



Department of Justice and Public Safety
Adult Custody Services

Policy: **Chaplaincy/Elder services F4**
Effective: April 2005
Revised: January 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 ensure approved religious services are made accessible to clients without violating the religious tradition of the individual.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

[Charter of Rights and Freedom - Religion](#)

[Human Rights Act of NB](#)

SCOPE

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

POLICY GUIDELINES

The Canadian *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* guarantees everyone the fundamental freedom of conscience and religion.

The New Brunswick *Human Rights Act* states:

“No professional association or business or trade association shall exclude any person from full membership or expel or suspend or otherwise discriminate against any of its members because of race, colour, religion, national origin, ancestry, place of origin, age, physical disability, mental disability, marital status, sexual orientation or gender”.

PROCEDURE

Superintendent responsibility

Superintendents are responsible for provision of chaplaincy/elder services.

Chaplains’/elders’ role

The chaplains’/elders’ role is to provide for pastoral services and counselling directed toward developing and nurturing positive values in clients. (Sentenced and remanded persons).

Voluntary services



Department of Justice and Public Safety
Adult Custody Services

Services will usually be provided on a voluntary basis using community churches/elders as a resource.

Honorarium

Arrangements will be made through the Director of Adult Custody Services to hire and pay honorarium to person (s) designated as institutional chaplain/elder. Institutional population will dictate the number of chaplains/elders.

Confidentiality

With the exceptions of breaches of security, the chaplains'/elders' right to hear confidences is recognized. Chaplains/Elders are to advise clients confidentiality may not be maintained on issues that are of a serious security nature.

Security clearance

Visiting religious groups are subject to security clearances and practices.

Visiting hours

Visits will be at reasonable hours and special visits may be authorized in cases of illness or for humanitarian reasons.

Religious freedom

All clients will be afforded religious freedom, provided such freedom does not interfere with the good order and internal management of the institution. This includes attending religious services held at the institution.

Staff

Staff will co-operate with the chaplain/elder and support/encourage client involvement in the programs provided.

Faith respected

No attempt will be made to convert a client from one faith to another.

Voluntary Attendance

Client attendance at religious services is voluntary.

Special meals

Clients are permitted to follow unique direction of their faith. Consideration will be given to special meals as appropriate.

Religious observance

Clients-will not be assigned non-essential work on a recognized day of observance for their faith.

Segregated offenders

Segregated Clients may receive religious visitors, provided that such a visit does not disrupt the good order and internal management of the institution

RELATED POLICY

D27 Segregation
E11 Correspondence
F5 Native Spirituality
F7 Volunteer Services
Adult Institutional Policy Manual N.B