



Media Statement & Availability

CAP Responds Correctional Investigator Update on COVID-19 in Federal Corrections

OTTAWA, February 24, 2021 - The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) and its Provincial and Territorial Organizations today responded to the federal Correctional Investigator Release of third *Status Update on COVID-19 in Federal Corrections*.

Statement of CAP National Vice-Chief Mr. Kim Beaudin:

“The Correctional Investigator’s report highlights the disproportionate and unfair impact of COVID-19 on indigenous prisoners. The public should be shocked by the statistic that Indigenous inmates accounted for close to 60% of all COVID-19 cases in Canadian prisons since November.”

“The fact that 60% of COVID-19 cases in Canadian prisons are indigenous is proof that the justice and prison systems in Canada are racist and operate on the legacy of colonialism.”

“Government must focus squarely on the need for indigenous prisoners to be released as the third wave is on the horizon. The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples supports the federal Correctional Investigator’s report on early release and alternatives to incarceration.”

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Background

The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) is the second-oldest national aboriginal organization in Canada. It was founded in 1971, one year after the AFN. CAP represents the interests of off reserve status and non-status Indians, Métis and Southern Inuit Aboriginal Peoples throughout Canada. CAP is one of five national Indigenous organizations recognized by the federal government, and holds consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.