

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INCIDENT REVIEW SUMMARY

Introduction

This review focused on the circumstances surrounding the escape of Inmate Kevin Clarke-MacNeil from the North Nova Scotia Correctional Facility (NNSCF) on June 5th, 2020 at approximately 8:00 PM.

Considerations

- The review considered the following:
 - The events leading up to the escape
 - Actions taken in response to the escape
 - Whether policies and procedures were adhered

Issue

- At approximately 8:30 PM, Correctional Officers realized an inmate had escaped from the Alpha 1 unit at NNSCF.

Facts

- At approximately 7:45pm inmate Kevin Clarke-MacNeil left the Alpha 1 Dayroom and entered the outside courtyard, there was one (1) other inmate present in the courtyard at that time
- At approximately 7:56 PM Clarke-MacNeil removes his shirt and over the next 2 minutes uses his shirt and a shirt from the second inmate to cover both cameras located in the courtyard
- At approximately 8:02 PM Clarke-MacNeil appeared (via video review) on the roof above the administration area, he lowers himself off the roof edge and drops approximately 20 feet to the ground and runs toward MacKay Road and exited camera view
- At approximately 8:28 PM two (2) Correctional Officers (CO's) entered Alpha 1 for a routine round, over the next seven (7) minutes they completed 3 rounds of the unit, discovering one inmate missing

- Clarke-MacNeil was apprehended by the RCMP at 8 AM on June 6th, 2020 in Sheet Harbour, NS, approximately 100 kilometres from NNSCF

Findings

- Inmate Kevin Clarke-MacNeil pulled down the courtyard security screen and climbed out onto the roof of the facility.
- NNSCF Staff did not follow all approved procedures
- The design of the courtyards differs in construction from the other 8 courtyards at the facility.

Follow-up Action

- Inspect infrastructure in courtyards/recreation yards in all facilities and address identified areas of concern.
- Review post orders and practices on the supervision/monitoring of courtyards in all facilities.
- Engage in a restorative process with staff and community to address and repair any harm caused by this incident.