

VOICES ON THE OUTSIDE

Proposal for an
Ex-Inmate Committee
in Canada

December 2021

FINAL DRAFT

“Voices on the Outside”

Proposal for an Ex-Inmate Committee in Canada

Submitted to the Correctional Service of Canada

December 2021

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Also submitted to:

Dr. Ivan Zinger, Correctional Investigator of Canada
The Honourable Marco Mendicino, Minister of Public Safety
Inmate Committees
Lifers' Groups

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Language Disclaimer:

The author acknowledges that the term “inmate” can be controversial. The name on this proposal is only a start, to describe a committee that can be a voice for formerly incarcerated persons outside, the way Inmate Committees provide a voice for incarcerated persons inside. After the committee is formed, upon input from everyone involved, a new title may be chosen. The name means a lot but not as much as the great work this new committee can do.



About the Author

My name is Kevin Belanger, I am a federal inmate serving the remainder of my time in the community on parole. I was the Inmate Committee Chairman at Joyceville Institution in Kingston, Ontario, for over six years. Prior to my release in March 2021, I was very active both inside the pens, and outside as the voice for federal inmates at Joyceville.

Since my release, I have done several published interviews and spoken at conferences about my time inside and what federal inmates feel needs to be addressed as we move forward. The biggest impact I have been able to make since my release is giving talks to university students. These people are our future. I have spoken to many Canadian university classes outlining my time inside and what lies ahead for all of us in the future.

I have also been honoured to be involved with [Evolve Our Prison Farms](#) working to reopen prison farms in a way that's positive for all involved. I was happy to assist in their latest report ("[Bloody Bad Business: Report on the Joyceville Institution Abattoir](#)") dated August 2021.

Now it's time to move forward, it's time for us to have a voice, and for the Correctional Service of Canada to begin to live by their words that they always talk to their partners. I suggest that we, the inmates, are their biggest partner. It's time we are given a seat at the table.

Change comes to those who are willing to work hard to achieve it. I strongly feel this is the next step we need to make as a team, to move forward.

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of this, helping me help the ones I left behind have a voice.

Yours Sincerely,

Kevin Belanger
Former Inmate Committee Chairman
Joyceville Institution JAU & JIMSU
2009-2011 & 2018-2021

Introduction & Acknowledgements

After serving over six years as Inmate Committee Chairman at Joyceville Institution, I am keeping my promise to my fellow cons to be their voice in the community. Inmate Committees provide a voice for those inside, but outside the walls and fences we fight daily to be heard. The Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) and the Canadian Government claim at every opportunity that they always consult with their partners. We inmates, CSC's biggest partner, would like to help make that statement a reality.

It was a hard-won victory to have Inmate Committees set into law under [Commissioner's Directive 083](#), which establishes "a means for inmates to provide input regarding institutional operations." It took a tragic [riot at Kingston Penitentiary](#) 50 years ago and a [Commission of Inquiry](#) before Inmate Committees were established as a means of improving conditions within correctional institutions. Progress like this is the reason incarcerated people can vote in Canada, why we have a Correctional Investigator, and why we have Inmate Committees in every penitentiary across Canada. The formation of an Ex-Inmate Committee is a natural next step to ensure a seat at the table not only inside institutions but outside as well.

In my experience, a healthy Inmate Committee (IC) is essential to the healthy functioning of the institution. Similarly, an Ex-Inmate Committee (XIC) could play a valuable role in fostering a healthier correctional system and improving attitudes in society towards people impacted by incarceration.

Inmate Committees act as the voice of inmates, listening to grievances, liaising with staff, facilitating solutions, and supporting programs and community partnerships. On the outside, no such body exists.

This proposal demonstrates the value and need for a parallel Ex-Inmate Committee, including criteria for XIC membership and mandate, to function as an advisory body and liaison between inmate populations, CSC, and the public.

I would like to thank Calvin Neufeld for editorial assistance and Nancy Russell at [Canadian Friends Service Committee](#) (Quakers) for advisory support. I would also like to thank everyone who has signed on to this proposal to give incarcerated and formerly incarcerated persons a voice on the outside.

It is important to acknowledge that many of the suggestions and ideas in this proposal came from federal inmates both inside and outside in the community. I have also consulted with current and former CSC staff who have provided valuable input and moral support. Thank you to everyone who took the time to assist me with this proposal.

Goals

The positive changes that can emerge from an Ex-Inmate Committee include:

- enhancing the understanding of contemporary carceral issues, generating ideas, identifying problems, and advancing solutions;
- facilitating the successful reintegration of ex-inmates through knowledge gained uniquely from lived experience;
- reducing the stigma of incarceration and fostering compassionate and caring community connections; and
- supporting CSC's public safety mandate to actively encourage and assist incarcerated and formerly incarcerated persons.

The XIC would liaise with Inmate Committees and Lifers' Groups in each of the Correctional Service of Canada's five geographic regions: Atlantic Region, Quebec Region, Ontario Region, Prairie Region, and Pacific Region.

Minimally, the XIC would consist of at least three formerly incarcerated members: one male representative (or one person with experience at a male institution regardless of gender identity), one female representative (or one person with experience at a female institution), and one Indigenous representative. This is important because of the considerably different experiences and issues affecting men's institutions, women's institutions, and [Aboriginal Pathways Initiatives](#) and healing lodges.

BIPOC membership would be strongly encouraged, as racialized persons are disproportionately impacted by incarceration. The XIC would strive to include members from historically marginalized communities and those impacted by environmental, social, and economic injustice.

This proposal is consistent with **Bill C-228: [An Act to establish a federal framework to reduce recidivism](#)**, which received [royal assent](#) on June 29, 2021. This Act calls upon the Ministry of Public Safety to consult with a variety of stakeholders to develop and implement a federal framework to reduce recidivism. This must include measures to:

- initiate pilot projects and develop standardized and evidence-based programs aimed at reducing recidivism;
- promote the reintegration of people who have been incarcerated back into the community through access to resources and employment opportunities; and
- support communal initiatives that aim to rehabilitate.

This proposal for an Ex-Inmate Committee serves to include formerly incarcerated persons among the [stakeholders](#) to be consulted in the goal of reducing recidivism.

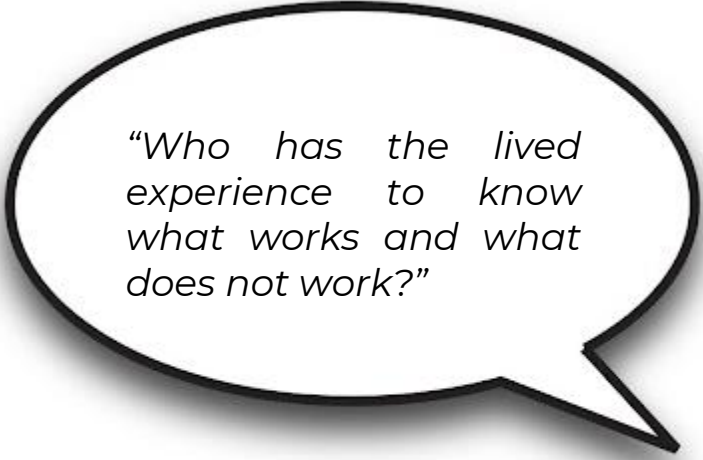
Rationale

This proposal to the Correctional Service of Canada, from their biggest partners, is submitted on behalf of federal inmates currently doing time either inside or in the community, as well as their families, support groups, and all those signed below.

Federal inmates are CSC's most significant partners. Who has the lived experience to know what works and what does not work in prison? Who has lived outside in the community on parole? Who can best connect with those who are going through similar life experiences? That's people like me, who can relate to what it's like inside and outside of a federal penitentiary.

An Ex-Inmate Committee will be able to provide positive and helpful suggestions to CSC on job training, effective programs, and community partnerships. Examples are outlined in the next section.

We are well aware of the fact that we are inmates. In one way or another we are paying back society for our wrongdoings. One wants to, I believe, do all they can while they are inside to come out a better person. This is why we have peer-based programs inside, so that we can help each other, and at times call each other out and hold each other accountable for our actions. This can also work outside of the walls by having an outside committee.



"Who has the lived experience to know what works and what does not work?"

There will be those who feel we should have no say in anything, but we need them to understand how important it is that we have positive input into how things can be improved for the benefit of inmates, staff, the taxpayer, and society.

Often it's the Inmate Committee that the population turns to in times of need. We are there 24/7. Over my years as Chairman – and more so during the several months of COVID-19 inside with very limited staff and limited movement – we were the ones, the Inmate Committee, who were always there to assist our peers. On the outside, however, no such body exists. This is a gap that an Ex-Inmate Committee can fill.

There is growing recognition of the [value of lived experience in social change](#), and growing acknowledgement of [lived experience as expertise](#). It is important to understand that genuine and meaningful change can only happen when systems are accountable to people with lived experience, and value them as fundamental partners in the process of accomplishing change.

Past Progress

Progress can be slow when it comes to protecting and advancing the human rights of incarcerated people.

Examples of past progress include our right to vote. In 2002, thanks to former inmates like [Richard Sauvé](#) and Inmate Committees, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that we do have the right to vote even while we are serving our sentences.

There was a group founded by Rick and others that was called [LifeLine](#). In partnership with CSC, these men would come into prisons, where they had spent many years, and help others, mostly lifers, work their way through the system, offering their life experience. Sadly, [their funding was cut](#) in 2012 under the Harper Conservative Government, after 20 years of proven value and effectiveness. Pre-COVID, there was only one LifeLine member left who was supported and funded by the John Howard Society of Windsor. The decision to cut the LifeLine program made no sense to us then or now. Their honest experience-based support for their fellow cons was so valuable.

Since my release in March 2021, I have seen and heard first-hand how many groups and individuals who support us do not necessarily understand what really goes on inside a federal penitentiary. Some of these groups have been around for years and that could be the main reason. Things change outside over the years, and this is also true inside the walls, even more so since March 2020 when the COVID scare started all over the world. There is nothing worse than false statements or assumptions when it comes to one's future. We the inmate population feel we should have a say in where our future is headed. If our input was heard, we may have some very positive suggestions on how to do things that will work due to our life experience.

For example, I have been invited to sit on the committee for the third study currently underway on what is commonly known as segregation or solitary confinement. CSC now refers to this as Structured Intervention Units or **Step Down Units**. After all these years, this is the first time a formerly incarcerated person has been included at the table. Who would know better than us why people end up in segregation? Who better than us to have ideas on how CSC can improve the problems of segregation?

I also wish to thank [Freeing the Human Spirit](#), a group that offers **Yoga and Meditation** in provincial and federal Institutions. They recently asked me to join them as a board member, the first time someone will sit on their board with lived experience. These are positive steps forward and a sign of progress.

PRISONER RIGHTS EARNED THROUGH PAST PROGRESS

- ✓ the right to life and security of the person
- ✓ the right to be free from cruel and unusual punishment
- ✓ the right to equality
- ✓ freedom of conscience and religion
- ✓ freedom of expression
- ✓ right to vote
- ✓ right to have a voice *inside* through an Inmate Committee

Future Progress

The formation of an Ex-Inmate Committee is a real possibility for future progress.

This section provides examples of the kinds of ideas and opportunities that an Ex-Inmate Committee could bring to the table. These suggestions come from years of experience, and from the input of many of my peers who are currently inside or outside in the community. This is just a small sample of what's possible. There are countless more opportunities for collaboration, in Kingston and other regions in Canada, which an Ex-Inmate Committee could help to identify and support.

Cost is always a factor that must be considered. We have taken this into account, the cost of our suggestions, the potential rewards, and how current and former inmates might be incentivized by ideas that originate from lived experience.

These examples include training projects with certification that could be used post-release to get a job. Research indicates that stable employment is key to staying out as a productive member of society – something we all work so hard to achieve.

Jobs and Training

Expanding job opportunities is important. There are rarely enough jobs to go around in many if not all federal penitentiaries in Canada. As of January 2022, deductions from inmate pay (room and board and phone) that were paused during COVID will resume. Since these deductions total 30% of the pay (maximum inmate pay is \$6.90 per day), each incarcerated person in Canada will feel the difference.

Equally important is the training that needs to go with these jobs to prepare so many for release. Since COVID, and even before, there have been many changes in the job market. Now more than ever, CSC needs to be aware of the importance of training inmates in areas where they can get jobs when they return to the community.

One example that pairs a CSC need with a job training opportunity is in the area of **Personal Support Workers**. In many federal penitentiaries, there is a great need related to the aging population of inmates. This creates challenges. Increasingly, senior inmates with a multitude of health problems will require the support of trained caregivers. Currently, in some institutions, younger inmates are tasked to do this work. They are not trained properly but this could be an opportunity to provide certified training that could be used both within the prison and once released to the community. This area is in high demand in every community. No one would need to go out to get the hands-on training that could be available right inside the institutions. All that would be required is an instructor and a partnership with a college that could offer a complete certificate. Surely, this is a great opportunity.

We also need to look at the **Skilled Trades**: plumbing, auto mechanic, carpentry, and welding, to name a few. Again, we do not have to look far to see that jobs in the trades are available everywhere. We could work as a team to build items inside for our partners in the community, and in turn give the inmate population an opportunity to learn trades. What I am suggesting here is to explore projects like the **Tiny Homes** in Kingston, currently under discussion to be built for the homeless. This would be a win-win for everyone. Groups behind projects like this could save thousands of dollars in wages, and inmates would have the chance to learn trades and earn vocational certifications from accredited facilities.

Garden Projects

Over the past 12 years at Joyceville Minimum, inmates have been running a **Community Garden**. This was started by inmates who wanted to have a small garden. As the years went by, the garden was expanded by inmates to create a community garden that donates all fresh vegetables to local **Food Banks** and soup kitchens.

This project was started with permission from the Warden at the time, and it continues to have permission each year. This garden project is solely supported with finance and manpower by the inmate population. CSC does not contribute financially. This year, 2021, 3,950 lbs of fresh vegetables from Joyceville went into the Kingston region to be given out for free.

Collins Bay is the site of another minimum security penitentiary in Kingston. The inmate population there has a great relationship with the Kingston Food Bank. The food bank buys all the seeds and the population looks after the rest. This year, they donated 14,000 lbs of fresh vegetables to the community. This is a great project and a win-win for so many. This program could be expanded across the country to other institutions. There continues to be a community need, and inmates are on board to make this happen.

I have seen inside how much work goes into these projects, the countless hours every summer spent in the gardens to assist the community. This past summer, now that I am back living in the community, I saw the other side of this project. I have been volunteering at food banks giving out the fresh items, for free, to the many in need in the community. I've seen how thankful people are for this food. The need is there, I have seen it, and the federal inmates in the pens are willing to help out and do the heavy lifting. Let's work as a team and expand these gardens and these opportunities.

I want to emphasize again that for these projects, CSC puts *no* funds in and the work is done by the inmate population. We are always needing to set the record straight when it comes to projects like our gardens. It's important to give credit where credit is due. I will acknowledge that it does take front line staff in each penitentiary every year to make projects like this a success. Staff make the phone calls with the community partners, for example, and this kind of help from CSC staff allows us – the inmate population – to give back. So a big thank you to them.

Greenhouses

Another example that I would like to put forward for discussion are the three unused greenhouses at Joyceville Institution.

These greenhouses were used in the past for a **Flower and Plant** project that was very successful. This happened from 2008-2013 and why it was stopped is still a mystery. The unofficial word at the time was that CSC was getting pressure from local businesses stating that this was competing with their business. It's unclear why that was the perception. I was there for several of those years, and from what I know from the guys who worked at the greenhouses, those flowers and plants were only sold to NGOs and non-profits so they could in turn make money to support their groups. This was a good operation and another way for us federal inmates to give back and help those groups in the community, who in turn assist many.

Today, these greenhouses remain unused and are now in need of repairs before they could re-open. I suggest that CSC enter into an agreement with a Kingston non-profit (or two or three) that would be able to apply for a grant to get these greenhouses back in operational form. Jobs would be created for those inside, learning valuable skills, and there is even potential to have these greenhouses go off the grid, solar powered. Upon completion of repairs, the greenhouses could then be used by CSC's new partners in the community to grow fresh vegetables in the months when it's not possible to grow them outside.



Since 2018, CSC has spent \$8.8 million on a failed [commercial farming project](#) in Kingston. Who benefited? Not the inmate population, that's for sure, or the taxpayer. The law requires that prison programs be designed specifically to [address the needs of the inmate population](#). We need to start working as a team, with CSC consulting those with lived experience, if anything is going to be a success inside or outside in the community.

Finally on this topic, I have spoken to a few of the community partners, as CSC calls them, who expressed to me that they would be on board for this greenhouse project. Many of these people are more than willing to do their share to make a project like this a success. We just need to open our minds and bring everyone to the table.

These again are just a few examples of how things can work, used to work, and should work in the future, with little to no cost from any CSC budget.

Proposed XIC Directive

The Correctional Service of Canada's Commissioner's Directives (CDs) provide the framework for all policies and rules that structure the management of institutions and delivery of programs. [Commissioner's Directive 083](#) outlines the framework for Inmate Committees. This CD 083 could be adapted to establish a framework for Ex-Inmate Committees, as follows. *(Note that this is provided as an example only; it does not constitute a binding directive.)*

POLICY OBJECTIVE

To define the roles and responsibilities of the Ex-Inmate Committee and to establish the procedures to be followed when conducting committee activities.

PRINCIPLES

To assist in the successful reintegration of ex-inmates into communities.

To establish a means for ex-inmates to provide input regarding institutional operations, thus contributing to safe and secure institutions.

To provide a voice for ex-inmates on the outside through a structured committee which can function as a consultative body and liaison between Inmate Committees, Lifers' Groups, CSC, academics, students, media, and the public.

RESPONSIBILITIES

All federal correctional institutions have an Inmate Committee making recommendations to the Institutional Head on decisions affecting the inmate population. The Ex-Inmate Committee is responsible for consulting with Inmate Committees and Lifers' Groups, supporting recommendations, acting as a liaison, and being a representative body that reflects, wherever possible, the cultural, spiritual, and ethnic needs of inmates and formerly incarcerated persons.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The composition of the Ex-Inmate Committee should be reflective of the inmate population and consist of at least three (3) members: one male representative, one female representative, and one Indigenous representative. BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Colour) and members of historically marginalized groups are strongly encouraged, as are those impacted by environmental, social, and economic injustice.

An **Advisory Body** could be formed in support of the Ex-Inmate Committee, consisting of academics, advocates, community partners, politicians, and friends and family members of people impacted by incarceration.

Members of the Ex-Inmate Committee will not benefit from any special privileges.

APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

All appointed members of the Ex-Inmate Committee will either be on parole or have completed parole, and have community support or support from their parole officer.

Members of the committee must meet the candidates' eligibility criteria below. The committee shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, education or literacy level, political belief or affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

CANDIDATES

Any formerly incarcerated person is eligible to be a candidate who:

- submits their name and position of interest;
- has been formerly incarcerated in a federal correctional institution;
- has been living outside in the community for at least three (3) months;
- is not a member or associate of a criminal organization as outlined in [CD 568-3](#);
- agrees to accept the responsibilities incumbent upon the position of a member of the Ex-Inmate Committee; and
- has demonstrated a commitment to reasonably resolve issues and facilitate solutions that will contribute to a healthier correctional system.

COMPENSATION

The positions on the Ex-Inmate Committee will normally be volunteer (unpaid), however consideration could be given to offer an honorarium to participating members, or salaries, as the committee becomes established and demonstrates its value and effectiveness.

MEETINGS

Unless precluded by extenuating circumstances, the Ex-Inmate Committee will meet in-person or virtually at least four (4) times per year.

In addition, the Ex-Inmate Committee may meet periodically with Inmate Committees and Lifers' Groups to discuss institutional programs, activities, and concerns of the inmate populations.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Minutes of each meeting will be kept and will reflect the rationale and discussion for decisions concerning each item. Minutes will be distributed as follows:

- to each Inmate Committee and Lifers' Group at federal institutions in Canada;
- to the Institutional Head of each federal institution in Canada;
- to the Chairpersons of the Citizen Advisory Committees;
- in paper format or electronic format as appropriate.

FACILITIES

The Ex-Inmate Committee does not require a physical work space for its use in conducting committee activities. Occasionally, a space may be provided by an institution to accommodate meetings or consultations, to be negotiated on an as-needed basis with the Institutional Head or Liaison.

PROJECTS

Any proposals for new projects or activities must be consistent with the objectives of this policy and CD 083 whereby their implementation will benefit inmate/institutional operations and contribute to a safe/secure institutional environment.

The proposals will be developed in a format that includes:

- the objective of the project or activity;
- a description of the project or activity;
- anticipated costs both in terms of financial and human resources; and
- timeframe for implementation.

The Ex-Inmate Committee may submit proposals for special projects or activities to Inmate Committees and/or the Liaison for consideration. Upon review of the proposal, the Liaison will make a recommendation to the Institutional Head from which a written decision will be rendered to approve or deny the proposal.

No project or activity will be initiated prior to its approval by the Institutional Head.

TELEPHONE CALLS

As outlined in CD 083, the Liaison and their delegate are normally the only persons authorized to place external telephone calls for members of Inmate Committees. All communications between the Ex-Inmate Committee and Inmate Committees will respect institutional protocols.

The majority of communications will be through lettermail.

REPORTING

The Ex-Inmate Committee may submit annual reports to the Commissioner of the Correctional Service of Canada as well as the Correctional Investigator of Canada.

The report will highlight successes over the past year, identify ideas and opportunities, outline any areas of concern, and issue recommendations for improvement. The report will also identify how new or proposed changes to activities can be achieved.

The report will be distributed in the same manner as the minutes of the Ex-Inmate Committee meetings.

Budgetary Considerations

The formation of an Ex-Inmate Committee can be accomplished with a modest budget.

Basic requirements would involve printing and mailing costs, particularly for correspondence with Inmate Committees and Lifers' Groups, and the costs of setting up a website and a toll-free number. The phone line would not be manned, it would be a VOIP line to voicemail that would be monitored by the XIC. We would be requesting that CSC put this number on all PIN cards for those people currently inside.

Many great ideas and options for funding have been put forward and are open for consideration. These include but are not limited to:

- Requesting a small donation from each Inmate Committee in Canada. As this is for the benefit of the federal inmate population, it's also in their best interest that this is a success.
- Requesting small grants from the groups that support us in the community. From what the author has already heard, this would be readily supported by our community partners.
- Setting this up under a similar model as CSC's [Citizen Advisory Committees](#) (CACs), with reimbursement of expenses.

While XIC members would at least initially participate on a volunteer basis, budgetary consideration could be given to offer an honorarium to participating members, just as CAC members receive an honorarium for the time and expertise that they bring to the table as valued CSC partners.

These ideas are long overdue and there is a need for them. In the end, it is a positive thing for those with life experience inside to have a voice around the table and be able to finally be a member of the partners and stakeholders that the Correctional Service of Canada and the Government of Canada so often speak and write about.

Support

The proposal for an Ex-Inmate Committee in Canada is supported by the following individuals and organizations.

[Confirmed]

Calvin Neufeld, Evolve Our Prison Farms
Don Campbell, Joyceville Lifers' Group
Dan Irwin, Director, Partners in Mission Food Bank
Bob Landry, Chaplain/Aumônier, Bath Institution
Rob and Sue Martin, Kingston Prison Ministry
Millhaven Lifers' Liaison Group
HARS (HIV/AIDS Regional Services)
Toronto Prisoners' Rights Project
Black Lives Matter Toronto
Prison Justice Network
Prison Transparency Project
Books 2 Prisoners Ottawa
Centre for Justice Exchange
UBC Collaborating Centre for Prison Health and Education
Dr. Dawn Moore, Professor, Law and Legal Studies, Carleton University
Dr. Nancy Van Styvendale, Associate Professor, Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta
Dr. Vicki Chartrand, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Bishop's University
Dr. Jordan House, Assistant Professor, Department of Labour Studies, Brock University
Dr. El Jones, Assistant Professor, Political and Canadian Studies, Mount Saint Vincent University
Dr. Amanda Wilson, Assistant Professor, School of Social Innovation, Saint Paul University
Dr. Amy Fitzgerald, Professor of Criminology, University of Windsor
Varun Joshi, PhD Candidate (Sociology), University of Guelph
Jeff Bradley, PhD Candidate (Legal Studies), Carleton University
Rachel Fayter, Formerly Incarcerated PhD Candidate (Criminology), University of Ottawa
Nancy Command, Prisoner Advocate
Sherri Maier, Beyond Prison Walls Canada, Prisoner Advocate
Key To Freedom Bibles, Distributed by Canadian Bible Society
Catherine Fogarty, Author and Executive Producer, Big Coat Media, Story Hunter Podcasts
Helen Forsey, Writer and Activist
Jan Slakov, Restorative Justice Volunteer
Jennifer Metcalfe, Barrister & Solicitor, Executive Director, Prisoners' Legal Services
Helen Durie, Prisoner Advocate, M.A. (Criminology), University of Ottawa
Roberta Frampton Benefiel, Prisoner Advocate
Marilyn Porter, Prisoner Advocate
Marilyn Reid, Concerned Citizen

[To be confirmed]

Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)
Catherine Latimer, John Howard Society of Canada
Emilie Coyle, Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies
Kim Pate, Independent Senators Group
Mothers Offering Mutual Support (MOMS)
Salvation Army Kingston
Canadian Civil Liberties Association
Canadian Mental Health Association
Black Legal Action Centre

*Indigenous Bar Association
Canadian Coalition for Children with Incarcerated Parents
National Association of Friendship Centres*

*Fresh Start Coalition members...
Alliance for Healthier Communities
Aboriginal Legal Services
Assaulted Women's Helpline (AWHL)
Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic
Bethesda House
Black Community Action Network Peel
Black Legal Action Centre
British Columbia Civil Liberties Association
Canadian Association of Black Lawyers
Canadian Associations of Elizabeth Fry Societies
Canadian Civil Liberties Association
Canadian Council of Muslim Women
Canadian Mental Health Association National
Canadian Mental Health Association Ontario
Canadian Prison Law Association
Cannabis Amnesty
The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
Criminal Lawyers' Association
Elizabeth Fry Toronto
The Elizabeth Fry Society of Northern Alberta
The Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan
The Elizabeth Fry Society of Kamloops
The Elizabeth Fry Society of North-Eastern Ontario
Elizabeth Fry Society of Mainland Nova Scotia
The Elizabeth Fry Society of Cape Breton
The Elizabeth Fry Society of New Brunswick
Elizabeth Fry Society of Newfoundland and Labrador
Elliot Lake Women's Group Inc.
Empowerment Council
Keep6ix
Mike Federico
Halton Community Legal Clinic
Health Justice Program
HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario
HIV Legal Aid Network
Hope 24/7
Huron Women's Shelter
Inasmuch House & Women's Services, Mission Services of Hamilton
Indigenous Bar Association
John Howard Society of Canada
John Howard Society of New Brunswick
John Howard Society of Ontario
John Howard Society of Saskatchewan
Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic
Lanark County Interval House
Luke's Place
Mothers Offering Mutual Support (MOMS)
Samantha McAleese
Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services
Neighbourhood Legal Services
Network of Women with Disabilities NOW
Niagara Community Legal Clinic
Ontario Alliance to End Homelessness
Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses (OAITH)*

Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres
Ottawa Coalition To End Violence Against Women (OCTEVAW)
PASAN
Peel Alliance to End Homelessness
Prisoners' Legal Services
Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan
Queen's Prison Law Clinic
Resolve Counselling Services
Saint John Learning Exchange
The Social Economy Through Social Inclusion Coalition (SETSI)
The Women & Children's Shelter (Barrie)
Thunder Woman Healing Lodge Society
Timmins and Area Women in Crisis
Victim Services of Durham Region
Women's Shelter Canada
YWCA Cambridge

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