



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

PC Caucus mourns with families that have suffered infant loss

Manitobans devastated by deaths of their babies should not have to grieve alone: Guillemard

Sarah Guillemard, MLA for the constituency of Fort Richmond, called today for greater public attention to the suffering of Manitoba families that have lost babies to miscarriage, stillbirth and other tragic circumstances.

"I rise today to do my part to break the silence about a grief that many, including myself, have endured alone," Guillemard said in a private member's statement in the legislature, noting Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day is observed annually on October 15 in Canada, the United States and other countries. "A candle is lit at 7 p.m. on this very day to remember those who grieve, and to honour the memory of the babies that left this earth too soon."

Each year, thousands of families worldwide are devastated by the deaths of their babies due to various forms of health difficulties. A Manitoba couple, Dan and Lana Reimer, were in the gallery at the legislature today after sharing with Guillemard the details of the loss of their daughter, Hannah Rose, in August 2013.

"I laboured at home all night and prayed to God to take her quickly. My prayers were answered and she was born hours later," said Lana Reimer. "She lived for two hours, and we cherished every moment we had with her."

Also in the gallery was the Winnipeg Walk to Remember group, which organizes a walk each year in support of Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day. Its 10th annual walk will be held on Saturday at St. Vital Park beginning at 10 a.m. The group is collecting new small teddy bears for the bereavement unit at St. Boniface Hospital.

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