

Small mercies

BOOK • Re: “Golden Compass book removed,” Dec. 6.

Can we at least thank God that atheists have yet to pull Bibles off library shelves?

Daniel Libman, Calgary

Sorrow shared

GIACOMELLI • Re: “Convict in fatal hit-and-run released on day parole,” Dec. 13.

Lindsay Giacomelli was not my daughter, so why do I feel this impotent rage at Colin Jones’s day parole?

First, because of the cowardly actions of this man who did not come forward, but put all his efforts into concealing his crime instead.

Second, the rationalization by the authorities that “I can empathize with those who are affected by the crime, but from a societal perspective there’s solid research that release into the

community is better for society” when there is little demonstrated empathy and few conclusive facts to support the benefit claim.

The only benefit I can surmise is that Jones will be paying taxes should he find a job.

Third, the agony of the family who possibly took some succour in the sentence passed, only to find that seven months later they could run into him on the street. Why can a sentence not be passed that is actually served? If it is better for society to have him serve his sentence in the community after seven months then say so up front, and allow the family to deal with the disappointment then, but don’t put them through a second nightmare a few months later.

My heart goes out to Lindsay’s family. I feel with them and wish I could help them deal with their grief. She was not my daughter, but she could have been.

Jorg Stuwe, Calgary