



April 5, 2019

Honourable Ralph Goodale
Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness House of Commons, Ottawa
Ontario, Canada K1A 0A6
ralph.goodale@parl.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Goodale,

Re: Bill C-83- Administrative Segregation (Solitary Confinement)

On behalf of the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) I urge you in the strongest terms to withdraw the above-mentioned Bill at the earliest possible date. It is time to produce a new model that will address more appropriately the inhumane aspects of the current system.

The recent ruling by the Ontario Court of Appeal which will take effect April 13, 2019 clearly outlines the long-term impact of more than fifteen days in solitary as cruel and unusual punishment. Canada's past practices that far exceed this are a sorry comment on what Canadians deem to be a country that values human rights.

It is encouraging to see that the number confined to solitary has significantly dropped since 2014. This is an indication that a new practice is entirely possible.

Sincerely,

Sandra Cohen-Rose, President
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The National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) has been the leading national voice of women for the past 126 years.

cc: Senator Kim Pate, Edeltraud Neal, President, Provincial Council of Women of Ontario, Grace Hollett, President, Canadian Federation of University Women