

# The Victims' Bill of Rights

## The Role of the Corrections Division

Please refer to *Understanding The Victims' Bill of Rights* for a current list of the most serious crimes to see if you are eligible for services under *The Victims' Bill of Rights*.

The meaning of the words in bold type are also explained in *Understanding The Victims' Bill of Rights*.

Manitoba Justice recognizes the need to offer information, assistance and support to victims of the most serious crimes. Crime victim services workers:

- provide information about the justice system and community resources
- advise victims of their options, rights and responsibilities

### For information

Call toll free: **1-866-4VICTIM**(1-866-484-2846)

Or go to: [www.gov.mb.ca/justice/victims/victimindex.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/justice/victims/victimindex.html)

### What is the role of the Corrections Division?

Manitoba Justice Corrections Division is responsible for supervising and managing unsentenced and **sentenced** offenders. This includes offenders who are in custody as well as those who are serving their sentences in the community.

Generally, offenders who receive sentences of two years or more go to a federal penitentiary. Those who receive less than two years go to provincial jails.

### What information may I request under *The Victims' Bill of Rights*?

#### Information from Corrections Division

Corrections Division officials must ensure you get information about any person accused or found **guilty** who is under supervision or in custody when you request it. Information can include:

- whether a pre-sentence report has been prepared and how you can comment on the report

- the name, address and telephone number of the office or agency in charge of preparing the pre-sentence report
- whether the offender is under supervision in the community and, if so, the office or agency responsible for the supervision
- any terms or **conditions** of a supervision order, including the date any conditions begin or end or the date the order itself ends
- whether the offender is in jail and, if so, where
- any important dates, including the estimated date of **release** from custody, dates of temporary absences or any other type of release
- any terms and conditions of release or unescorted temporary absence and, when released, the offender's general destination, if known

#### Notification if offenders:

- escape from custody, are unlawfully at large or are recaptured
- breach any terms or conditions of a supervision order and any action taken as a result
- die

### What can I expect to be consulted about by Corrections Division?

*The Victims' Bill of Rights* gives you the right to request and, wherever reasonably possible, to discuss, participate in, and provide opinions on certain matters affecting you. Upon your request, Corrections Division officials will:



- discuss the unescorted, temporary absence or release of an offender, as well as any terms or conditions of the temporary absence
- allow you to provide your opinion on the temporary release or absence and take into consideration your views before making a decision

### **Warning of a possible threat**

When there is reason to believe that an offender could be a threat to you or your family, Corrections Division officials will ensure you or the appropriate law enforcement agency, if you cannot be reached, are promptly notified. They will make every effort to provide any information that could be important to your safety and security.

When safety is an issue, *The Victims' Bill of Rights* gives you the right to be warned by Corrections Division officials when the offender:

- has breached the terms or completed the period of a supervision order
- has escaped from a provincial custodial facility
- is about to be released from a provincial jail

### **What can I request from Corrections Division?**

Under *The Victims' Bill of Rights*, you can request a meeting between you and the offender so you can explain the impact the offence has had on you and your family. The commissioner of Correctional Services may authorize this meeting, but before doing so:

- The commissioner or designate will look at the offender's willingness to accept responsibility for what he or she has done and the willingness to meet with you.
- The Commissioner or designate will look at the offender's record and his or her potential for rehabilitation before setting up the meeting.

### **IMPORTANT**

For Corrections Division officials to provide you with the information you need, you **must** keep your contact information up-to-date and immediately notify the appropriate community office or jail should you move or change contact information, especially when safety is a factor.

Also, be aware that any information given to you about a young person who is charged is for you only and must not be shared.