

## **Bath Institution**

*Josephy Joseph / Inmate Committee Chairman*

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To provide feedback to the federal government about current problems with criminal justice laws, policies, and practices enacted during the 2006-2015 period under the previous government, as well as future directions for penal policy and practice, the Inmate Committee at Bath Institution conducted a facility-wide consultation. Below, is the feedback we received on what should change, with much of the focus on reforms to Correctional Service Canada (CSC) penitentiaries.

### **ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 1**

#### **Group Food Drives**

Group food drives have been eliminated. Group food drives enabled us to maintain community contact and raise money for organizations such as the Make a Wish Foundation. I would like to see a return to the previous policy and for CSC to allow groups to raise money through pizza and chicken sales, cultural food drives, and the like.

#### **Prisoner Purchasing**

CSC staff are no longer allowed to purchase items for prisoners through the institutional purchasing program. For example, the position of “purchasing officer” has been eliminated. With the elimination of this program the cost of purchasing has skyrocketed to way above what is reasonable. The new program has only one supplier and they charge way too much. I would like to see a return to the program of having a purchasing officer who has the authority to shop for each prisoner.

#### **Institutional Food (Cook-Chill)**

The food served on the line is no longer edible due to the new procedures such as freezing. Due to the change in food services I must now purchase extra food at the canteen, which is far from ideal as these items are not healthy. I would like to see that the government make kitchen work a job training program. This would assist with employment outside of the prison that would teach marketable skills, while providing nutritious food to prisoners.

#### **Ion Scanner**

The ion scanner is reading for *possible* contact with narcotics, which often results in the loss of visits and Private Family Visits. This puts a lot of

strain on marital relationships and also restricts elderly parents who are on medication from visiting the institution, which results in loss of family and community contact. I would like to see that the CSC use all tools available to staff. Instead of restricting the visit on the basis of a scan, a positive reading must be followed by a secondary or dog hit to justify this. I would like to see more done to promote family contact.

### **Escorted Temporary Absences**

Escorted Temporary Absences (ETAs) for family contact and personal development granted from medium-security facilities are rarely granted. This prevents prisoners from doing important things like renewing their driver's license. It also takes away an opportunity to lower their security rating and restricts them from showing progress in their correctional plan. I would like to see that medium-security institutions be directed to start approving ETAs to get prisoners out to visit family, attend NA, AA and church outside of the prison.

### **Personal Effects**

There is a \$1,500 cap on the total value of all personal cell effects (i.e. property), which also includes stored effects. This extremely limits my ability as a long-term prisoner to save clothing, music and other items. I would like to see a return to the policy of issuing the full \$1,500 dollars of valued cell effects.<sup>1</sup>

### **Group Accounts**

Religious groups like Buddhists, Pagans, Jewish, Catholics and other persons of faith are no longer allowed to form group accounts. My religious group is now falling apart because we cannot purchase specific feast foods or buy basic items for our group coffee gatherings. I would like to see that each group is allowed to create an account as was the practice in previous years.

## **ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 2**

### **Incentive Pay**

The \$2.20 per hour incentive payments that prisoners received for the productive labour that they carried out for CORCAN have been eliminated. I will no longer work for any CORCAN project. I believe this is slave labour. I would like to see a return to the former policy and that incentive pay be reinstated for honest labour.

**Additional 30 Percent Deduction for Room and Board**

There is now an additional 30 percent deduction from prisoners pay to cover the cost of “room and board”. I can no longer send money home to my family, pay for telephone calls or afford private family visits. I can also no longer afford stamps for letters to stay in touch with my family. I would like to see a return to the policy of additional room and board only being imposed if the pay surpasses \$69 in a two-week period as was the policy in the past.

**Escorted Temporary Absences**

ETAs from a medium-security prison must have two armed guards. Prisoners cannot afford to pay for the costs of an armed escort when going out on an elective ETA. As a result, they will not be granted the ETA. I would like to see a policy where they do case-by-case judgements. Not all ETAs require two armed guards, that is a ridiculous policy.

**Life Line**

The Life Line program has had all of its funding cut. This has resulted in the elimination of what were formerly trusted escorts for the purposes of Escorted Temporary Absences from the prison. We can also no longer access the counsellors that Life Line provided. I would like to see the Life Line program brought back and expanded as it was a successful program.

**ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 3****Access to Medication**

In August 2015, CSC National Headquarters ordered that the drug Gabapentin be removed from the drug formulary. This drug was used to treat non-diabetic neuropathy and other disorders. In being restricted access to this formerly prescribed medication I am in pain every day and it gets worse in the winter. I suffer from severely reduced productivity and it has hindered my legal work that I am doing to get out of prison. I would like to see that CSC eliminate and rescind the policy of restricting access to this medication, allowing doctors and specialists to prescribe medical treatment that meets the standard found in the community.

**Least Restrictive Measures**

The law stating that the CSC must use the least restrictive measures to protect society has been eliminated and reworded. The change allows security reclassifications on a whim by CSC employees. This has frustrated my attempts to get to lower security and therefore parole. I would like to see that the previous law be reinstated requiring that CSC impose the least restrictive measures required to protect society.

**Prisoner Purchasing**

CSC now forces all prisoner purchasing to be done through one supplier nationally. This policy took effect on 1 April 2016. As a result, the supplier now has a monopoly and we are given trash quality items at prices that we cannot afford. This is a rip off. For example, a pair of size 13 poor quality socks now costs \$11. I would like to see that the monopoly be eliminated, and that prisoners be allowed to resume making purchases from the local suppliers with competitive prices and good quality items.

**Prisoner Pay**

In October 2013, CSC cut incentive prisoner pay. They are also now double dipping by charging us for “room and board” when our previous pay levels already accounted for such expenditures. This policy change has made the purchase of food and vitamins unaffordable so one cannot compensate for the cuts to food quantity and quality. One can also no longer save to hire lawyers and get medical care. I would like to see that the pay cuts be reversed and that instead prisoners be given a pay increase as has been recommended by the Office of the Correctional Investigator and many others.

**Food Services (Cook-Chill)**

The food is now made at one supply factory and cook-chilled. This has further reduced the nutrient supply, quality and quantity of food. It has made most meals unidentifiable as products do not have any labelling. We do not even know what we are eating. I would like to see that CSC resume having the prison kitchen cook meals for us.

**Access to Programs**

CSC is not allowing programs to be accessed before a third of a sentence is served. They are timing access to programs to coincide with statutory release at two-thirds of our sentences, which makes parole eligibility meaningless. This makes parole at the one-third mark next to impossible and allows the parole officers to force the waiver of hearings. This is changing and worsening the sentence imposed by the judge. I would like to see that CSC schedule program completions before the earliest parole eligibility date.

**Access to Computers**

CSC has restricted computer access and eliminated most of the remaining prisoner-owned computers. This has made things such as resolving disagreements with staff on legal issues impossible. I would like to see CSC allow the use of tablets on wireless networks to allow us to do legal and other work.

**Prison Farms**

The prison farms have been closed. This has degraded our food supply quality and eliminated the valuable experience of working on the farms. I would like to see that they rebuild the farm camps, preferably, even better than before in an effort to expand available jobs.

**Second Level Grievances**

CSC has eliminated the second level of the grievance process. This has resulted in an increased delay of responses at the final level and reduced the amount of evidence produced for later use in the courts. I would like to see that an independent grievance system be installed to solve all the problems associated with CSC investigating themselves.

**Personal Cell Effects**

CSC has changed the policy on cell effects. The total value of cell effects both stored and in the cell, must not amount to greater than \$1,500. Many prisoners, and in particular, Lifers, are told that they are above the limit and have had to send out property or lose use of it in order to be allowed to make new purchases. I would like to see a return to having the cell effects limit apply to only what is being used in the cell with the ability to store items beyond the \$1,500 limit.

## ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 4

### **Gladue Principles**

Under the previous government, CSC had policies to work around *Gladue* principles in an effort to maintain the status quo for Indigenous prisoners (i.e. criteria to detain prisoners past their eligibility dates, culturally insensitive risk assessments designed to purposefully keep us incarcerated, etc.). Under the guise of public safety and fuelled by fear-mongering in the media, the previous government gave the false impression that it was adhering to the *Gladue* rule when in fact it was not. This has an impact on me and all Indigenous prisoners who have been affected by residential schools, colonialism and the 60's scoop, because CSC staff and Parole Board Canada (PBC) officials say that they have considered *Gladue* principles when in fact they have not. I would like to see that the new government review all policies that the previous government installed that had an overreaching effect that consequently engulfed Indigenous prisoners. Denunciation is not valued among Indigenous people, yet it exists in sentencing as a means to ridicule. This denunciation segment has to be removed for Indigenous people in the courts.

### **ION Scanners**

The ion scanners are not reliable. This often results in visitation being terminated. CSC needs to evaluate and implement alternative visitor screening processes that are more reliable and do not contribute to the dehumanization of prisoners' loved ones and volunteers from the community.

## ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 5

### **Parole Eligibility for Lifers**

The Conservative government changed the eligibility criteria for Lifers and 'dangerous offenders'. Under the new policy a parole hearing is only allowed every five years, which contributes to a sense of hopelessness. I would like to see that the policy be changed back to allowing parole hearings every two years.

### **Institutional Services**

Institutional Services are not issuing enough clothing for release. This has affected me because I have no effects on release and all money that I possess is needed for incidentals, not including rent. I would like to see Institutional Services issue enough proper clothing for release.

**Health Care – Medication**

Health care is both changing and denying our medications. This has resulted in pain and suffering. I would like to see health care professionals act as such, not as CSC enforcers.

**Grievance/Complaint Process**

The grievance/complaint process has changed. This has resulted in massive delays in CSC responses. I would like to see an independent process and complaint procedure. This would ensure consistency across the system.

**ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 6****Prisoner Accountability**

The way “offender accountability” is unreasonably defined conflates accountability and motivation woven within the correctional plan and assessment process. This has resulted in lower pay and negative reports.<sup>2</sup>

**Pay Deductions**

The introduction of the additional 30 percent pay deduction has reduced my ability to save for release. I would like to see that the pay deduction be rescinded and that the pay increase recommended by the Office of the Correctional Investigator over a decade ago be implemented.

**Medical Expenses**

Institutional Services is offloading medical expense onto prisoners with recent policy changes. This has resulted in a lack of access to medical supplies and made it difficult to prevent dental issues. I would like to see that CSC allow more frequent medical and dental check-ups, as well as make available the recommended medical supplies instead of forcing prisoners to order at their own cost and with increased delays in delivery.

**Purchasing**

CSC has changed the purchasing policy and we are now required to purchase items from a single supplier, which are highly over-priced. The products are of poor quality with misleading advertising and poor selection. For example, under the old policy a television that cost \$119 plus taxes. With shipping the price was \$143. The same television now costs \$243. I would like to see CSC allow other suppliers or deal with a supplier that is fair

and honest thus ending the monopoly. The government should investigate political ties to this company, if any.

**Drug Strategy**

With changes to the CSC “drug strategy” I now have a lack of contact with family because of dubious policies. I would like to see that when it comes to the enforcement of the policy of a “hit” by the dog or an ion scanner that it is only considered a possible contact rather than a reason to deny visits or access to families. Do not punish the prisoner’s family for a hit that is not substantiated by solid evidence.

**Phone Deductions**

With the policy of charging prisoners for the costs of administering the Inmate Telephone System I am now paying the costs of a phone that I may never use. There are also major delays for adding a number to a telephone list. I would like to see that the pay deductions end, along with streamlining of the approval process for adding telephone numbers to a pin list.

**Access to Computers**

With the current policy regarding access to computers I have lost mine. I need it to teach myself basic skills as I lack any experience on the Internet. I would like to see CSC allow the purchase of personal laptop computers with Internet access using the European model of restricted access to websites.<sup>3</sup>

**ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 7**

**Prisoner Pay**

With the change in pay rate, including the additional 30 percent deduction to cover the costs of room and board, I am no longer able to save any money for things I would like to buy, such as new clothing, a television, stereo or new PlayStation to pass the time, and food items when they come available. I would like to see that the 30 percent deduction be removed and that the pay upgrade be reinstated.

**Food Nights / Socials**

With the removal of food nights and socials where we used to be able to invite the warden, members of the public, military, police, lawyers, MP’s and the like, and cook them up a meal, we can no longer generate this type



of contact with the outside world. This type of contact assisted with our reintegration into society. I would like to see that this order be rescinded and that they give us back our social night.

**Parole Hearings**

With recent policy changes, “Lifers” no longer have the opportunity to see the PBC face-to-face and are sometimes forced to have a parole hearing via a television screen. For instance, I have been informed that my next parole hearing will be in front of a television screen. As such I have decided not to attend. I would like to see that that parole hearings mandatorily take place face-to-face, rather than through a TV screen as this is not humane.

**Prisoner Pay**

Prisoners’ pay has not increased with the costs of inflation. This has resulted in not having any purchasing power at the prices that vendors are currently charging. I would like to see our ability to purchase from stores that we had before with reasonable prices be restored.

**Access to Technology**

Our access to technology is very restricted. As it stands right now, games or computers are not available or are only available when grandfathered in. This makes it difficult to get games for older systems, which cost as much as current game systems. Computers in cells are not available at all. I would like to see that CSC change the policy and allow technology that is available in other jurisdictions.<sup>4</sup>

**CSC Staff Culture**

As it stands there is no accountability by CSC. Record keeping of meetings with parole officers is unfair as staff seem unaccountable for their actions and inactions. This affects us because low trust inhibits our rehabilitation and breeds resentment. There is too much emphasis on punishment and not enough on rehabilitation. I would like to see this changed.

**Job Training**

There is currently limited job training. This results in lower chances of getting a decent job after release. I would like to see more current and useable training for jobs.

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## **ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 8**

### **Life Line Program**

Life Line has been removed. Many Lifers and ‘dangerous offenders’ may need an Escorted Temporary Absence to lower ratings and move to a minimum. Formerly, Life Line would take part in these escorts. I recommend that CSC bring back this successful program.

### **Cell Effects**

With the change in personal property allowances to a \$1,500 maximum value, including stored effects, it has affected my ability to make purchases for things that I need. I came in with \$1,500 dollars in effects and I need to destroy or send out 2-3 shirts in order to buy one thing. I would like to see that CSC take into account inflation and raise cell effects to a higher level, while allowing extra seasonal-wear to be stored in personal property.

## **ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 9**

### **Room and Board**

CSC is now charging prisoners additional “room and board”. This has taken away my ability to save for release. I would like to see CSC remove this charge to promote safe prisoner reintegration.

### **Administration of the Telephone System**

CSC is now charging prisoners 8% of their pay for the costs of administering the Inmate Telephone System. I hardly use the telephone, yet CSC deducts \$132.52 per year. I only spend about \$10 to \$20 per year for phone calls. This reduces my ability to save. I would like to see CSC remove this charge and implement a per minute or percentage of phone time brought towards this cost.

### **Non-Essential Dental Services**

CSC no longer provides non-essential dental care including cleaning of teeth. We now do not get treatment unless it is an emergency. Good hygiene and regular care by a professional is recommended. I would like to see that CSC change this policy to allow for regular cleaning and assessment, which will save taxpayers money in the long-term by helping curb emergency dental treatment.

**Prisoner Purchasing**

CSC has instituted a centralized purchasing program. This has affected me because I have purchased different items of which two were defective and two were the wrong size. I was told that I could not send them back despite the guarantee in the front catalogue. I think that this is a “bait and switch” and that is illegal. If I order something it should not be substituted by the supplier unless they are willing to take it back if it is not acceptable. CSC has allowed a monopoly for prisoner purchasing and it should be changed.

**Food Services**

CSC has changed its method of providing food to prisoners. The cook-chill method of central production is not very good. Many prisoners complain of bloating after eating certain meals. As well, we believe the amount of dairy in our diets is of concern. The answer to this concern from Bath staff is that they give us powdered milk three times per day. A large percentage of prisoners will not consume this milk. They also do not put milk on their cereal and thus they do not eat cereal. Powdered milk and below standard food does not promote good eating habits. We have requested meetings with the regional dietitian. At the time of writing, it has been two months since the request and no response. Prisoners should be consulted about menus and changes to it. A full and impartial audit of the menu for prisoners should be done with changes reflecting the findings that emerge.

**ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 10****Dangerous Offender Policy –****Commissioners Directive 705-7****Security Classification and Penitentiary Placement<sup>5</sup>**

It is near impossible to ever get your file up to the Assistant Commissioner, Correctional Operations and Programs for a final decision to minimum. You have people making decisions solely on your file and much of it relies heavily on static risk factors which are calculated when you first come into the system. Static factors never change and the dynamic risk change that people like me make through programs will never lower our risk levels enough to attain a minimum-security rating so you will always be denied if your file ever makes it to the Assistant Commissioner, Correctional Operations and Programs. Some men are pushed towards volunteering to take the anti-

androgen medications whether they truly need it or not because they feel that they will never get out without doing it. Yet they are still turned down for minimum for whatever arbitrary reason the decision maker feels fits this policy. I feel that it is being used as a de facto “life means life” sentence even though I was never sentenced to life in prison. There have been revisions to the dangerous offender provisions in 2012 where judges can now declare a person a dangerous offender and give them a fixed sentence. Individuals like myself who received an indeterminate sentence back in the early 2000s and have attended more than a half-dozen parole hearings, completed all programs successfully, including maintenance programming, have no realistic avenue to get to minimum, let alone ever getting out.

I would like to see a return to the decision making powers being placed in the hands of the institutional head, the same ones who can make the decision to send a prisoner serving life for first degree murder or any other sentence to minimum. They should be qualified to do the same for prisoners serving an indeterminate sentence like myself who was not given a life sentence.

There should be specific criteria and periods outlined advising CSC parole officers and institutional heads when a person serving an indeterminate sentence should be moving along, especially when a prisoner is complying with all aspects of their correctional plan. I am coming up on 20 years incarcerated and my only hope seems to be when my static risk factors are reduced in my sixties and that is a few decades from now.

### **Parole Reviews**

One of the safeguards for someone like myself serving an indeterminate sentence, was an automatic parole review at two years to ensure that every case is being tailored to the specific needs of the prisoner for a successful re-integration back into the community and to ensure that a prisoner is not being unreasonably warehoused. I will be up for another parole hearing in summer 2017 with all programs including maintenance having been completed. Unless CSC moves me to a minimum, PBC will not consider me for parole until I have spent some time in such an environment. I have already listed two problems above that are blocking me from achieving this goal. I can apply before the five-year period, but the PBC can refuse to see me if there is no significant change in my casework, which as you can see there will not be any. Therefore, I can never satisfy any criteria to

actually obtain parole. I am in fact serving a life means life sentence, which is not what I was sentenced to. I am a first-time federal prisoner and I was incarcerated in my early twenties. These policy changes have ensured that I will likely never gain parole under these current guidelines, no matter how much programming I will have participated in.

The parole review should be reverted back to a two-year review period. PBC is the final decision maker for release and I feel that they should exercise that power. After someone like myself has been in front of the PBC several times, even in front of the same board members, two and three times, they should stop passing the responsibility back onto CSC whose current policies will never give them what they need to grant me a parole release.

#### **Access to Licensed Psychologists**

It is now harder for prisoners like myself serving an indeterminate sentence to qualify risk change after programs. The facilitators are no longer able to make risk estimates in our program reports because they no longer teach the program alongside a licensed psychologist who would supervise them when they would complete actuarial risk measurement tools such as the Stable 2007 and the static 99-R.<sup>6</sup> The facilitators do complete the actuarial measurements for your file, but they cannot legally be used. We are then sent to see a contract psychologist for risk assessments and they bring their own battery of assessment tools which they rely on and these do not include the Stable 2007 nor the Static 99-R. In their final report, they make mention that they can only assume that my risk may have gone down because I have completed the program, yet no risk estimates or Stable 2007 and the Static 99-R were used in my final program report. When I inquired into this problem, the answer that I was given was that the institution has no say in what assessment tools these contracted psychologists use. Also, actuarial measurement tools such as the VRS-SO which is a tool used specifically to measure risk changes after programming are not used, only actuarial measurement tools that measure static risk. My most recent psychological assessments are still quoting comments from my intake assessments nearly a decade and a half ago. They tell the parole officer the information (static risk) they already know and not if I can be currently managed in the community. Thus, people like myself are stuck in limbo and our parole officers have a hard time justifying moving you along.

Licensed psychologists specialised in specific program treatments should be brought back into programs to assist the facilitators in doing complete treatment assessments after program completion so that when risk assessments for transfer to minimum are done by a review of your file, the most current and up to date information is provided for decision makers.

## **ANONYMOUS BATH PRISONER 11**

### **Dangerous Offender Parole Reviews**

Several years into my sentence, the mandatory every-two-years parole review was changed to every five years after my sentencing. This retroactive change to my sentence arguably goes against the rule of law that requires that whenever a new law, legislation or policy is enacted, that it only affects those who are sentenced *after* the measure is introduced. Accordingly, this has now done away with the “grandfather clause” and is an infringement of my *Charter* rights.

During my dangerous offender hearing, it was made very clear to me and the court that I would first have to serve four years before being eligible for day parole and seven years before being eligible for full parole. After which a mandatory review for full parole would be conducted every two years, indeterminately, until such time as I have proven that I am no longer an unmanageable risk to public safety or I die therein.

With this sudden change in policy, I will now have to wait every five years for a mandatory parole review, missing two reviews in the process. This has caused an extreme amount of internal emotional stress for those designated as dangerous offenders. It further adds feelings of hopelessness to an already disheartened sentence.

Statistics have shown in the year 2015-2016, of the 565 (and counting) dangerous offenders with indeterminate sentences across Canada, only around two dozen or 4.2% are serving the remainder of their sentence in the community (PSC, 2017, p. 59). Very few of those designated as dangerous offenders cascade down to a minimum-security institution.

The dangerous offender regime gives little to no hope to the prisoner with the D.O. designation that they will ever get out as there is no statutory or warrant expiry release dates. It has essentially labelled D.O.’s as incurable, giving us little to no hope for a better future.

The remedy for this policy change should be that the dangerous prisoner regime should be revamped to include a determined period, no matter how long that may be. It should also include that the prisoner serving under the dangerous offender regime be reviewed every two years, as it was at the time of his/her sentencing and that strict long-term-supervision-orders in a supervised community setting be offered to those prisoners who display a long period of good time. This should be based upon successful programming and behaviour, allowing us to cascade down in security ratings should no new charges or misconduct arise, coupled with good institutional adjustment and genuine display of change, thus offering the dangerous offender the opportunity to return to society and their families.

### **Incentive Pay for CORCAN Employees and Cuts to Regular Pay Scheme**

Under the changes made in the pay schemes for CORCAN employees, CSC is essentially operating legalized sweatshops. CORCAN employees are paid a maximum of \$6.90 a day on A level Pay, \$6.35 a day on B level pay, \$5.80 a day on C level pay, \$5.30 for D level pay and \$2.50 a day on E level (or welfare) pay. This pay regime is also before deductions that cut at least half of that pay out. It essentially tells prisoners that it is okay to employ a worker for pittance. Furthermore, the remainder of the non-CORCAN job's also pay under the same pay schemes. Prisoners are scratching by to pay for Inmate Telephone System Phone card expenses, legal and library printing and photocopying, group dues, food drives, prisoner purchasing, canteen, and the like. It is almost impossible to send money home to our families who are in need and lacking the income provided by an imprisoned family member. Debts and reimbursements for the crimes they committed continue to go unpaid as arrears build. This leaves the prisoner to be released to greater fines, penalties and debts upon their return to the community. In the case of Lifers and D.O.'s, who are very unlikely to get out at all, it also leaves the debt completely unpaid and the persons or companies who are owed, out of the money that is due to them completely.

With a 30% cut in our pay for room and board three years ago, prisoners are forced by necessity to find other ways to make our end meet and in some cases, this causes certain prisoners to break institutional rules and protocols. A person on E level pay will net about \$12.50 every two weeks. How can one be expected to maintain their expenses on such a low pay rate?

This 30% cut in pay for room and board is currently being contested across the nation. When these pay scales were originally established over thirty years ago, room and board was already taken into account. It is unfair for CSC and by extension the Government of Canada to double dip for funds from prisoners who already have so little. Also, since the establishment of these pay scales prisoners have not had a raise in pay since the 1980s, despite the fact that inflation has raised the price of so many items that we have need to purchase.

Would it be legal for an employer to employ a person, house them in a 6 by 10-foot space that has a single bed, desk, chair, shelf, toilette and sink, basic cable TV, and make them work a fulltime work-week for the daily wages we make and the poor meals we receive? The remedy for this is to not only return our 30% back, but also a raise in pay to reflect the minimum wage of the respective province they are serving time in, in order to keep up with the rising costs of inflation.

## ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> What the author is referring to here is that the total value of all personal effects cannot exceed \$1,500. Under the old policy this \$1,500 cap applied only to personal cell effects that were issued and not those that were being stored at Admissions & Discharge. If a prisoner requested to exchange an item they could put in a request.
- <sup>2</sup> For instance, former Correctional Investigator Howard Sapers is quoted as saying: “Several other principles were muted or abandoned such as proportionality and restraint in the use of imprisonment gave way to other objectives, usually framed in terms of the “pre-eminence” of public safety. The reference to inmate “privileges” was removed from correctional law. Other long-standing principles, such as the least restrictive measure, were replaced with more ambiguous and elastic language that included “proportionate and necessary measures.” The notion of “offender accountability” became political shorthand for a series of legislative initiatives that effectively increased the severity of the sentence or the length of time spent in custody” (Office of the Correctional Investigator, 2016).
- <sup>3</sup> For Instance, according to the Learning Infrastructure for Correctional Services *Report on E-Learning in European Prisons*: “In several European countries network solutions for e-learning in prison exist – most of those how- ever not covering all regions and prisons – and in many countries at least projects and pilots in this respect have been or are carried out. While we cannot assume to know about all activities and initiatives on network based and elaborated use of e-learning in European prisons we know about respective activities in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the UK. This means that e-learning in fact is already quite spread in Europe and it is to be expected that this development will continue. In fact, there already is a “community” of e- learning



and knowledge management focusing on prison education and training in Europe” (Hammerschick, 2010).

- 4 According to the most recent report of the Office of the Correctional Investigator: “Since 2002, incoming inmates have been prohibited from bringing a personal computer into a federal penitentiary. It is increasingly challenging and expensive to repair the ever- diminishing number of personal computers still in use in federal facilities. It is difficult to see how such information-deprived environments can be considered purposeful or rehabilitative. There is simply no remaining rationale or logic behind CSC’s position on these matters. There is still not even limited and supervised access to the Internet or email for federal inmates, even as many other jurisdictions, including the Federal Bureau of Prisons in the United States, allow restricted forms of electronic communication, as well as use of tablets to promote contact with the outside world. These initiatives help inmates maintain familial and community connections while incarcerated, thereby serving larger reintegration aims” (Office of the Correctional Investigator, 2016).
- 5 Correctional Service Canada (2017) *Commissioners Directive 705-7 Security Classification and Penitentiary Placement*, Ottawa. Retrieved from <http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/acts-and-regulations/705-7-cd-eng.shtml>
- 6 According to Hanson and colleagues (2007): “The STABLE-2007 and the ACUTE-2007 are specialized tools designed to assess and track changes in risk status over time by assessing changeable “dynamic” risk factors. “Stable” dynamic risk factors are personal skill deficits, predilections, and learned behaviours that correlate with sexual recidivism but that can be changed through a process of “effortful intervention”. Should “effortful intervention” (read: treatment or supervision) take place in such a way as to reduce these risk-relevant factors there would be a concomitant reduction in the likelihood of sexual recidivism”.

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