

# Enhancing Security & Safety at Nova Scotia Correctional Facilities Highlights



Justice

## ***What has been done***

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since December 2008, 41 of the 51 Deloitte report recommendations have been implemented.</li> <li>• In January 2009, established a Justice Cross Divisional Committee comprised of representatives in Public Safety, Sheriffs and Correctional Services to develop common standards related to policy, training, equipment, and fleet vehicles.</li> <li>• Installed four ION Scanners in correctional facilities across the province, two of those at the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility (CNSCF). These scanners help to detect and prevent illegal drugs and explosives from entering our corrections facilities.</li> <li>• Developed a zero-tolerance policy against violence, where police are called each time there is an assault in any of the corrections facilities.</li> <li>• Provided additional officer-to-officer radios and batteries should they be required at CNSCF.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hired an additional 27 correctional facility staff across the province. Nineteen of these new hires work at CNSCF.</li> <li>• Designed and completed a new Sentence Calculation Manual that deals with how offender sentences are managed. Current corrections staff province-wide have been trained and training is now available on-line.</li> <li>• Purchased new personal protective equipment for interventions that includes helmets, arm, knee and shin guards for officers.</li> <li>• Revised the policy and training standards for Use-of-Force and provided enhanced officer training in Use-of-Force, Escort, and Team Intervention.</li> <li>• Defined staff duties and performance targets for corrections facility managers and officers.</li> <li>• Upgraded the Admissions and Discharge area by redesigning the corrections officers' work stations, and increasing the number of staff.</li> </ul>
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## ***What is currently underway***

## ***What is to come***

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ordering and outfitting all correctional officers across the province with new personal issue protective vests in all adult facilities, starting at CNSCF.</li> <li>• Improving corrections facility computer systems province-wide by upgrading the Admissions and Discharge system, and developing a more efficient Incident Occurrence Reporting System.</li> <li>• Developing enhanced on-line training for Officer Radio Communications.</li> <li>• Providing a designated Field Officer Trainer, dedicated to staff training initiatives in all correctional facilities.</li> <li>• Purchasing upgraded fleet vehicles.</li> <li>• Tendering for a new Electronic Officer Rounds Tour System - this is a hand-held wand device, which allows for electronically recording rounds. The device will provide information on who conducted the round and at what time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Province's Director of Correctional Services will be relocating his office to CNSCF, effective immediately, where 100 per cent of his time will be devoted to CNSCF.</li> <li>• A more vigorous camera monitoring policy will be implemented. Upgrading cameras will allow for better visual oversight in the day rooms and around cells.</li> <li>• An Electronic Officer Rounds Tour system will be implemented.</li> <li>• A provincial compliance and investigation unit will be created within Correctional Services. This unit will provide correctional facilities with support and access to expertise in this area.</li> <li>• An additional 30 part-time staff for CNSCF will be hired.</li> </ul>
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