

COVID CUSTODY

WHAT PROTOCOLS WERE PUT INTO PLACE: (in consultation with PH)

- Reducing staff and contracted personnel footprint in facilities (work from home, suspending projects, limiting/restricting access)
- Social visiting suspended
- Professional visiting is permitted with precautions in place to minimize risk
- Established COVID Committees in facilities
- Restricting the movement and placement of offenders within the facility;
- Creation of designated units'/cell areas (14-day assessment, quarantine, clean)
- Staff entering the custody facilities are assessed for symptoms, including a temperature check and must complete hand sanitization prior to continuing onto their post.
- Any other individuals entering correctional facilities or the secure perimeter are also required to follow continuous masking principles and must complete an assessment, including temperature checks, prior to being granted access to the facility.
- Screening and checklists in conjunction with Deputy Sheriffs and police services for all new admissions
- Updated medical screening for all new admissions
- Increased communication to staff and offenders about contagious disease protocols
- Access to soap and water for all offenders
- Controlled access of hand sanitizer for offenders
- Video capability for contracted physicians (GP's)
- Telephone communication set up for offenders to contact Elders and Chaplains
- Social distancing practices when able (challenging in an institutional setting) (eating in bedrooms, spacing at tables, less movement of staff between units, informational posters for offenders, individualized and or unit programming)
- Keeping "like" offender groups living together, recreation together, programmed together, work details together. Treat each unit like a family pod not to cross-interact with other family pods
- Significant emphasis placed on Extra Cleaning details, contracted cleaning services brought in to facilities fogging/spraying/deep cleaning)
- Each facility also conducts their own fogging to supplement already stringent cleaning processes
- Ongoing communication with Public Health Services, staff and other correctional facilities;
- Increased use of video court
- Addition of video visiting in all facilities to enable contact with family and friends
- Regular updates to staff, the union and offenders by Director
- Periodic verbal updates to stakeholders (E-Fry, John Howard, Ombudsman, Child Advocate, Legal Aid)

- Continuous masking protocols for staff have been implemented in all custody facilities
- Masking protocols for offenders have been implemented in all adult and youth custody facilities
- Other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) protocols have been put into place
- At times offender access to off-property activities (e.g., community participation, employment) was limited or restricted to due changes in Public Health orders
- Both localized and central continual consult with Public Health and Infection Control

PROGRAMMING IMPACT:

Programming did see some disruption in the facilities. Programming was shifted to primarily “on unit”, smaller group and more individualized.

PGCC:

- **Maintained programming for sentenced and remand inmates throughout COVID modifying their structure in order to meet and maintain PH orders.**
- maintained a structure which consists of group sizes of 5 inmates.
- C2C was expanded to more units for sentenced inmates who are unable to attend regular programming due to shorter sentences and reduced class size.
- Continued access via telephone with Elders and Chaplains
- Education is one on one sessions with assigned homework

SCC:

- **Programming at SCC was not cancelled throughout the pandemic, but limited in group sizes based on social distancing and size of program space.** Also only program rooms assigned to the area/unit have been utilized and no cross contamination with inmates from other units are allowed. Currently core programming (programs to address criminogenic needs) has continued but with a maximum of 6 in each program if the area size allows for safe distancing. All programs are confined to their unit and only inmates from the unit can participate. Similarly, with education, but limited to one to one or one to two service delivery model on unit and based on demand and classroom size.
- **C2C has continued on the units that have trained facilitators with one to one sessions.** Also C2C booklets have been distributed throughout the Centre for all inmates to use for meaningful activity during the pandemic and to seek assistance as needed from case manager.
- **Saskatoon Addiction Services** - continues to be available for Addictions work/help for inmates on your case load from Monday to Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm. **The inmates can contact Justin Monture via phone. Urban Camp Recovery Program is now up and running with Justin Monture.**
- **We currently have three Teacher Therapist (2 perm and one acting) to ensure meaningful activity has been provided to inmates who require educational services.**

PACC:

- **C2C continued as normal in units where C2C is regularly offered. C2C on unit programming made available through “Correspondence style” in non-C2C units.** In dorm areas, in-person C2C was implemented to increase availability of interventions.
- **Offender Employment Coordinator continued with on unit small group workshops,** continuing with ID processing etc.
- **Educational individualized studies** overseen by Teachers

RCC:

Core Correctional Programs

- All core programming was on hold due to COVID
- **In March 2021 started preparing a plan to start LWV, T4C, education and EEP up again with small groups and inmates from same units**
- **T4C started up again on March 29, 2021 with 6 participants from same unit – second time program has run since COVID**
- **C2C booklets distributed throughout centre; Dorms and Unit 5 continue to offer C2C**
- LWV started up again March 24, 2021 with 6 participants – third time program has run since COVID
- EEP will begin again in April 2021 and working on potential virtual delivery of the program

Education and Literacy Programs

- October 2020, classrooms returned to program space; however, in November the outbreak prevented from resuming classes
- **March 2021, small groups from one unit at a time began working with the teachers to continue their educational programming**
- Working on GED online testing pilot which will impact all the facilities

Addictions Program

- DSATU was paused again in November 2020 due to outbreak
- **Program was resumed but relocated to the dorms on March 22, 2021 with 16 participants.**
- Attempting to determine whether can provide AA virtually for DSATU in April 2021.

First Nations and Metis Programs

- cultural advisors are currently working off site and providing services/support to inmates via phone
- Access to smudging is still available through the Cultural Coordinator along with teaching materials (cultural coordinators currently working at home due to outbreak at RCC)

Chaplaincy

- chaplains are currently working off site and providing services/support to inmates via phone
- needs of inmates are being addressed through the cultural coordinator in consultation with the chaplains (e.g., crosses, bibles, prayer mats)

- In April 2021, the chaplain will be piloting an attempt to offer the STARS program virtually
 - All in person programming and services are on pause due to COVID
- Outside of Scope

WHAT DOES ANY TRANSITION PLAN LOOK LIKE?

Presently working with the facilities to review some short term slow removal of some restrictions. Priority remains to maintain safety protocols established. Areas to be addressed include: health care (already attended to), increased programming frequency, visiting, recreation, and employment and programming for reduced custody facilities.