

VICTIM SERVICES

Parole Board of Canada

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Correctional Service Canada

Parole Board of Canada

- Independent administrative tribunal
- Conducts risk assessments to make conditional release decisions for all offenders serving two years or more in a federal penitentiary
- Makes conditional release decisions for provincial offenders in all provinces and territories, except in Ontario and Quebec

Correctional Service Canada

- Care, custody, and control of federal inmates
- Gathers relevant information about offenders
- Provides rehabilitative programming & treatment to offenders
- Prepares offenders and their cases for various types of releases which are authorized by either CSC or PBC
- Supervises offenders on release in the community
- Provide information to victims

Shared responsibility

- Victim registration
- Victim notification
- Collecting victim statements



Building a Safe and
Resilient Canada

Victim Definition and Registration Process

Definition of a victim

ACTUAL

Victim: in respect of an offence, means an individual who has suffered physical or emotional harm, property damage or economic loss as the result of the commission of the offence.

Definition of a victim

- **Individuals may act on the victim's behalf if the victim is dead or incapable of acting on their own behalf:**
 - (a) the victim's spouse, or if the victim is dead, their spouse at the time of death;
 - (b) the individual who is or was at the time of the victim's death, cohabiting with them in a conjugal relationship, having so cohabited for a period of at least one year;
 - (c) a relative or a dependant of the victim;
 - (d) an individual who has in law or fact custody, or is responsible for the care or support, of the victim; and
 - (e) an individual who has in law or fact custody, or is responsible for the care or support, of a dependant of the victim.

Definition of a victim

RECOGNIZED VICTIMS

An individual who has **suffered physical or emotional harm, property damage or economic loss** as the result of an act of an offender whether or not the person was prosecuted or convicted for that act...

AND

A complaint was made to the police / Crown attorney, or an information was laid under the Criminal Code

Registration process

- **Written request to be sent to PBC or CSC**
 - Complete the Request for Victim Registration form
 - Forms available on PBC & CSC Internet websites
- **Victims Portal**
 - Registration can be completed via the Victims Portal
- **Representative**
 - Victims can designate a representative

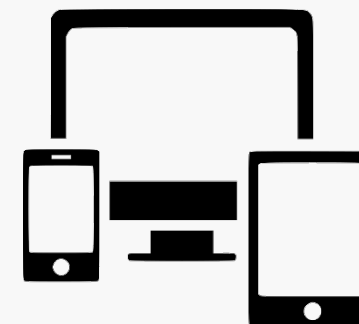


Victims Portal

Victims or representatives may connect to the Portal to receive information

Victims may:

- Change contact information and preferences
- Apply for decision registry
- Apply to observe and/or present a statement at a hearing
- Submit victim statements



The Victims Portal

A simple, secure way to send and receive information from the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) and the Parole Board of Canada (PBC).



Available to any registered victim of crime and/or their representative

Victims may:

- Receive/view information about the offender
- View/manage preferences for receiving information
- Submit a victim statement to the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) and the Parole Board of Canada (PBC)
- Request to observe a PBC hearing
- Request to present a victim statement at a PBC hearing
- Request copies of PBC decisions

Representatives may:

- Receive/view information about the offender provided on the victim's behalf
- View/manage preferences for receiving information

[Sign in to the Victims Portal](#)

Getting Started

[How to Register](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Privacy Notice](#)

Victim consultation

- Once offender submits an application to PBC, CSC completes an assessment for decision which provides a recommendation to PBC
- VSO contacts victim to gather their concerns
- Victim invited to send a victim statement



Victim statements

- Victims may provide a statement at any time
- Statements are shared between CSC and PBC
- The law requires that the PBC and CSC disclose to the offender any information received that will be considered during any decision-making process
 - Victim's personal information (addresses, phone, etc) will not be shared with offenders
- Victims can request special conditions (ex: no contact and/or geographical restriction)



Observing a Hearing

- Any victim, their representatives and supporters, media, or member of the public may request to attend
- Victims attending a hearing will be accompanied by PBC Regional Communications Officer
- Victims can present a statement at hearing (in person, audio or video)
- Financial assistance available to victims with Department of Justice Canada



Parole Hearing



Risk assessment

- Parole hearings and office reviews
- Public safety is always of primary consideration
- Decisions are made based on thorough assessment of risk
- Can risk be safely managed in the community?
- CSC case management sends an assessment and recommendation (includes correctional plan)
- Goal: help facilitate reintegration of offender into society
- PBC has authority to impose special conditions



Registry of Decisions

PURPOSE: Promote openness and accountability

- Victims, media and any member of the public can request Parole Board decisions
- Includes the decision and reasons of PBC decision
 - ETA (approved/not approved)
 - UTA
 - Day/Full Parole
 - Statutory Release
 - Detention
 - Long-Term Supervision Order
 - Appeal



Suspension / Revocation

CSC can take action if it believes that the offender is violating release conditions or may commit another crime.

It can suspend the release and return the offender directly to a penitentiary until the risk is reassessed.

If the facts warrant, CSC can cancel the suspension and return the offender to the community on conditional release. However, in some circumstances, cases can be referred to PBC for Revocation or cancellation of a suspension. The offender's eligibility dates could change depending on the outcome.

The Canadian Victims Bill of Rights

Changes for PBC:

- Formalized victims complaint process
- Upon request, audio recordings of hearing for victims who do not attend a hearing

Changes for CSC:

- Formalized victims complaint process
- Photo of the offender
- Progress report

QUESTIONS?



For more information

Parole Board of Canada

Website

canada.ca/en/parole-board.html

Email

communications-atl@pbc-clcc.gc.ca

Toll Free Number

1-866-789-4636

Correctional Service Canada

Website

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1-866-806-2275