IMPRISONING THE PANDEMIC IN CANADA: CARCERAL INSTITUTION MANAGEMENT MEASURES TO PREVENT AND MANAGE COVID-19 (v1.0)

As of 10 April 2020

Information Made Available via Government Websites	No Search Results Based on Review of Government Websites
Federal (Correctional Service Canada) Newfoundland and Labrador Nova Scotia New Brunswick Ontario Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia Nunavut Northwest Territories	Federal (Canadian Border Services Agency) Prince Edward Island Quebec Manitoba Yukon

Disclaimer: The measures below are what governments across the country are officially claiming to be putting in place to prevent and manage COVID-19 behind the walls of carceral institutions in their statements posted on government websites. There are certainly jurisdictions implementing some combination of the measures listed below, but they have either not disclosed them on their websites or have limited their disclosure to responses in the context of media reporting, which have yet to be analyzed. The extent to which the measures listed below are being implemented – some of which are harmful – needs to be corroborated by prisoners, prison staff and oversight bodies. Taking these caveats into consideration, this document is best used to prompt further questions, as well as enhance government transparency and accountability with respect to how they are managing carceral institutions during the pandemic, rather than an actual reflection of what is happening on the ground. If you become aware of government statements, media reports or other materials where carceral institution measures to prevent and manage COVID-19 are disclosed, please email justin.piche@uottawa.ca.

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INSTITUTIONAL SCREENING

Entry Screening for Prisoners, Staff and Contractors CSC NS NWT * No mention in government documents whether temperatures are being checked	**Suspension of Non-essential Entries and Activities** CSC

POPULATION MANAGEMENT

Suspended Transfers CSC (exception: intra-regional transfers)	**Reduction in Transfers** NS
Adjusted Institutional Routines / Movement Restrictions CSC SK	**14-day Isolation of Prisoners Newly Admitted to Institutions** NU
Lockdowns NWT	**Isolation of Symptomatic Prisoners at Intake Until Medically Cleared** NWT
Quarantining of Symptomatic and Ill Prisoners NS SK NWT	

CONDITIONS OF CONFINEMENT FOR PRISONERS

Waived Room and Board Deductions CSC	**Suspending or Limiting Programs to Small Groups with Social Distancing** SK NWT
Suspension of Programs Offered by In-house Facilitators CSC	**Suspension of Programs Offered by External Facilitators** CSC NL NS NB ON SK AB BC NU
Access to Social Workers NS	**Access to On-site Spiritual Advisors** NS
Shared Clothing Removed For Yard Access NS	**Enhanced Food Quality and Portions** No search results
Free Canteen Items No search results	**Increase of Weekly Canteen Limits** No search results
Testing of Symptomatic Prisoners for COVID-19 CSC ON SK NWT	**Availability of PPE for Prisoners Where Determined Necessary** SK NWT

WORKING CONDITIONS FOR STAFF

Mandatory 14-day Self-isolation for Returning International Travellers CSC	**Reduced Staffing to Essential Personnel** CSC
Postponement of Non-Essential Training CSC	**Access to Social Workers** NS
Access to Mental Health Supports NS	**Priority COVID-19 Testing for Staff** SK
Availability of PPE for Staff Where Determined Necessary ON SK NU NWT	

PRISONER ACCESS TO COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNITY SUPPORTS AND OVERSIGHT

Suspended Family Visits CSC NL NS NB ON SK AB BC (available in exceptional circumstances) NU NWT (available in exceptional circumstances)	**Suspended Volunteer Visits** CSC NL NS NB ON SK AB BC NU

Suspended Legal Visits	**Additional Screening and Precautions for Visits**
CSC (exceptions on case-by-case basis) NS NB SK AB NU	ON (lawyers) BC (lawyers) NWT (lawyers, spiritual advisors & Elders)
Suspended Temporary Absences CSC (except for medical releases)	**Suspended Work Releases** CSC
Free Calling NS (2 free calls per week)	**Crediting Phone Accounts With Additional Minutes** CSC
Extra Phone Calls / Increased Time Limits NB AB NWT	**Video Visitation** CSC NS (examining Skype) AB (at Edmonton Remand Centre)
Suspended Oversight Visits No search results	**Continued Access to Governing Legislation, Manuals, Standing Orders and Directives, and Oversight Forms** No search results

HYGIENE

Communication With and Education of Prisoners and Staff on Prevention Practices	**Enhanced Cleaning**
CSC	CSC ON SK

NS SK NWT	NU NWT
Additional Cleaning Supplies for Prisoners and Staff CSC	**Hand Sanitizer for Prisoners and Staff** CSC NU
Additional Soap for Prisoners CSC NS	**Additional Toilet Paper** No search results
Additional Soap for Staff CSC NS SK	**Additional Laundry Services** No search results

HEALTH CARE

Increasing Health Care Capacity On-site CSC	**Increasing Prisoner Access to Health Care On-site** CSC
Increasing Prisoner Access to Telemedicine On-site CSC	**Suspending Prisoner Access to Less Urgent Health Services** CSC
Hiring More Health Care Professionals CSC	**Increasing Prisoner Access to Mental Health Care** No search results

Increased Access to Prescribed and Non-prescribed Medications No search results	**Access to Vitamins and Supplements** No search results
Purchasing Additional Health Supplies CSC	**Hospital Transfers Where On-site Medical Capacity is Exceeded** CSC
Access to Flu Vaccination NS	**Increasing Medical Supplies for Released Prisoners** CSC NS

COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

Online and Written Parole Hearings ON	**Adaptation of Supervision Strategies to Promote Social Distancing** CSC NL SK NU
Hiring Housing Support Worker NS	**Operating Hour Changes in Community Supervision Offices** ON
Screening of Former Prisoners, Visitors and Staff Entering Community Supervision Offices ON	**Enhanced Cleaning in Community Supervision Offices** ON