



CANADIAN  
UNITARIAN  
COUNCIL

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DU CANADA

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### **Native Peoples and the Criminal Justice System**

THAT the 17th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Unitarian Council urges the Solicitor General of Canada and the Government of Canada to give immediate and urges priority to recommendations that have been made repeatedly in studies and reports dealing with the subject of native peoples and the criminal justice system, e.g.

- a. That Native people be recruited and employed at all levels of the criminal justice system (including institutional staff and the policy making levels in the Canadian Penitentiary Services and the National Parole Service);
- b. That sensitivity to native concerns and culture be a requirement for all non-native staff working with native people;
- c. That there be development of institutional programs oriented to the needs of Native inmates.

### **Supportive Material**

“A disproportionate number of Native persons in Canada are being convicted of offences and sent to jail. In British Columbia, the proportion of admissions of Native offenders to provincial institutions in recent years had ranged from 14% to 21%; in Alberta, from 23% to 34%; in Saskatchewan, from 50% to 60%; and, in Manitoba, from 40% to 50%, even though the Native population is approximately 5% in British Columbia and Alberta and 12% in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.” – Schmeiser, Douglas, A., THE NATIVE OFFENDER AND THE LAW, INFORMATION CANADA, OTTAWA, 1974, p. 81 (A study prepared for the Law Reform Commission of Canada).

**Passed by delegates at the Annual General Meeting, 1978  
Canadian Unitarian Council**