

Minister of Public Safety



Ministre de la Sécurité publique

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0P8

JAN 14 2009

JAN 07 2009

Ms. Heidi Illingworth  
Executive Director  
Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime  
100 - 141 Catherine Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1C3

Dear Ms. Illingworth:

Thank you for your correspondence of November 13, 2008, concerning the Correctional Service of Canada's (CSC) policy on disclosing the purpose of temporary absences to registered victims.

Effective immediately, CSC will disclose the purpose of all temporary absences to registered victims who have requested this information. This disclosure applies to all registered victims of all offenders, not only those considered "high profile".

Please be assured that this government is committed to addressing the concerns of victims of crime. An important aspect of my Portfolio's initiative in this area is reflected in CSC's current Transformation Agenda. As you may know, it includes action arising from a number of recommendations that respond to issues that victims have brought to our attention.

In closing, I would like to commend the work of the Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime as you assist victims in having a voice within the justice and correctional systems in Canada.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Peter Van Loan'.

The Honourable Peter Van Loan, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Public Safety