



# Summary of Recommendations

The following summary of recommendations is organized first by section and then by guiding principle. In those instances where more than one guiding principle would apply, we have chosen the one we believe best informs the recommendation.

## Bed Space

- Inmates are to be treated fairly and in accordance with law.
- + Incarcerate all inmates at the centre nearest their home geographic area.
- + Provide concessions to inmates who are incarcerated outside their home geographic area to compensate for their isolation. For example, subsidize long-distance phone calls and travel expenses, and increase visiting privileges.
- + Limit the time that an inmate is incarcerated away from his or her home area.

## Inmate Living Conditions

- Inmates retain all of the rights, both domestic and international, of free citizens except those rights that are necessarily limited as a result of incarceration.
- + Discontinue placing inmates in cells with no natural light, except as a temporary response to emergency bed space demands.
- + Ensure that special diets are comparable in quality and variety to the regular diet.
- + Provide all inmates with a minimum of one hour of meaningful exercise daily, not including time spent on personal hygiene, cell cleaning or other activities.
- Inmates are to be treated fairly and in accordance with law.
- + Comply with the requirement for annual fire inspections at all centres.
- + Include a section on emergency procedures in an inmate handbook.

- Inmates are entitled to reasonable and respectful treatment consequent on their inherent dignity and value as human beings.
- + Ensure that when inmates are stripped, it is done with minimum affront to their dignity and is not witnessed by members of the opposite sex, either directly or indirectly.
- + Draft policy to facilitate communication between newly admitted inmates and their family members or close relatives, preferably on the first day of incarceration.
- + Draft policy advising corrections workers that they have the discretion to let inmates use the staff phone if they cannot make a collect call.
- + Ensure that both policy and practice recognize the special circumstances of inmates serving their first few nights in jail.
- + Take steps to eliminate the need for double-bunking and dormitories.
- + Supply privacy screens for all toilets in cells.
- + Screen incoming mail with the intended recipient present, unless that would be a security risk.
- + Provide remand inmates in the Regina Correctional Centre with better access to a private telephone line.
- + Address the issue of blind spots on the second floor in Units 1, 2, and 3 in Prince Albert and Units A, B, and C in Saskatoon.
- + Deal with the line-of-sight problems down cell corridors in Pine Grove and Regina.
- + Tend to the design problems on Unit 4 at the Regina centre.

- Inmates are entitled to equivalent conditions and privileges irrespective of the specific provincial correctional center in which they serve their sentences or are held, except where differences can be reasonably justified.
- + Address the substandard conditions in East and West G in the Regina Correctional Centre.
- + Address the plumbing problems at Pine Grove.
- + Take steps to bring temperature fluctuations in Pine Grove and the old part of the Regina centre within reasonable limits.



### Inmate Living Conditions (cont.)

■ Inmates are entitled to the least restrictive measures necessary to maintain the security of the institution and the safety of inmates and staff.

+ Maximize visiting hours for all inmates, with due consideration to security.

+ Minimize the use of blanket policies that restrict visiting privileges for all inmates when only some inmates' behaviour warrants restrictions.

■ Corrections is obligated to ensure that its employees have the training and resources necessary to meet their responsibilities.

+ Establish a reporting system that will improve Corrections' ability to objectively determine the volatility of its correctional institutions.

+ Establish reliable and objective statistical criteria on drug use in the correctional centres to serve as the base for a drug interdiction strategy.

+ Ensure that sufficient resources are available for ongoing training of the crisis management teams.

+ Acquire portable radios that enable direct communication with fire and police for all centres.

■ Corrections has a responsibility to the community to maximize its efforts to rehabilitate and reintegrate inmates.

+ Provide work, education or training opportunities for all eligible inmates.

+ Continue to identify and implement measures to discourage gang membership and avoid gang activity.

+ Develop programming to help inmates end their gang involvement.

### Inmate Property Control

■ Inmates are entitled to equivalent conditions and privileges irrespective of the specific provincial correctional center in which they serve their sentences or are held, except where differences can be reasonably justified.

+ Except where differences can be reasonably justified, standardize personal property allowances in the four centres.

■ Inmates are to be treated fairly and in accordance with law.

+ Develop policy addressing handling of escaped inmates' property.

+ Search the cell before an inmate occupies it for the first time or supervise the search when an inmate searches his or her cell before occupying it for the first time.

+ Develop policy addressing procedures to be followed when an inmate claims his or her property is missing.

+ Ensure that inmates are aware that they can report suspected theft to the police.

■ Inmates and Corrections are responsible for their actions and the reasonable consequences thereof.

+ Ensure that all documentation regarding inmate property is always completed properly.

### Programming

■ Corrections has a responsibility to the community to maximize its efforts to rehabilitate and reintegrate inmates.

+ Provide effective programming to inmates with mental or learning disabilities comparable to the programming available to other inmates.

+ Use public education programs to emphasize the need to help inmates adjust to a law-abiding and productive lifestyle, and the consequent benefit to everyone in the community.

+ Secure sufficient resources to implement the strategic correctional program plan.

### Case Management

■ Corrections has a responsibility to the community to maximize its efforts to rehabilitate and reintegrate inmates

+ Emphasize the need to complete an inmate's case plan as soon as possible, preferably within the first week following admission.

+ Provide case management and programming to inmates in segregation.

+ Offer case management and programming to remand inmates.



# Summary of Recommendations

## Medical Services

- Inmates retain all of the rights, both domestic and international, of free citizens except those rights that are necessarily limited as a result of incarceration.
- + Ensure inmates are aware of the medical services available to them and how to obtain them.
- + Inform inmates that they have the right to contact the College of Physicians and Surgeons if they disagree with the medical care they are receiving.
- + Provide a detoxification program comparable to what is available in the community.
- + Take steps to reduce the waiting time for dental treatment to something close to the waiting time in the general community.
- + Ask all inmates during the admission process whether they require accommodation for a disability.
- + Examine the accommodations for disabilities presently provided to ensure that they comply with the duty to accommodate under the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code.

- Inmates are to be treated fairly and in accordance with law.
- + Explain clearly in policy and in workshops under what circumstances corrections workers and medical staff are permitted to share information, and what the limits and rules are.
- + Permit inmates who would otherwise be eligible for the methadone program to participate while they are incarcerated.
- + Address the conflict that exists between inmates' needs to protect themselves from contagious disease, such as tuberculosis, and the individual inmate's right to privacy.
- + That all centres ensure the Pharmaceuticals and Therapeutics Committee is operating and that the provisions for services in the pharmaceutical contracts are utilized.

- Inmates of aboriginal ancestry are entitled to recognition of their distinct identity, and, with due regard to safety and security, to practice and promote their cultural traditions.
- + Consult with aboriginal and Métis groups to determine the most effective way to deliver health care services that respect aboriginal traditions.

- Inmates are entitled to reasonable and respectful treatment consequent on their inherent dignity and value as human beings.
- + Establish a single authority with the required expertise to oversee the delivery of medical services.
- + Create detailed provincial guidelines for the treatment and management of communicable disease.
- + Ensure that all inmate transfers include consultation with nursing staff so that medical needs are addressed and communicated to the receiving centre.
- + Perform regular audits to ensure compliance with medical policy.
- + Provide all inmates with both written and verbal information about communicable diseases.
- + Remove restrictions, explicit or implied, on the drugs that physicians and dentists can prescribe.

- Corrections is obligated to ensure that its employees have the training and resources necessary to meet their responsibilities.
- + Provide all staff members with regular refresher courses on the management of inmates with communicable diseases.
- + Take steps to address the staffing problems reported by the nursing units.
- + Provide nurses with more opportunities for continuing education in both nursing and corrections.
- + Offer contracted medical professionals training to familiarize them with the challenges they will face practicing medicine in a correctional environment.
- + Establish a comprehensive, province-wide medical database that could be shared by medical staff in the four correctional centres.
- + Obtain professional advice on the state and suitability of existing medical equipment.

- Corrections has a responsibility to the community to maximize its efforts to rehabilitate and reintegrate inmates.
- + Improve inmate access to mental health professionals.
- + Enhance programming designed to meet the mental health needs of the inmate population while they are incarcerated and after they are released.



## Suicide and Self Injury

■ Inmates retain all of the rights, both domestic and international, of free citizens except those rights that are necessarily limited as a result of incarceration.

- + Allow inmates a minimum of one hour of physical exercise every day, with access to exercise equipment, outdoors if possible.

■ Inmates are entitled to reasonable and respectful treatment consequent on their inherent dignity and value as human beings.

- + Ensure through policy and training that corrections workers do not dismiss self-harming behaviour as manipulative without good reason.
- + Continue to improve the living environment in the correctional centres.
- + With due regard to safety security concerns, ensure that all inmates are occupied in meaningful activities during the day.
- + Emphasize the importance of the role that all corrections employees play in inmates' lives.
- + Have nurses complete a suicide risk assessment upon admission and at other high-risk times, such as following the death of someone close or the breakdown of a significant relationship.
- + Emphasize the need for corrections workers to continue to consider the motivation behind inmate behaviour and to recommend treatment for inmates experiencing emotional distress whenever possible.
- + Encourage the discipline panel to consider treatment as an option to punishment when the inmate's behaviour is the result of emotional distress.
- + Increase phone and visiting privileges for suicidal inmates to allow them better access to family and community supports.
- + Designate a representative from each centre to meet with the survivors of deceased inmates.

■ Inmates are entitled to equivalent conditions and privileges irrespective of the specific provincial correctional center in which they serve their sentences or are held, except where differences can be reasonably justified.

- + Bring the living environment in all four centres up to equivalent standards.

■ Inmates are entitled to the least restrictive measures necessary to maintain the security of the institution and the safety of inmates and staff.

- + Revise policy to state that isolation is to be used only as a last resort in suicide prevention.
- + Expose suicidal inmates who have to be segregated and closely observed to as much human contact as possible, and allow them as much freedom of movement as possible to minimize their sense of isolation.

■ Corrections is obligated to ensure that its employees have the training and resources necessary to meet their responsibilities.

- + That Corrections offer refresher training in suicide prevention to ensure that all staff members have training that is up to date.
- + Prepare a booklet explaining the role of volunteers for the peer support program.
- + That Corrections provide all caseworkers with standardized guidelines to follow for inmates who have been recently treated for suicidal risk.
- + Develop policy and procedures for staff to follow if they discover a suicide victim.



# Summary of Recommendations

## Discipline

■ Inmates are to be treated fairly and in accordance with law.

- + Ensure that all inmates have ready access to *The Correctional Services Act* and Regulations and are aware of the procedure for obtaining it.
- + Ensure that the imposition of sanctions is in accordance with the regulations.
- + Include "adjournments at the request of the inmate" in the list of permitted reasons for adjournments on the discipline charge report.
- + Ensure that discipline panels advise inmates that if they are not ready to proceed, they have the right to request an adjournment.
- + Encourage inmates to make representations regarding guilt and sentencing.
- + Document the reasons for the discipline panel's decision in detail, including in writing on the charge report, and provide a copy of this information to the inmate.
- + Afford inmates appearing before discipline panels the opportunity to be represented by an agent, including an agent chosen from among other inmates.
- + Explore the willingness of appropriate non-government agencies to provide competent representation for inmates appearing before discipline panels.
- + Amend the regulations as necessary to ensure orderly and timely proceedings and to accommodate representation by an agent.
- + Restructure the membership of discipline panels so that they are entirely or at least partly composed of members who are not employees of Corrections, or at least not Correctional Centre staff members.
- + Ensure that subdelegation of discipline panel membership ceases.
- + Clarify the decision-making process to be followed by the discipline panel members in the regulations.
- + Ensure that discipline panel members are aware of their responsibility to verify that charges are specific and appropriate and that inmates are provided with full and clear information that identifies the specific incident and charge prior to the discipline panel hearing.
- + Clarify in policy the expectations and standards for a full and fair hearing and thorough and objective inquiry.

- + Adopt "beyond a reasonable doubt" in policy as the standard for discipline panel decisions.
- + Emphasize the need for directors to provide inmates with full reasons for appeal decisions.
- + Take steps to ensure that appeal responses meet time requirements.
- + Amend the voluntary sanction form presently in use to include an admission of guilt.
- + Cease imposing group sanctions.
- + Discontinue the use of cancellation of earned remission as a sanction for disciplinary offences unless some or all of the members of the panel who are not correctional centre employees have appropriate legal training.

■ Inmates of aboriginal ancestry are entitled to recognition of their distinct identity, and, with due regard to safety and security, to practice and promote their cultural traditions.

- + Examine the disciplinary process and consult with aboriginal groups to determine if changes are necessary to meet the special needs of aboriginal inmates.

■ Corrections is obligated to ensure that its employees have the training and resources necessary to meet their responsibilities.

- + Ensure that all panel members are appropriately trained and qualified to adjudicate matters involving loss of liberty.

■ Corrections has a responsibility to the community to maximize its efforts to rehabilitate and reintegrate inmates.

- + Examine the current discipline panel procedures with the goal of increasing inmate confidence in the discipline process.



## Segregation

■ Inmates retain all of the rights, both domestic and international, of free citizens except those rights that are necessarily limited as a result of incarceration.

+ Provide all segregated inmates with a minimum of one full hour of quality physical exercise, including access to exercise equipment.

■ Inmates are to be treated fairly and in accordance with law.

+ Ensure that inmates are provided meaningful and detailed reasons for placement in segregation.

+ Provide inmates with the evidence that will be considered by the security review panel.

+ Give inmates sufficient time to consider the evidence that will be considered by the security review panel.

+ Allow inmates to address the security review panel in person or in writing prior to their deliberations.

+ Allow inmates appearing before a security review panel the opportunity to be represented by counsel or an agent, including an agent chosen from among other inmates.

+ Explore with appropriate non-government agencies their willingness to provide competent representation for inmates appearing before security review panels.

+ Appoint an independent, outside adjudicator to review decisions regarding segregation and continued segregation.

+ Follow the same criteria for making the decision to continue to segregate an inmate as was followed in the initial decision to impose segregation.

+ Provide full reasons for the security review panel's decisions, unless doing so would compromise security interests.

+ Make decisions to implement an alternative to segregation in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice.

+ Prepare a handbook for segregated inmates explaining the rules, rights and expectations in segregation.

■ Inmates are entitled to reasonable and respectful treatment consequent on their inherent dignity and value as human beings.

+ Allow segregated inmates to make at least one personal call daily.

+ Provide the opportunity for segregated inmates to make phone calls during a time other than their exercise period.

■ Inmates are entitled to equivalent conditions and privileges irrespective of the specific provincial correctional center in which they serve their sentences or are held, except where differences can be reasonably justified.

+ Ensure that property allowances in the segregation units of the four centres are reasonably equivalent and as generous as possible.

+ Provide segregated inmates in all four centres the opportunity to shower daily if they wish.

■ Inmates are entitled to the least restrictive measures necessary to maintain the security of the institution and the safety of inmates and staff.

+ Increase the frequency of security review panel hearings for a segregated inmate to once a week.

+ Provide segregated inmates with programming and privileges consistent with Corrections' policy of least restrictive measures.

+ Provide inmates segregated for non-disciplinary reasons with rights and privileges equivalent to those they would receive in the general population, to the extent reasonably possible.

+ Use the segregation unit for overflow living space only when absolutely necessary in the event of an emergency.

+ Take steps to enable segregated inmates waiting for cell vacancies in the general population to participate in programming and have privileges in keeping with their right to be part of the general population.

■ Corrections is obligated to ensure that its employees have the training and resources necessary to meet their responsibilities.

+ Keep records on the use of segregation that can be used for statistical analysis.

■ Corrections has a responsibility to the community to maximize its efforts to rehabilitate and reintegrate inmates.

+ Provide programming to segregated inmates tailored to their specific needs.

+ Ensure that a release plan is prepared for each segregated inmate that enables him or her to work toward definite goals, and minimizes the indefiniteness of their stay in segregation.





# Summary of Recommendations

## Remand Inmates

- Inmates retain all of the rights, both domestic and international, of free citizens except those rights that are necessarily limited as a result of incarceration.
  - + Resort to double-bunking for remand inmates only as an extraordinary, temporary measure in response to an emergency until other accommodation can be found.
- Inmates are entitled to reasonable and respectful treatment consequent on their inherent dignity and value as human beings.
  - + Draft policy addressing protocol for the reception of remand inmates that emphasizes the need to balance professional vigilance with compassionate support.
  - + Take steps to minimize the risk of harm to inmates in transit.
- Inmates are entitled to equivalent conditions and privileges irrespective of the specific provincial correctional center in which they serve their sentences or are held, except where differences can be reasonably justified.
  - + Standardize phone privileges in the four centres.
  - + Provide remand inmates in Regina with better access to a private line for phone calls.
  - + Standardize out-of-cell time for remand inmates in the four centres.
  - + Maximize the exercise time available to remand inmates and, to the extent possible given the differences between the physical structures of the four centres, standardize the available exercise time.
- Remanded inmates are entitled to conditions of custody at least as favorable as those of sentenced inmates.
  - + Offer case management and programming to remand inmates, especially those serving extended periods of time on remand status.
  - + Develop policy addressing the need to help remand inmates retain employment and accommodation.
- Inmates are entitled to the least restrictive measures necessary to maintain the security of the institution and the safety of inmates and staff.
  - + Maximize visiting allowances for remand inmates, especially those serving longer periods on remand status.

## Staff Training, the Rule of Law and the Duty of Fairness

- Corrections is obligated to ensure that its employees have the training and resources necessary to meet their responsibilities.
  - + Continue efforts to increase the percentage of corrections workers who meet the required standard for knowledge of the rule of law and duty of fairness.
  - + Implement a process to determine individual corrections workers' training needs.
  - + Take steps to ensure that training is available to meet identified ongoing training needs.

## Regina Provincial Correctional Centre

- Inmates are entitled to equivalent conditions and privileges irrespective of the specific provincial correctional center in which they serve their sentences or are held, except where differences can be reasonably justified.
  - + Bring the Main Complex of the Regina Correctional Centre up to current building standards or build a new facility.