Canada – national procedures for transfer of sentenced persons Updated 04/02/2025

The information contained in this table should be updated on a yearly basis.

The Central Authority (name of the institution, address, telephone, fax and e-mail where available) responsible for the transfer of sentenced persons:	The Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness
If different from the Central Authority, the authority to which the request should be sent (name of the institution, address, telephone, fax and e-mail where available):	Correctional Service Canada Transfers Unit 340 Laurier Avenue West Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0P9 CANADA Tel: 613-947-9708 Fax: 613-952-7676 Email: internationaltransfers@csc-scc.gc.ca
If different from the Central Authority, the Authority/ies in charge of coordinating and/or implementing the physical transfer of the person concerned (name of the institutions, address, telephone, fax and e-mail where available):	Correctional Service Canada Transfers Unit 340 Laurier Avenue West Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0P9 CANADA Tel: 613-947-9708 Fax: 613-952-7676 Email: internationaltransfers@csc-scc.gc.ca
Channels of communication for the request for the transfer of sentenced persons (directly, through diplomatic channels or other):	Directly

Means of communication (e.g. by post, fax, e-mail ¹):	Post, Fax or Email
Language requirements:	English or French
Documentation required:	Listed in article 4.3 of the CoE
Continued enforcement or conversion of the sentence ² :	Continued enforcement

General rules on early release:

Transferred offenders are eligible for various types of conditional release such as temporary absences, day parole and full parole. Pursuant to section 27 of the *International Transfer of Offenders Act* if these dates are prior the date of transfer, the transfer date is deemed to be the eligibility date. Also, according to section 28 of the *International Transfer of Offenders Act*, the Parole Board of Canada is not required to review the case of an offender until six months after the transfer.

However, eligibility does not mean automatic release; it means the date on which an inmate has completed serving the portion of the term of imprisonment required to be served by that inmate before temporary absence, day parole, or full parole may be granted or authorised.

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ Please indicate if encryption or electronic signature is required.

² In case the sentence is converted, please specify whether this is done before or after the transfer has taken place.

Canadian law requires that federal offenders who have served two-thirds of a fixed-length sentence be released from prison under supervision at that point (subject to certain exceptions). This is called "statutory release".

Statutory release is designed to assist federal inmates in making the transition to law-abiding behaviour upon their return into the community in the latter portion of their sentence.

Statutory Release is also intended to provide to offenders on statutory release the same degree of control and assistance as to those released on parole.

Where a Canadian offender transferred to Canada is detained in a penitentiary, section 26 of the *International Transfer of Offenders Act* provides for the offender to be released on statutory release on the day on which the offender has served, commencing on the day of their transfer, two thirds of the period determined in accordance with subsection 22(2) – typically this corresponds to two-thirds of the time remaining to be served on the sentence after the transfer of the offender.

Scope of application with regard to transfer of mentally disordered persons:

Section 32 of the *International Transfer of Offenders Act* allows for a request of a person in respect of whom a verdict of unfit to stand trial or not criminally responsible on account of mental disorder was rendered to apply via an administrative arrangement.

Scope of application with regard to nationals and/or residents:

The International Transfer of Offenders program applies to Canadian citizens incarcerated abroad who seek to serve the remainder of their sentence in Canada, as well as to foreign nationals incarcerated in Canada who wish to serve their sentence in their country of citizenship. Section 2 of the *International Transfer of Offenders Act* defines the criteria for an individual to be considered a "Canadian offender" or "foreign offender", which is required when assessing eligibility for transfer.

Other particularly relevant information (such as practice

The Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness is responsible for the administration of the *International Transfer of*

regarding time limits or revocation of consent):	Offenders Act and the sole decision maker. The minister has no legislated timeframe to render a decision.	
Links to national legislation, national guides on procedure:	http://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/I-20.6/index.html http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/international-transfers/index-eng.shtml	
Link to information about the Convention (according to Article 4) in the official language(s) of the State Party (see also Rec. R (84) 11 of the Committee of Ministers concerning information about ETS°112 and PC-OC INF 12):	CSC Policy on international transfers (CD 704) Commissioner's directive 704: International transfers - Canada.ca CSC Policy on Immediate Needs and Admission Interviews (CD 705-3) Commissioner's directive 705-3: Immediate Needs Identification and Admission Interviews - Canada.ca Information for the International Transfer of Offenders program http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/international-transfers/004001-2000-eng.shtml	
For Parties to the Additional Protocol		
Information on the implementation of Article 2 (e.g. interpretation of "by fleeing to"):		
Information on the implementation of Article 3 (e.g. interpretation of the requirement of a consequential link between the decision on expulsion and the sentence):		

Documentation required:	
Other relevant information:	