan and Patricia Ducharme, and after admitting in 2021 that he was high risk to reoffend, and after Correctional Service Canada warned Christopher that he should be concerned for his safety if Graham is to be released, he was still **approved by the Parole Board of Canada for Day Parole on June 23, 2026**. Graham is currently awaiting a release placement.

Debbie is also a mother and a victim of intimate partner violence, who suffered a smothering assault, and 6 weeks later, on March 28, 2024, an attempted murder occurred when her husband snuck up behind her and slit her throat open with a ten-inch hunting knife that he then turned on himself in a murder-suicide attempt where both survived.

Brian Gene Reum was charged with Attempted Murder but accepted a plea deal and pled guilty to aggravated assault and was only given a 5-year sentence. He is eligible for his first Day Parole Hearing as early as **December 20, 2026, after serving only 14 months** of his sentence.

Both women endured unimaginable intimate partner violence with similar injuries; Christopher's mother was killed by a former Vancouver Police Department Officer, while Debbie Vance, a 22-year RCMP civilian employee, miraculously survived an attempted murder by her husband. Now, as their perpetrators face parole proceedings simultaneously, Christopher and Debbie are once again confronting profound fears for their safety and have been given no support or protections by the Parole Board of Canada or Correctional Service Canada.

Though one lost his mother and the other survived, both are united by the lasting trauma of intimate-partner violence and the fear of being revictimized by the very systems entrusted with protecting them. **While uniting for the sake of all victims and the citizens of Canada**, their joint quest for Electronic (GPS) Monitoring of high-risk federal offenders of intimate partner violence remains a priority of their personal advocacy objectives.