



OCT 15 2013

October 8, 2013

Mayor Bob Bratina
Hamilton City Hall
2nd Floor, 71 Main St. W
Hamilton, Ontario
L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Bratina,

I have been made aware of your concerns about the changes to the staffing model at the Hamilton Community Correctional Centre. As you may be aware, the change will take effect on April 1, 2014 and it will implement a consistent national approach in how Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) staffs Community Correctional Centres (CCC's). While there will be the elimination of Correctional Officer positions in those CCCs which have them, it is important to note, these changes will also see the addition of part-time Reintegration Worker positions.

As discussed in previous meetings with Lori MacDonald (Regional Deputy Commissioner), Dave Pisapio (District Director) and Bill Green (Area Director), CSC employs individuals twenty-four hours a day at the CCC's to address the programming and supervision needs of offenders to ensure their safe reintegration into society. In the community, we have a team of dedicated individuals who help oversee offender's transition from a correctional facility. For example, Parole Officers supervise and manage conditionally released offenders by maintaining regular contact and assessing offender's behaviour and potential risk. Parole Officers work closely with other staff such as: psychologists, correctional program officers, mental health staff and Commissionaires. Other staff that are directly involved include Security Intelligence Officers who are situated in the community and work closely with our police partners. We also have a dedicated police presence in areas with CCCs; where there is an officer on interchange with CSC to act as a Community Corrections Liaison Officer (CCLO) and who works with staff in the supervision of residents.

As mentioned, effective April 1, 2014, CSC will be adding the position of Reintegration Worker to the CCC's. These staff will contribute to the safety and security of staff and offenders through their participation in activities to support offender's reintegration as well as other operational/security duties specific to the CCC. Reintegration Workers will work as part of the case management team in a CCC to manage the risk and needs of offenders living at a CCC by working closely with the offender and the community. Reintegration Workers, like all CSC staff, will be required to complete a range of training that is mandatory for their position. In addition, CSC will use the Corps of Commissionaires to be on site at all times to ensure that the security of the facility is maintained.

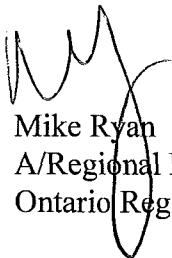
Please let me assure you that we will continue to closely monitor every resident. Although all offenders residing at a CCC have been released from a federal institution and have access to the community, their access is monitored by the requirement to sign out of the facility to attend approved destinations and to have an approved return time. In addition, scheduled contacts during absences are conducted. Failure to make contact or to return at the scheduled time is reported immediately to managers who have the authority to issue a Canada wide warrant for the offender's arrest.

All offenders residing in the CCC have standard conditions attached to their residency. In addition, the Parole Board of Canada may also impose special conditions. All staff within the CCC have the responsibility to monitor the conditions and to report any breaches or suspicions of breaches to management.

We are confident that CCC's are an effective way to provide a structured, gradual reintegration of offenders into the community and they provide a heightened degree of monitoring of behaviour and activities. The change in staffing model will not affect the operating procedures that are in place for staff and public safety.

We have already been invited by your City Council to attend the General Issues Committee (GIC) to answer questions, as well, I would be happy to meet with you to discuss the above or any other issue with respect to the Centre.

Sincerely,



Mike Ryan
A/Regional Deputy Commissioner
Ontario Region

c.c. District Director, Central Ontario District

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