



大会

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人权理事会  
第三十届会议  
议程项目 3

增进和保护所有人权——公民权利、政治权利、  
经济、社会和文化权利，包括发展权

## 加拿大人权委员会<sup>\*</sup>提交的资料

### 秘书处的说明

人权理事会秘书处谨此转交加拿大人权委员会提交的来文，<sup>\*\*</sup>按照理事会第 5/1 号决议附件载列的议事规则第 7 (b) 条转载如下。该条规定，国家人权机构的参与须遵循人权委员会议定的安排和惯例，包括 2005 年 4 月 20 日第 2005/74 号决议。

<sup>\*</sup> 具有增进和保护人权国家机构国际协调委员会赋予的“A 类”认可地位的国家人权机构。

<sup>\*\*</sup> 附件不译，原文照发。



## **Annex**

*[English only]*

### **Submission by the Canadian Human Rights Commission**

#### **The human rights implications of over-incarceration and overcrowding**

The Canadian Human Rights Commission would like to thank the High Commissioner for his report on the human rights implications of over-incarceration and overcrowding in Canadian prisons.

In Canada, the number of offenders with mental health issues has increased significantly in recent years. In fact, mental health issues are two to three times more prevalent in Canadian prisons than in the general population.

Canadian prisons are now housing one of the largest psychiatric populations in the country, causing significant challenges.

It is vital that appropriate mental health services be available to respect the rights of this vulnerable population. However, this is often not the case, and offenders' mental health conditions may deteriorate as a result.

This issue has far-reaching human rights implications in the correctional setting. Offenders with mental disabilities are inappropriately identified as having "behavioural problems," leading to a higher security classification than necessary. Too often, inmates resort to self-harm.

The Commission is particularly concerned about the use of solitary confinement – or administrative segregation, as it is known in Canada – to manage offenders with mental disabilities. Prolonged segregation has been shown to have harmful and permanent effects on inmates, particularly those with mental health disabilities.

The Commission calls on Canada to increase the capacity and effectiveness of mental health treatment for offenders. The Commission further proposes that Canada limit the use of solitary confinement to manage inmates with mental disabilities, and to abolish the practice entirely for inmates with serious or acute mental illness.

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