



Department of Justice and Public Safety
Adult Custody Services

Policy: **Request for Canine Services D16**
Effective: March 2001
Revised: December 2022

MISSION STATEMENT

Adult Custody Services is committed to providing professional practices that respect human rights and ensure safety for all. To be successful we will deliver fair practices, incorporate transparent policies and procedures, ensure independent quality assurance processes, and provide program access that allows for educational, cultural, traditional, and faith-based services as well as mental wellness and community re-entry assistance.

PURPOSE

To establish procedural guidelines for the request and use of a canine unit from an outside agency within the Correctional Centre to mitigate the risks associated with contraband drug introduction.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

[Section 27 Corrections Act](#)

[Section 32\(c\) Corrections Act](#)

[Section 32 The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may make regulations. \(c\) respecting the treatment, training, employment, discipline, control, search, security, grievances, and privileges of offenders](#)

SCOPE

This policy applies to all employees of the Adult Custody Services division of the Department of Justice and Public Safety.

POLICY GUIDELINES

The Adult Custody Services Division may and can request the use of a trained and certified canine and handler to deter the smuggling of drugs within Adult Custody institutions, in accordance with provisions of the Corrections Act of New Brunswick.

PROCEDURE

General

The canine handler's operation will be coordinated with the Chief Superintendent.



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Callout

The service canine and canine handler will be called out for unscheduled assignments by only the:

- Director of Adult Custody Services; or
- Chief Superintendent, or
- designated on-call authority, or
- Superintendent(s).

Search and Training Schedule

The canine handler, in consultation with the Chief Superintendent, may develop a schedule of irregular searches.

Declining a Request to Search

The canine handler may decline a request to conduct a search, where they believe the working conditions may endanger the safety or health of the handler or of the canine. Where a search request is declined the handler will prepare a written report outlining the details for the Chief Superintendent.

Reports

Search reports are to be completed by the Sergeant whenever a regular or call-out search is conducted. Where there are actions arising from a search the Sergeant will prepare a report before leaving the Institution. A summarized report will be completed and forwarded to the Chief Superintendent.

Seized Drugs

The Correctional Officer assisting the canine handler will normally seize any drugs found. All items seized will be handled according to New Brunswick Adult Custody Services Policy D-17 Seizures.

Signage

All institutions will post a sign visible to all persons entering the facility. The sign will state that Adult Custody Services Division may employ the use of Drug Canine and anyone entering may be subject to searches.

Pre-search

The canine handler will contact the Officer-in-Charge of the designated institution to confirm arrangements and pre-search procedures.

Basic pre-search procedures will include but will not be limited to:

- minimize staff in the search area.
- assign one officer to assist the canine handler and to seize any contraband located.
- search clients in a different location than the search area.
- close cell doors; and
- turn off all televisions, radios, computers, etc. in the search area.



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RELATED POLICY

D15 Searches

D17 Seizures

Adult Institutional Policy Manual N.B