

ITEM 3  
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 64  
COUNCIL MEETING Oct. 12/76

Re: ESCAPES FROM THE LOWER MAINLAND REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL CENTRE  
(OAKALLA)

Council on October 4 enquired about the nature and incidence of escapes from the subject institution. The enquiry was raised because a resident in the area privately informed one member of Council that she had recently observed the escape of three prisoners from the Correctional Centre.

The Director of the women's prison advised that there have been no escapes by women in over a year.

There was an escape from the men's prison on September 11. A search of the institution was commenced on this date when three men were reported missing at 6:00 p.m. They had hidden on the grounds and escaped by climbing over a fence at approximately 9:00 p.m. The escape was witnessed by a resident who immediately notified officials at the Centre. All relevant information pertaining to the incident was then referred by the officials to the R.C.M.P. in accordance with established operational procedures. Two of the escapees turned themselves in the next day. The third is still at large.

Mr. H. Bjarnason, Director of the men's prison, attributes the approximately fifteen escapes that have occurred from the men's prison during the past twelve months to prevailing conditions at the institution and particularly to weaknesses in the antiquated structure itself. This incidence of escapes is high, and well above the number of escapes that took place during a comparable period in 1974-75.

The Directors of the Centre have never provided Council with a status on escapes because this information has never been requested.

This is for the information of Council.

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