

Prison Justice Network *newsletter* Summer 2020

unceded Kwantlen, Katzie, and Semiahmoo lands (Surrey, BC)



(with thanks to PASAN for permission to use its and Red Dress Productions' image, above)

INSIDE: resources, calls to action, news, inspiration, and publications by, for, & with prisoners/detainees!

Prison Justice Day Memorial Aug 10 (6-8pm) Trout Lake, Vancouver (Claire Culhane memorial bench) <https://facebook.com/events/750663738837338>



Coming Together Vancouver

Connecting neighbours looking for help to those offering help during the COVID-19 pandemic

<https://comingtogethervancouver.org>

COVID 19 TV Donations

“L.I.N.C. (Long-term Inmates Now in the Community) Society periodically sends televisions to people inside several of the federal prisons in the Fraser Valley.” Options for Donating:

<https://my.charitableimpact.com/charities/l-i-n-c-longterm-inmates-now-in-the-community> or “if you prefer to purchase the TV’s yourself, please note that people in prison are authorized to receive nothing larger than a 19" television.”

<https://lincsociety.bc.ca>

(604) 821-1015

There’s a **phone number for people incarcerated in Alouette to call** (collect calls accepted) about coronavirus/covid19—if you have a direct line to communicating with someone in Alouette please contact Spartacus Books, 3378 Findlay Street, xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh), Vancouver, BC V5N 4E7, (604) 688-6138, info@spartacusbooks.net

Downtown Eastside Response #WeLookOutForEachOther

“mobilizing funds and resources for community frontline groups in order to assist with supporting their workers and peers, while also facilitating the building of a collaborative network to share information, resources, and be of mutual support.” inquiries by mail: c/o Unit 310 – 183 East Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC V6A OE5 wecare@dtesresponse.ca <https://dtesresponse.ca>

Stark Raven show “first Monday of each month” **Aug 3, Sept 7, Oct 5** (7-8pm)

Co-op Radio 100.5FM <http://coopradio.org> Starchoice #845

“we cover: prison conditions, detention & the war on terror, alternatives to prison, psychiatric survivor movements, criminalization of migration & poverty, privatization, security certificates, government policy, political prisoners, policing, the death penalty, the personal & political impacts of incarceration, prisoner’s writings.” <http://prisonjustice.ca/stark-raven>

Table Of Contents

calls

Sign ‘Contain Covid-19, Not People’, 3
Defund the Vancouver Police, 3
End policing in Vancouver schools, 3
Ban police use of facial recognition, 3
Demand status now for migrants, 3
Denounce tracking on migrants, 4
Support people in Kashmir, 4

news

Death at Mission from covid-19, 4
Lawsuit from Mission against CSC, 4
Lawsuit from Joliette against CSC, 4
Petition for Collins Bay release, 4
Prison Is A Death Sentence, 5
Migrant farmworkers in BC, 5
Hunger strike “super jail”, 5
Hunger strike ODCD in ON, 6
US prisoners and COVID-19, 6
Hunger Strike at NWDC in WA, 6
AZ detainees file lawsuit, 6
Detainees against racism, 7
WA farmworkers win strikes, 7

inspiration

Noise demos at prisons, 8
Solidarity at Bordeaux, 9
Memorial at Bordeaux, 10
Decriminalize Seattle, 12
Maplehurst hunger strike, 12

publications

P4W Memorial and art, 12
Can't Police Pandemic, 13
Webinar videos, 14-16
Never Go Back to Normal, 17
Pandemic and prison in WA, 18
Defund police in “Canada”, 18-19
Support accountability for harm, 19
Uprising for Black Lives, 20
Ruth Wilson Gilmore, 20
Solutions are with us, 21
Black political prisoners in US, 21
Fire This Time, 22
Storming migrant detention, 22
Border militarization, 22
Black Lives Matter in prison, 23-24

Sign “Contain Covid-19, Not People” open letter by the Canadian Students for Sensible Drug Policy and join over 66 groups (including the Prison Justice Network) and 1,044 individuals “calling for the release of certain categories of prisoners, including vulnerable prisoners and people in pre-trial detention, and for better sanitary measures and testing.”

change.org/p/give-ontario-prisoners-access-to-free-phone-calls/u/25992231

“Contact the city officials/councillors to demand that the City of Vancouver **defund the VPD [Vancouver Police Department]** and redirect funds to helpful initiatives” <https://instagram.com/defundvpd> blacklivesmattervan@gmail.com
<https://blacklivesmattervancouver.com/vancouver-dismantle-systems-of-violence>

“The city of Vancouver spends just over 38% of taxpayer dollars on funding the police. That’s a cost of just under \$340 million. This is more than the tax dollars spent on public transportation, the library, parks and recreation, and transportation/road maintenance combined” <https://defundthepolice.org/canada>

Sign to ban police street checks in BC <https://act.bccla.org/banstreetchecks>

Sign “Police Free Schools are Safer Schools: The end of policing in Vancouver schools” for “the immediate end to School Liaison Officer Programs” and “to create community-led programs that take a restorative and trauma-informed approach to creating safety and well-being for all students.”

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdw7TzWwIzUCAdBTAewwwckxjwuYOb9uwUeFyFZv14_vRAOBg/viewform?fbzx=-8967389605019866402

ਪ੍ਰਿੰ ਲਸ ਰਿਹਤ ਸਕੂਲ, ਸੁਰੱਖਿਅਤ ਸਕੂਲ ਹਨ <https://forms.gle/mhS6KGUcfqv29ch66>

Les écoles sans police sont les écoles plus sécuritaires <https://forms.gle/pxXW3aJCgDoALcvN9>

Escuelas Libres de Policía son Escuelas más Seguras <https://forms.gle/3FaNdYnTvAt34ReX8>

無警察的校園是更安全的校園 <https://forms.gle/9wemkbtpr1V3kVW77>

Sign petition to **ban the police use of facial recognition** technology in Canada
<https://action.openmedia.org/page/63295/petition/1>

Demand a wage boost and full permanent resident status now for migrant workers Sample tweet: @justintrudeau @cquatro @marcomendicino

@Mclaudebibeau Stop discriminating against #migrant workers! Why no essential pay or wage boost for #migrants? #statusnow **Justicia for Migrant Workers**

<https://harvestingfreedom.org> 223-720 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, ON M5S 2T9

harvestingfreedomcampaign@gmail.com <https://migrantrights.ca/covid19>

Denounce tracking bracelets on migrants: Act Now in Solidarity #FreeThemAll
“Under cover of the pandemic, the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) in Québec is now forcing migrants to accept electronic tracking bracelets as a condition of their release from detention.” “...the only alternative to detention is NO detention, and real freedom is the one that is followed by #statusforall.”

<https://solidarityacrossborders.org> 514 809-0773 solidaritesansfrontieres@gmail.com

Sign to urge PM Trudeau **to bring Abdulrahman home** <https://bringabdulhome.ca>

Sign petition and send letter to Canadian government in support of people in Kashmir, including **that India “ends preemptive imprisonment and free all political prisoners”** <https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Sign/e-2607>

<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/canadian-government-urged-to-hold-india-accountable-in-regard-to-grave-situation-in-occupied-kashmir>

NEWS

A coalition of **38 human rights groups in BC**, including the BC Civil Liberties Association, Joint Effort, and the BC Union of Indian Chiefs, are **calling for a coroner’s inquest into the death of the prisoner at Mission from covid-19.**

<https://bccla.org/news/2020/04/thirty-eight-rights-groups-call-on-bcs-chief-coroner-to-direct-immediate-public-inquest-into-death-in-corrections-custody>

“A **prisoner at Mission, Todd Howley, has launched a class action lawsuit** against the CSC [Correctional Service of Canada] on behalf of all prisoners at Mission Institution. The suit challenges the lackluster safety measures implemented in the prison, including lack of testing, as well as the isolation of all prisoners to their cells for all but 20 minutes a day” <https://noprisons.ca/federal>

“A **prisoner at Joliette, Joëlle Beaulieu, has launched a class action lawsuit** against the CSC [Correctional Service of Canada] on behalf of all federal prisoners detained in Quebec since March 13, the day the Quebec government declared a state of emergency. Ms. Beaulieu, an Ojibwe woman, was the first prisoner to contract COVID-19 at Joliette and was allegedly denied safe conditions and proper health care before and after developing symptoms.” noprisons.ca/federal

Two dozen **prisoners at Collins Bay (ON) petitioned for conditional release** of some prisoners to the federal government. <https://noprisons.ca/federal>

Prison Is A Death Sentence events (May 14)

“As COVID-19 wreaks havoc inside prisons across Canada, prison justice activists across the country launched two city-wide solidarity actions in Toronto and Ottawa, denouncing the tragic and preventable COVID-19 related deaths in Canadian prisons. “A car caravan of activists ended a funeral procession in front of [federal Minister of Public Safety] Bill Blair’s constituency office in Toronto. In Ottawa, activists began the funeral procession at the Rideau Hall grounds and ended near the site where the Prime Minister delivers his daily press briefings.”

Krisna Saravanamuttu <https://springmag.ca/prison-is-a-death-sentence>

Migrant farmworkers in BC won provincial government support for food and housing during quarantine after organizing against unlivable conditions publicized by a covid-19 outbreak in late March at Bylands Nurseries in West Kelowna, where 85 percent of workers are migrants. Most migrant farmworkers in BC (8,300 out of 10,000) did not travel here this year.

Across Canada, “Employers are using COVID-19 to lock migrant workers up, refusing to let them leave even to get groceries or send remittances home, while threatening them - specifically Black men - with increased policing. This is racism and it is anti-Black racism,” says Kit Andres, an MWAC [Migrant Workers' Alliance for Change] organizer... “Workers know that what they are facing is wrong, and they **need permanent resident status** so they can assert their rights.”

thetyee.ca/News/2020/06/09/Migrant-Workers-Demand-Permanent-Residency

See also <https://migrantworkersalliance.org/unheededwarnings> and <https://thetyee.ca/News/2020/06/08/Overseas-Filipinos-Essential-Work>

On June 15, about 100 people began a **hunger strike in provincial “super jail” in Lindsay, Ontario** that involved people in five wings. The striking prisoners’ lawyer, Kim Schofield, publicized their demands: drinkable and free water, clean clothing, more phone access, better and more affordable food including accommodation of religious diets and allergies, more choices for better hygiene products, access to videoconferencing with family, to receive books from outside, copies of the *Criminal Code* and the jail’s policy book, additional programs, access to the gym, more jackets for winter, more access to TV, and monthly cleaning of air filters.

The **Toronto Prisoners' Rights Project** also reported about “the preventable and untimely death of Jordan Sheard in custody” on June 1 there.

Muriel Draaisma, Ieva Lucs, Angelina King, and Shanifa Nasser <http://cbc.ca/news>

Greg Davis <https://globalnews.ca/news/7072802/lindsay-inmates-hungver-strike>

The **hunger strike at the Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre (OCDC)** by people imprisoned in its 3B maximum unit ended June 4 after winning several “key concessions” from provincial authorities regarding food, canteen, and reading materials and TV. They continue to struggle for further improvements.

“Prisoners from all areas of the jail, including the women’s side, expressed their support for *all* the demands made by the 3B hunger strikers, most of whom are racialized men that have experienced racism and other forms of discrimination”.

Indigenous prisoners also stated their solidarity with the strikers and support for their demands - and publicized their own concerns about “specific barriers within and outside these walls” including access to traditional and sacred medicines, indoor space for smudging, and culturally specific diets.

tpcp-canada.blogspot.com/2020/06/update-hunger-strike-ends-at-ocdc.html

98% of US federal prisoners remain inside after promises of release due to covid-19, the government “made it harder for an inmate to qualify as minimum risk.”

Ian MacDougall *propublica.org* **Solitary (torture) went up 500%** *solitarywatch.org*
US prisoners are 300% more likely to die from covid19 than people ‘outside’.

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2768249>

“The [US] Federal **Bureau of Prisons [BOP]** is under **national lockdown** [since June 1] for the first time in almost 25 years due to widespread protests following the death of George Floyd, an unarmed black man killed by Minneapolis police on May 25.” Courtney Bubl  govexec.com

Hunger Strike at NorthWest Detention Centre “The hunger strike, at least the fourth of its kind in just the last two months, begins [June 2] as news has spread inside the facility of at least one publicly disclosed case of COVID 19 in the NWDC by a person transferred by ICE [Immigration Control and Enforcement] from another detention center located in Florence, AZ, to the NWDC [in Washington].”

La Resistencia <http://laresistencianw.org> resistenciasolidarity@gmail.com

Migrant detainees in Florence, Arizona filed a lawsuit to change their “life or death situation” of unsanitary conditions and forced labour under punishment of verbal threats and solitary confinement. “as of June 7, 78 detainees have tested positive [for covid-19] at La Palma.” Jacob Soboroff, Julia Ainsley nbcnews.com

Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project <https://firrp.org>

P.O. Box 654, Florence, AZ 85132 USA, (520) 868-0191

Detainees in Bakersfield, California hunger strike against racist state violence

“ ‘We, the detained people of dormitories A, B, and C at Mesa Verde ICE Detention Facility, are protesting and on hunger strike in solidarity with the detained people at Otay Mesa Detention Center. We begin our protest in memory of our comrades George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Oscar Grant, and Tony McDade. Almost all of us have also suffered through our country's corrupt and racist criminal justice system before being pushed into the hands of ICE’ [...]. The mass protests against police violence had officially reached ICE detention.”

“Earlier that month, Donovan Grant, a Jamaican immigrant, had helped lead the men in Mesa Verde on a hunger strike to protest their conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Grant had been paroled, but those remaining in the Southern California detention center began to discuss the possibility of another hunger strike—and not only to protest their own treatment during the pandemic. They wanted to be part of the **struggle for Black lives**. As they talked, the men agreed that even though they were in detention, they needed to stand in solidarity with those protesting around the U.S., and around the world.”

Jack Herrera <https://www.ourprism.org/1952428>

See also https://democracynow.org/2020/7/7/otay_mesa_covid_outbreak



Farmworkers won strikes in Washington

state this May against low pay and unhealthy working conditions during the pandemic.

The workers, organizing with Familias Unidas por la Justicia (Families United for Justice), went on strike at seven apple packing sheds, including one where 36 workers tested positive for the novel coronavirus.

photo: Xolotl Edgar Franx

Meanwhile, like in Canada, the US government restricts legal immigration while it increases the number of work visas through which migrants “are completely dependent on the individual employers who sponsor them. If they lose their job—if they’re fired for complaining about working conditions or become too sick to work—they can be forced to leave the country immediately. Terrified of losing the chance to support their families, they’re unlikely to speak up about abuses.”

Madeline Leung Coleman <https://theappeal.org>

Familias Unidas por la Justicia <http://familiasunidasjusticia.org>

PO Box 1206, Burlington, WA 98233 fuj@qwestoffice.net

David Bacon labornotes.org/2020/06/apple-shed-strikes-win-recognition-fight-goes

INSPIRATION

People “concerned about the health, safety, and dignity of prisoners” caravanned by car and **made noise outside Lower Mainland prisons on Sundays** this spring.

“Outbreaks of COVID-19 across federal prisons show fatal flaws within the Correctional Service of Canada [CSC] ... As someone whose loved one is currently held inside a federal prison, I have firsthand knowledge of how CSC has not addressed the crisis. So many people inside are needlessly suffering without any means of holding the prison system accountable.” - Michelle Thompson, advocate



photo - <https://twitter.com/mmeenaakshii>

Solidarity caravans visited the following prisons: Surrey Pre-Trial provincial remand (Kwantlen, Katzie & Semiahmoo/Surrey), Mission federal (Stó:lō and Kwantlen/Mission), Fraser Regional and Alouette provincial (Katzie and Kwantlen/Maple Ridge), Kent and Mountain federal (Stó:lō/Aggasiz), Burnaby youth detention provincial (Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Stó:lō, Kwantlen, and Tsawwassen/Burnaby), North Fraser Pre-Trial (Katzie and Kwikwetlem/Port Coquitlam), Matsqui, Fraser Valley, and Pacific federal (Matsqui and Sumas/Abbotsford), and the federal Immigration Detention Centre (Semiahmoo, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Qayqayt, and Tsawwassen/Surrey).

Vancouver Prison Justice Groups

<https://fb.me/prisonjusticevan>
PO Box 78005, 1755 East Broadway
Vancouver, BC V5N 5W1

Anti-Carceral Group

<https://noprisons.ca>
anticarceralgroup@riseup.net

Critical Criminology

<https://twitter.com/critcrim>
Prof. Jeff Shantz, Criminology Dept.
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
12666 72 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3W 2M8
radicalcrim@riseup.net

Around **100 supporters of people in Bordeaux prison in Montreal** gathered there June 13 chanting “solidarity” loud enough people ‘inside’ joined in too.

The noise demo, organized by the Anti-Carceral Group called attention to systemic racism and the prison authority’s inaction about the covid-19 pandemic, which led to the death of a 72-year-old prisoner in May after the only assistance provided was isolation.



photo: Caroline Marsh

A family member of people incarcerated in Bordeaux and Donnacona prisons let people know what her loved ones reported: “Unless you are on your deathbed, you won’t get any medical attention” at Bordeaux and “there’s no hand sanitizer or cleaning products available to the inmates” at Donnacona.

“Systemic racism is something that they use to break us down everyday to make us afraid to talk. It makes Black and Brown people scared to even support each other. Systemic racism is real. And we’re here today to **break down the system. Take it, squash it, and rebuild it,**” said co-organizer Kiyha Schrouder.

Mzwandile Poncana <https://thelinknewspaper.ca/article/anti-carceral-group-organizes-noise-demonstration-outside-bordeaux-prison>

Anti-Carceral Group <https://noprisons.ca> anticarceralgroup@riseup.net

Montrealers' create memorial for deceased prisoner, call for action

24 May, Montreal – At 2pm today, a caravan of over 30 vehicles visited the Bordeaux jail in Montreal, creating a memorial for the deceased prisoner, Robert Langevin, and calling for immediate and significant actions to keep prisoners and communities safe. The memorial included a message from Mr. Langevin's sisters, while the vehicles, decorated with slogans such as 'Prisons Kill' and 'Free All Prisoners,' honked their horns, made noise, and held banners in solidarity with those inside.

"Robert Langevin, a 72 year-old prisoner at Bordeaux, died of COVID-19 on the night of May 19 to 20. Deeply ill, Mr. Langevin had repeatedly asked for help from prison staff and filed a complaint with the provincial ombudsperson on March 27th. His sisters, Therèse and Pierette Langevin, sent a message to the participants, which was written on posters and attached to the fence surrounding the Bordeaux prison.

" 'Dear Robert,' the message said, 'It's with a heavy heart that we say to you: goodbye my brother, you were always a fighter, always there for the world. Today, it's the world that is there for you. They heard you cry. They want to tell you they're there for you and to denounce the present injustice across the prison walls. You aren't alone. We're here. We love you.'

"While honoring Mr. Langevin, the participants also called on the Quebec government to take immediate and significant steps to keep prisoners and communities safe. Jean-Louis Nguyen was one of five participants who have loved ones in Bordeaux. 'At the same time that we honour the life of Mr. Langevin, we are here to remind the public that there are still prisoners in difficulty, isolated, sick, without health care and cut off from their family,' said Nguyen. 'We need at all costs to prevent another tragedy like the one that took away Mr. Langevin.'

"Ted Rutland, a member of the Anti-Carceral Group, said the Quebec Ministry of Public Security needs to **release prisoners** to enable social distancing. 'Quebec's major response to the COVID-19 crisis in its prisons has been to lock prisoners in their cells 24 hours a day. There are prisoners at Bordeaux who have been locked in their cells for 30 days now, with little contact with the outside. This is literally torture,' said Rutland."

<https://noprison.ca/voices/may24>

Anti-Carceral Group <https://noprison.ca> anticarceralgroup@riseup.net

See also Jon Milton <https://briarpatchmagazine.com/articles/view/covid-19-is-raging-through-quebec-prisons>

Defund & Abolish: Digital Direct Action (June 14) with Rajean Hoilett of Toronto Prisoners' Rights Project <https://youtube.com/watch?v=TXckQmgYK-s>
“We went from nine people to **56 people in our core** work organizing unit.”

“This society that we live in isn't organized in a way that allows everybody to be taking care of everybody to be safe. ...with an incredible amount of people being lost in our communities, we have an opportunity to envision something different and to do something different. Our **call for prison abolition** went from something that was on the fringe to an article that went out in *Cosmopolitan* the other day.

“Some folks on our steering committee right now do **active in-reach**, already as part of where they're working, and so some folks go to prisons, some run information hotlines, so people can call them... We have great relationships with most of the folks here in Ontario. ...There's a lot more advocacy and organization that happens on the part of incarcerated people. In a lot of those institutions, they have unions, they have things set up, committees set up and so we try to do our best to be able to **communicate** and take all of our direction from folks on the inside. We're starting to think about some ways to bring the voices that we're hearing to the community ... we hear directly from folks on the inside, we record it, and then we play it out for people the next day...

“We had some **success at OCDC** - the Ottawa Carleton Detention Centre, they had started a hunger strike in response to the awful food conditions that folks are receiving. They just changed the food in all the provincial institutions. And literally the next day, after we did our broadcast, they won most of their big wins for their hunger strike - so that is an incredibly powerful tactic that we're hopefully going to continue – that we will continue. And then we have also just recently learned that there's a lot of cool opportunities to bring people directly into our conversations ... to **organize with folks directly**. And then most of the people - a lot of the people in our organization - are former prisoners, so they have **relationships on the inside**, or have family members on the inside, so we lean on a lot of different things. It **requires a lot of creativity** because of the nature of censorship and secrecy, and intimidation...”

Toronto Prisoners' Rights Project

<https://torontoprisonersrightsproject.org>
1265 Military Trail
Scarborough, ON M1C 1A5
torontoprisonersrights@gmail.com

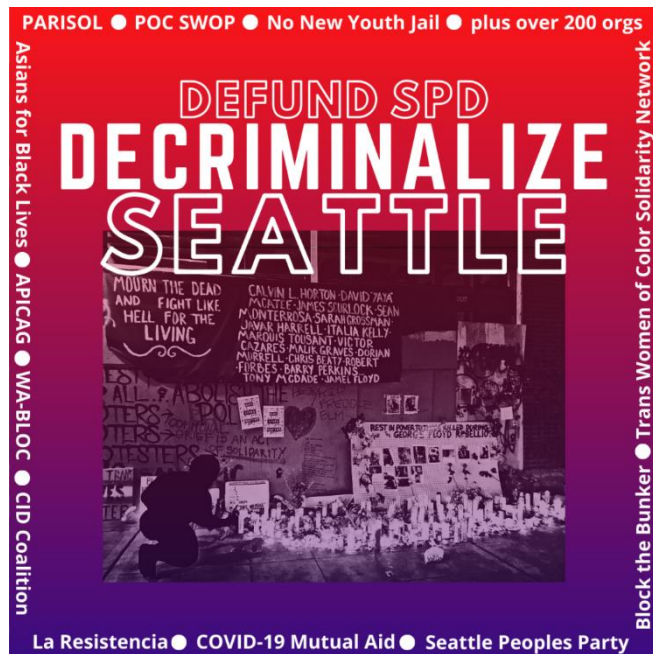
Friends of Chinatown Toronto

<https://fb.me/friendsofchinatownTO>
friendsofchinatownto@gmail.com

Tea Base

<https://myteabase.com>
C15-222 Spadina, Toronto, ON M5T 3B3
info@myteabase.com

“We the prisoners of **Maplehurst** [Milton] are legally innocent, yet we have been constantly locked down for 6 days [...]. This is unacceptable and unjust. There is a heat wave going on [...]. Prisoners will remain in a peaceful protest until our issues are addressed by Ministry officials. Currently we are subject to arbitrary lockdowns, inadequate food portions, dirty clothes, poor ventilation, no cleaning supplies, an inadequate number of phones, and outdated canteen options. We are currently refusing meals and conducting peaceful protests, and will remain on this **hunger strike** until we see results.” (July 8) <https://tpcp-canada.blogspot.com>



“In Washington state, a veto-proof majority of the Seattle City Council has backed a proposal to slash the Seattle Police Department’s budget by 50%.” <https://democracynow.org>

“Hundreds of organizations and over 35,000 individuals have signed on to these **#DefundSPD** demands! These demands are inspired by the work of Movement for Black Lives and Reclaim the Block and rooted in years of work opposing police and prisons in this region.” <https://decriminalizeseattle.com>

PUBLICATIONS

Syphon 5.0: Incarceration www.modernfuel.org/files/Syphon%205.0_digital.pdf

“Artist projects by Peter Collins, Tings Chak, Sheena Hoszko, Radiodress, writing by Lisa Guenther, Natasha Stirrett, poem and text by Jimmy & Donny Hogan, interviews with P4W Healing Circle participants Molly Goddard & Ann Hansen by Sara Wylie and with Amina Mohamed by Cameron Willis, and photos from Canada’s Penitentiary Museum.”



P4W Memorial Collective

<https://p4wmemorialcollective.com>

(343) 333-9108

p4wmemorialcollective@gmail.com

We Can't Police the Pandemic youtube.com/channel/UChH3byXyGKX0yAET_O9Iprg

"An ongoing dialogue space to advance ideas about the abolition of police and prisons, to address concerns about the ramp up of authoritarianism, increased surveillance and privacy violations, updates on enforcement responses to COVID-19, to address concerns on the ground, share work being done to help strategize for action, and to put into question public health collaborations with police.

If you are interested to get involved - send an email to policingthepandemic@gmail.com

#4 (May 23)

Yavar Hameed	Hameed Law http://hameedlaw.ca
Ciara Bracken-Roche	https:// maynoothuniversity.ie/people/ciara-bracken-roche
Stephen Molldrem	https://stephenmolldrem.com
Arun Kundnani	The Muslims are Coming! https://versobooks.com
Lina Dencik	DataJustice Project https://datajusticeproject.net
Thato Masiangoako	Socio-Economic Rights Institute http://seri-sa.org and Anti-Repression Working Group of C-19 People's Coalition c19peoplescoalition.org.za

#3 (May 2)

Justice 4 Migrant Workers	https://harvestingfreedom.org
Tave Cole	Toronto Overdose Prevention Society fb.me/TorontoOPS
Meenakshi Mannoe	Pivot Legal Society https://pivotlegal.org Stark Raven and Vancouver Prison Justice Day Cmt fb.me/prisonjusticevan
Lora McElhinney	Joint Effort http://prisonjustice.ca/joint-effort
Dolores Chew	South Asian Women's Community Centre http://sawc.org Women of Diverse Origins https://wdofdo.wordpress.com
Hamid Khan	Stop LAPD Spying Coalition https://stoplapdspying.org

#2 (April 18)

Harsha Walia	BC Civil Liberties Association https://bccla.org
Gary Kinsman	http://radicalnoise.ca
OmiSoore Dryden	https://omisooredryden.com
Estelle Davis	Action Santé Travesti(e)s et Transsexuel(le)s du Québec http://astteq.org

#1 (March 28)

Cécile Kazatchkine	Cdn HIV/AIDS Legal Network/HIV Justice Worldwide aidslaw.ca
Zoë Dodd	Toronto Overdose Prevention Society fb.me/TorontoOPS
Syrus Marcus Ware	Black Lives Matter Toronto http://blacklivesmatterto.ca
Maureen Owino	Cte for Accessible HIV/AIDS Treatments http://hivimmigration.ca
Sandra Wesley	Stella https://chezstella.org
El Jones	https://fb.me/el.jones.94
Colin Hastings	York University https://researchgate.net/profile/Colin_Hastings
Theodore (ted) Kerr	What Would an HIV Doula Do? https://tedkerr.club
Alexander McClelland	https://alexandermcclelland.ca
Mikiki Mikiki	Queers Crash the Beat https://queerscrashthebeat.com

Webinar videos <https://facebook.com/TorontoPrisonersRightsProject/videos>
<https://facebook.com/CSSDPRyerson/videos>

Defunding Police and Prisons: Promoting Accountability, Meeting Needs and Transforming Communities Without Cops, Courts and Cages (June 25) video
<https://facebook.com/107969144076334/videos/3322223567855721>

A Wall is Just a Wall: Open Mic Fundraiser for Prisoners (April 18) video
<https://facebook.com/CSSDPRyerson/videos/165096048088291>

El Jones

<https://fb.me/el.jones.94>

Jarrood Shook

uottawa.academia.edu/JarroodShook

Nasim Asgari

<https://www.nasimasgari.com>

David Delisca

<https://fb.com/DavidDelisca>

Lola Câmara

Shelly Campbell

Eddy Martinez (The Dying Thief)

https://instagram.com/the_dying_thief

Blaze Loc

soundcloud.com/blazeloc-outdere

Socialist Hip-Hop

<https://fb.me/SocialistHipHop>

Minzi Roberta, DJ

<https://soundcloud.com/minzi-robert>

TK Rebel

Prison Is A Death Sentence: Virtual Prison Abolition event (May 14)

With Martha Paynter, Souheil Benslimane, Sheena, Syrus Marcus Ware, and Meenakshi Mannoe. Narrated by El Jones and Desmond Cole.

Women's Wellness Within

<https://womenswellnesswithin.org>

PO Box 34007 Scotia Square

Halifax, NS B3J 3S1

womenswellnesswithinns@gmail.com

**Criminalization and Punishment
Education Project**

<http://cp-ep.org>

cpep.action@gmail.com

Toronto Prisoners' Rights Project

fb.me/TorontoPrisonersRightsProject

1265 Military Trail

Scarborough, On M1C 1A5

torontoprisonersrights@gmail.com

**Vancouver Prison Justice Day
Committee**

<https://fb.me/prisonjusticevan>

PO Box 78005, 1755 East Broadway

Vancouver, BC V5N 5W1

Anti-Carceral Group noprisons.ca

anticarceralgroup@riseup.net

<https://twitter.com/prisonradioshow>

Censorship in Prisons

Paul Wright, Martha Painter, Sena Hussein, Yavar Hameed, and
Laureen St. Amour (mother of the late Justin St. Amour)

tpcp-canada.blogspot.com/2019/04/care-and-compassion-in-community-not.html

Human Rights Defense Center

<https://humanrightsdefensecenter.org>

Prison Legal News

<https://prisonlegalnews.org>

info@prisonlegalnews.org

P.O. Box 1151

Lake Worth Beach, FL 33460 USA

tel 561 360-2523 fax 866 735-7136

Womens' Wellness Within

<https://womenswellnesswithin.org>

PO Box 34007 Scotia Square

Halifax, NS B3J 3S1

womenswellnesswithinns@gmail.com

Hameed Law

<http://hameedlaw.ca>

43 Florence St.

Ottawa, ON K2P 0W6

tel 613 232-2688

fax 613 232-2680

yhameed@hameedlaw.ca

PASAN and Cell Count

<http://pasan.org>

526 Richmond St E

Toronto, ON M5A 1R3

tel 416 920-9567 1-866-224-9978

fax 416 920-4314

Videos of **weekly webinars** <https://facebook.com/CSSDPRyerson/videos> or
<https://facebook.com/TorontoPrisonersRightsProject/videos>

Indigenous Knowledge & Abolition

Pamela Palmater <https://pampalmater.com> pampalmater@hotmail.com

Giselle Dias wlu.ca/professional-development/centre-for-indigegogy

Wanda Whitebird <http://itstartswithus-mmiw.com/no-more-silence-blog>

Les Harper

<https://cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/when-i-m-around-my-people-i-feel-safe-city-aims-to-combat-indigenous-overdoses-amid-opioid-crisis-1.5025560>

Joey "Twins" Young

Supporting Those Left Inside: Meeting Needs Behind Prison Walls

Anthony Morgan ca.linkedin.com/in/anthony-n-morgan-80049217

Kevin Egan <https://mckenzielake.com/our-people/kevin-egan>

Lindsay Jennings **PASAN** <http://pasan.org>

Barton Solidarity Project <https://fb.me/bartonsolidarityproject>
bartonsolidarityproject@riseup.net

Jail Accountability <https://cp-ep.org/jailhotline>

Hotline cpep.action@gmail.com

Black Liberation and Prison Abolition (June 11)

Ashanti Omowali Alston, Viviane Saleh-Hanna, Sandy Hudson, Robyn Maynard, Morgan Switzer-Rodney

<https://facebook.com/watch/live/?v=1008665122881563>

Viviane Saleh-Hanna

<https://umassd.edu/directory/vhanna>

Crime & Justice Studies

University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth

285 Old Westport Road

Dartmouth, MA 02747-2300 USA

Black Lives Matter-Toronto

<http://blacklivesmatterto.ca>

76 Geary Avenue

Toronto, ON M6H 2B5

info@blacklivesmatter.ca

Ashanti Omowali Alston

<https://thejerichomovement.com/profile/ashanti-alston>

Black Legal Action Centre

<https://blacklegalactioncentre.ca>

221-720 Spadina Avenue

Toronto, ON M5S 2T9

tel 416 597-5831, 1-877 736-9406

fax 416 925-3564

info@blacklegalactioncentre.ca

Robyn Maynard

<https://robynmaynard.com>

BlackChat Vancouver

<https://fb.me/blackchatvancouver>

info@blackchat.ca

Learning Together (while staying apart): Online Events

video links - <https://haymarketbooks.org/blogs/124-learning-together-while-staying-apart-online-event-schedule>

Decarceration from the US to Palestine

with Zaina Alsous, Derecka Purnell, Sandra Tamari, and Randa Wahbi (Jul 21)

Abolition Can't Wait with #8toAbolition

Abolish ICE is Not Just a Slogan:

Immigrant Justice in the Age of

Coronavirus with John Washington and Justin Akers Chacón

Celebrating Juneteenth with Critical

Resistance with Marc Charlene

Carruthers & Marc Lamont Hill

On the Road with Abolition: Assessing

Our Steps Along the Way with

K Agbebiyi, Woods Ervin, Mariame Kaba,

Dean Spade, and Kamau Walton

Abolish Policing, Not Just the Police with

Mariame Kaba, Maya Schenwar, and Victoria Law

PEN Prison Writing Awards Live Release

The Fire This Time: The New Uprising

Against Racism and Police Violence with

Marc Lamont Hill and Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor

Mutual Aid: Building Communities of

Care During Crisis and Beyond with

Mariame Kaba and more

COVID-19, Decarceration, and Abolition:

Ruthie Wilson Gilmore with Naomi

Murakawa

Sick of the System - new Ebook <https://btlbooks.com/book/sick-of-the-system>

“Featuring essays on poverty, health care, incarceration, basic income, policing, Indigenous communities, and more, this anthology delivers a stinging rebuke of the pre-pandemic status quo...”

“We can turn our backs on ‘normal.’ We can demand divestment, redistribution, and mutual aid. We can seize new forms of solidarity with both hands. As the world holds its breath, revolutionary ideas have an unprecedented chance to gain ground. There should be no going back.”

Between the Lines offers *Sick of the System* for a pay what you can price

We’re Never Going Back to Normal by Michigan Abolition and Prisoner Solidarity

“When the pandemic first hit, prisons around the country quickly became hotspots of COVID-19. In response, prisoners have been hunger striking, organizing protests, and participating in uprisings. This **wave of prisoner unrest** is likely unprecedented in both scope and scale.”

“If our understanding begins not just with the current virus but rather with the decades of what Ruth Wilson Gilmore describes as the state-sanctioned and extralegal production of vulnerability to premature death for Michigan’s racialized and poor populations, then our response should avoid appeals to go back to the way things were before, to ‘business as usual.’

“The pandemic, the various responses of the state, and the ensuing rebellions have illuminated the deep link between normalcy and death. And people are already on the move. Since the first COVID-19-related action on March 17, there have been **over a hundred instances of prisoner protest and rebellion** in the U.S. and Canada. ... Meanwhile, news of the uprisings that have quickly spread across the country in the wake of the police murder of George Floyd has found its way into Michigan prisons—our comrades inside are paying attention, and often have the best analysis of these events.

“As our comrade Edward Walton says, the simple solution is to ‘unchain our people.’ **Freedom for all.** As the coronavirus continues to spread, the shared goals of people on both sides of the prison walls, including those facing down the police and national guard in the streets, should remain the same: abolition, which means not only closing the prisons and freeing the prisoners but also building a world in which prisons and police are unnecessary.”

<https://michiganabolition.org/2020/06/06/were-never-going-back-to-normal>

MAPS, P.O. Box 4811, East Lansing, MI 48826 USA, maps@riseup.net

Pandemic and Prison in Washington state: webpage of “resources relevant to and generated by incarcerated people in Washington” includes testimonials.

<https://waprisonhistory.org/pandemic-prison> UW Bothell Library,
Box 358550, 18225 Campus Way NE, Bothell, WA 98011 USA, (425) 352-5340

“What does the end of policing mean in Vancouver?”

by Meenakshi Mannoe and Vyas Saran of Pivot Legal Society

“we...**work alongside peer-led organizers**... [see these groups on next page]

“... the Black-led and Oakland-based Anti Police-Terror Project visited and met with local organizers in 2018 to build a replicable and sustainable model to end police terror, particularly in communities of colour.

“... We also know that Black and Indigenous leaders have called attention to the harms of policing for decades and note the work of Black Lives Matter-Vancouver, the February 14th Women’s Memorial March Committee, the Frank Paul Society, and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs. If we fail to centre groups like these, we risk replacing the currently failing model of community safety with something similar, different only in name.

“... we must continue to return to communities made disposable through the expansion of police force budgets: those who are Indigenous, Black, unsheltered, drug users, informal economy workers and those otherwise marginalized by police. **Many of these communities already have solutions** and they don’t need to be further managed by ‘caring professionals’ — they need to be affirmed as peers with expertise. We must also remain strident in our advocacy, recognizing that the end of policing is the end of carceral power...”

<https://thetyee.ca/Analysis/2020/06/09/End-of-Policing>

See also **Resource: E-Learning On Defunding And Abolishing The Police**, Created for Canadians by Rita Steele <http://tiny.cc/defund-police-elearning> and **Locking Youth Up after an Overdose May Do More Harm than Good** (July 13) thetyee.ca

Sandy Hudson on defund police: “Each year, police budgets generally increase. But rather than increase safety, all we see is increased militarization and criminalization.” “Why do we need these services? The **police have utterly failed** to deliver on their evergreen promise to create safety by being ‘tough on crime.’” “But they have continued their original purpose of harming us.”

https://www.huffingtonpost.ca/entry/defund-police-canada-black-indigenous-lives_ca_5ed65eb2c5b6ccd7c56bdf7d

See also **Sherene H. Razack**
[vice.com/en_ca/article/bv8med/racism-kills-in-canada-as-much-as-in-the-united-states](https://www.vice.com/en_ca/article/bv8med/racism-kills-in-canada-as-much-as-in-the-united-states)

How to Support Harm Doers in Being Accountable video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhANo6wzBAA> **Barnard Center for**

Research on Women <http://bcrw.barnard.edu/building-accountable-communities>

BC/Yukon Assn of Drug War Survivors

<http://bcyadws.ca>

416 Columbia Street

New Westminster, BC V3L 1B1

604 719-5313

bcyadws@gmail.com

Black Lives Matter-Vancouver

<https://blacklivesmattervancouver.com>

blacklivesmattervan@gmail.com

Carnegie Community Action Project

加麗基社區行動計劃

<http://carnegieaction.org>

Carnegie Community Centre

401 Main Street

Vancouver, BC V6A 2T7

604 665-2105

info@carnegieaction.org

February 14th Women's Memorial

March Committee

womensmemorialmarch.wordpress.com

c/o Downtown Eastside Women's Ctr

302 Columbia Street

Vancouver, BC V6A 4J1

Pace Society

<https://pace-society.org>

148 West Hastings Street

Vancouver, BC V6B 1G8

604 872-7651

info@pace-society.org

Sex Workers United Against Violence

<https://fb.me/SWUAV>

Pivot Legal Society

<https://www.pivotlegal.org>

121 Heatley Avenue

Vancouver, BC V6A 3E9

tel 604 255-9700

fax 604 255-1552

operations@pivotlegal.org

Anti Police-Terror Project

<https://antipoliceterrorproject.org>

aptinfo@gmail.com

Union of BC Indian Chiefs

<https://www.ubcic.bc.ca>

Suite 401 - 312 Main Street

Vancouver, BC, V6A-2T2

tel 604 684-0231/1-800 793-9701

fax 604 684-5726

ubcic@ubcic.bc.ca

Van. Area Network of Drug Users

<http://vandu.org>

380 East Hastings Street

Vancouver BC

tel 604 683-6061

vandu@vandu.org

Western Aboriginal Harm Reduction Society

<https://wahrs.ca>

380 East Hastings Street

Vancouver, BC V6A 1P4

wahrsdtes@gmail.com

#DefundPolice Toolkit by Andrea J. Ritchie, Mariame Kaba and Woods Ervin
https://issuu.com/interruptingcriminalization/docs/defund_toolkit

Movement For Black Lives <https://m4bl.org>

Interrupting Criminalization <https://interruptingcriminalization.com>

Barnard Center for Research on Women, Milstein Center, 6th Floor
40 Claremont Avenue, New York, NY 10027 USA, tel 212 854-2067
fax 212 854-8294, bcrw@barnard.edu

#SayHerName Charleena Lyles: Police Murder and the Uprising for Black Lives
(June 16) video “conversation about next steps in winning justice for Charleena [killed by Seattle police June 18, 2017] and her family and how her story connects to the new movement for Black Lives in the streets today.”

<https://haymarketbooks.org/blogs/173-sayhername-charleena-lyles-police-murder-and-the-uprising-for-black-lives>

Katrina Johnson
cousin of Charleena Lyles
Public Defenders Association
<http://defender.org>
110 Prefontaine Place S, Suite 502
Seattle, WA 98104 USA
(206) 392-0050
katrina.johnson@defender.org

Michael Bennett
Things That Make White People Uncomfortable

Nikkita Oliver
Creative Justice
<https://www.creativejusticenw.org>
153 14th Avenue,
Seattle, WA 98122 USA
(206) 602-6174
creativejusticenw@gmail.com
Jesse Hagopian

Teaching for Black Lives
<https://teachingforblacklives.org>
6737 W Washington St., Suite 3249
Milwaukee, WI 53212 USA
(414) 964-9646
office@rethinkingschools.org

Ruth Wilson Gilmore on starting in a new direction - “let's go to our friend Raymond Williams: that people are living through a gargantuan shift in the narrative arc of structure of feeling. And it happened because of Covid and plus because of under employment and unemployment and plus because of how governments are differentially responding and how news of that circulates...

“And that creaking infrastructure is making people I think turn and start in a direction they might not have ever gone in before, and they feel like their feet are on some ground that they're just gonna have to try out even if they can't see it through the smoke and the tear gas.” <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/racism-racialisation/transcript-conversation-ruth-wilson-gilmore>

Address solutions “through the quality of the relationships we weave”

“what the virus has radically laid bare...is that our vulnerability to one another cannot be meaningfully held at bay or controlled by building border or prison walls; by locking away or deporting our neighbors, co-workers, members of our community, and foreigners alike. Instead, the solutions to the problems we face must be addressed through the quality of the relationships we weave...

“Recognition of this fact is driving hundreds of creative, grassroots responses to the pandemic...” “...we literally cannot afford to deny any longer our fundamental interdependence with one another. Because the dangers we inhabit do not fundamentally emerge from somewhere, or somebody, else. The dangers—and the solutions to these dangers—have always been with us.” -Geoff Boyce <https://nacla.org/blog/2020/05/14/opportunistic-border-logic-pandemic>

Current Political Prisoners of Black Liberation Movements

This new zine, “dedicated to the memory of former Black Panther and Black Liberation Army veteran Robert Seth Hayes” profiles 15 political prisoners in the United States to inspire you to write them letters, “Share their names and their stories with your friends and comrades”, and demand their release.

https://pageone.noblogs.org/files/2020/06/BL_PPzine5.pdf

Mumia Abu-Jamal

mobilization4mumia.com

Sundiata Acoli

sundiataacoli.org

Imam Jamil Al-Amin

whathappened2rap.com

Joe-Joe Bowen

Veronza Bowers, Jr.

veronza.org

Muhammad Burton

SCI Somerset

Chip Fitzgerald

freedom4chip.org

Cinque Magee

prisonersolidarity.com

Jalil Muntaqim

freejalil.com

Ed Poindexter

prisonersolidarity.com

Ronald Reed

bit.do/RonaldReed

Kojo Bomani Sababu

Kamau Sadiki

www.freekamau.com

Dr. Mutulu Shakur

mutulushakur.com

Russell Maroon Shoatz

russellmaroonshoats.wordpress.com

See also **National Jericho Movement** <https://thejerichomovement.com> P.O. Box 2164, Chesterfield, VA 23832 USA nationaljericho@gmail.com

Joy James (author of *Resisting State Violence*) talk **July 30**, 12pm

<https://www.fypu.org>

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/fypu-joy-james>

The Fire This Time: Race at Boiling Point (June 5)

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=3I22E2Sezi8>

“UCHRI gathered **Angela Y. Davis** (Emerita, UC Santa Cruz), **Herman Gray** (Emeritus, UC Santa Cruz), **Gaye Theresa Johnson** (UC Los Angeles), **Robin D.G. Kelley** (UC Los Angeles), and **Josh Kun** (USC) to think differently together about the structural conditions and explosive events shattering our times.”



Cancel Canada Day (July 1) video

facebook.com/IdleNoMoreCommunity/videos/608003983157857

Canada Day What? (July 1) video

facebook.com/MigrantRightsCA/videos/913957022455076

image: *Zola_mtl* street art

instagram.com/p/B-gTXYcnxUf

#FreeHeartlandKids: Migrant Detention Facility Under Construction Stormed in

Chicago on May Day Report documents a demo of around 200 people against The Heartland Alliance, a non-profit that holds migrant children captive.

<https://trueleapress.files.wordpress.com/2020/02/168.-freeheartlandkids-migrant-detention-center-stormed.pdf>

Walls Must Fall: Ending the deadly politics of border militarisation (June 17)

Harsha Walia, Jille Belisario, Todd Miller, Kavita Krishnan tni.org/en/article/walls-must-fall

Undoing Border Imperialism

<https://www.akpress.org/undoing-border-imperialism.html>

Transnational Migrant Platform-Europe

<https://transnationalmigrantplatform.net>
migrantplatform@gmail.com

<http://www.toddmillerrwriter.com>
toddmemomiller@gmail.com

All India Progressive Women's Assn

<https://fb.me/AIPWAIndia>

U-90, Shakarpur, Delhi

tel +91-9560756628 fax 22518248

aipwahq@gmail.com

Black Lives Matter in prison, too (June 14)

Halifax Examiner <https://halifaxexaminer.ca/featured/black-lives-matter-in-prison-too>
Statement by a group of federally incarcerated Black prisoners. It was read to El Jones and has been slightly edited for length and clarity.

“We have been watching the Black Lives Matters protests and the conversations about police violence. We have been taking part in our own conversations with prisoners of all races. We would like to share some of our conversations and conclusions with people outside prison.

The movement against police brutality is important, but it is also larger than that. We must also address injustice in the criminal justice system, in prisons, and at parole. At every stage of this system, Black people and Indigenous people are discriminated against. We have come to realize that all these systems are connected.

Just two days ago, on Friday, Rodney Levi was shot and killed by police a few kilometres from Miramichi, New Brunswick. Atlantic Institution, the maximum security prison for the Atlantic region, is located in Renous, close to Miramichi. In sending our condolences to Rodney Levi’s family and friends, we also reflect on how many Indigenous men and women are held in federal prisons across this country.

Prisons are built in small rural towns. Recently, in a conversation with one of the workers, she told us she was in favour of the prison being built because it would offer jobs. When she was told about the conditions and that we do not have programs or any rehabilitation, she was shocked.

We want to send a message to people who believe that building a prison in their community will stimulate the economy. Prisons are not a retirement plan or social security. Putting money into prisons is not a solution to poverty or to any social problems. We ask people living in these communities to reject spending money to put more people, especially Black and Indigenous people, into prisons.

We have also learned that crime is at some of the lowest levels since 1969, and that crime is steadily dropping. How can crime be down, but we continue to incarcerate more and more people? We know that there is no connection between crime and funding prisons. Why are we building more prisons when reserves in this country don’t even have clean water?

We have seen many videos in the last few weeks of police brutality. In these times where all the police are under the threat of being caught on video, there is no one to catch what happens to us on camera. The violence and abuse against us in prisons is still hidden. We have had guards use racial slurs. We have had guards use racial slurs to white prisoners thinking they would agree. We are pepper sprayed and restrained. We have seen and heard people beaten and even die.

When we are charged in the institution, we don't even have the right to a lawyer. We can be put into solitary confinement, transferred across the country away from our families and communities, and denied parole. There is no justice because no one can see, and no-one is there to defend us.

But even in the courts, where we had lawyers, we have experienced how racist the criminal justice system is. We are judged in front of all-white juries, the same people that may see videos of police shootings and defend the police. There is no prosecutorial oversight, and nobody to stop racist prosecutions. Even if we are in open court, nobody holds the prosecutors accountable for their behaviour. Many more of us simply take deals because we are threatened by higher sentences. It still feels like the 1920s in the courtroom.

All of this is supposed to happen so we can be rehabilitated. But has the public ever asked what prisoners are doing on a day-to-day basis? You might think that we are getting job training, or learning to deal with addictions or mental health problems. We are not. There is nothing to do in prison, and there are hardly any programs to help people. You might ask yourself then why we are spending so much money to keep people behind bars but doing nothing to fix any of the problems.

For Black people, parole is like a unicorn. We end up serving even longer sentences because we are judged by the colour of our skin. We are accused of being gang members. We are punished for talking together. Our visitors are accused of bringing in contraband, so we tell our mothers not to come and see us. Guards antagonize us and then discipline us when we respond. There are no programs made for us. And when we go in front of an all-white parole board, they will not let us out.

Every day, we are seeing people in the streets protesting for Black and Indigenous lives. We want to thank everyone for being where we cannot be, and fighting what we cannot fight for. We also know that after the protests, Black lives will still not matter in prison.

We join the calls to defund the police, and we also say it is time to defund the prison. Canadians should ask themselves why so many Black and Indigenous people are incarcerated. You should ask yourselves why your money is going to a system that doesn't work to solve crime. You should ask why a prison is being built in your community and whether it will actually make your life better.

We hope some of the experiences we have shared have made you think about some of the assumptions you might have about us, or about the idea that people get help in prison. We hope our words show you what you cannot see on video. We have heard people say until all Black lives matter, no one's life can matter. Until Black prisoner lives matter, can anyone be free?"



Defund the VPD (July 10)

“power to the people”

image: Dakota Bear

<https://fb.me/dakotabearofficial>

<https://i.redd.it/0llzn3607z751.jpg>

WHO TO CALL INSTEAD OF 911: BC VERSION

Calling the police may lead to the brutalizing (or even killing) of the victims themselves.
Here are resources that can help in a crisis without involving the police.

MENTAL HEALTH

Considering suicide: 1-800-SUICIDE

Mental health support : 310-6789

Fraser Health Crisis Line: 604-951-8855/ 1-877-820-7444

Bullying Hotline Canada : 1-877-352-4497

Violence

VictimLinkBC: 1-800-563-0808

24 hr Rape Crisis Line: 604-872-8212

Senior Abuse: 1-866-437-1940/ 604-437-1940

Substance Abuse

Alcohol and Drug info: 604-660-9382/ 1-800-663-1441

Housing

Shelter and Street Help Line: 211

LGBTQA+ Resources

Trans lifeline: 1-877-330-6366

Trevor Project (for LGBTQ Youth): 1-866-844-7386

LGBT Youth Line: 1-800-268-9688

Other Resources

Poison control: 604-682-5050 / 1-800-567-8911

Helpline for Children: 310-1234

Healthlink (confidential health info and advice): 811 -deaf/
hearing impaired: 711

Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868

Post Secondary Crisis Line: 1-866-925-5454