LIVING WITH FASD: A Mother’s Plea for her Children with FASD

A problem only for our native peoples?
This is not the case
I see the ignorance everyday
“But your child has a normal face!”

Don’t they see the travesty,
The need for services there?
As an adoptive parent I fight hard each day
It seems like so few care.

If my children had been brain injured
in an accident
Or even born with Down’s
I wouldn’t have to fight SO hard
Or deal with placating frowns.

Their poisoned brains are damaged!
Their deficits not their choice!
They can succeed when supported
They need an external voice!

The cracks my children fall through
Are w-i-d-e and have no funds
They’re bridged with inappropriate programs
For those where change can be done.

Ignoring FASD costs money
But more than you can see
It breaks our children’s spirits,
their families and communities.

Prevention, diagnosis and care will cost
But this you must know well
Nothing costs more than breaking a child
Who innocently was born into hell.

My heart screams loudly for them
They must get the help they need.
As mother I made a sacred pact.
And for your commitment I plead.

A problem only for our native peoples?
Again I say not true
The travesty of FASD
Is part of me and YOU!

March 1, 2012