

Community Release & Reintegration Program

Community Release and Reintegration Workers are part of the bail program because they offer Indigenous Bail Verification & Supervision in Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities.

Community Release and Reintegration Workers:

- Make bail plans and provide bail supervision to eligible clients;
- Create healing plans and provide reintegration support to those departing the criminal justice system;
- Offer legal information, referrals and connections to supportive services;
- Provide language and culturally based services; and
- Connect clients to and help clients navigate NALSC programs.



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Indigenous Bail Verification & Supervision Program



Community Release & Reintegration Program

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What is Bail?

Everyone who is arrested, brought into custody, and charged must be considered for bail.

Bail is a court order that releases a person facing criminal charge(s) back into the community while their case is in the court system.

Everyone at the bail stage is innocent until proven guilty by plea or trial.

What is a Bail Plan?

Defence lawyers, duty counsel and bail workers put together a bail plan by locating sureties, finding suitable residences, suggesting conditions, and by verifying information for the courts.

The purpose of a bail plan is to address concerns that, if released, the accused may not return to court, may commit another crime, may pose a danger, or may make the public lose trust in the justice system.

Bail plans include:

- ◆ Where the accused will be residing;
- ◆ Who (if anyone) will be supervising the accused;
- ◆ Whether there will be a curfew;
- ◆ What release conditions will be reasonable and necessary;
- ◆ If alcohol, drugs, weapons or violence were involved in the charge(s), how this will be addressed; and
- ◆ How the accused will keep up with court dates and get to court.

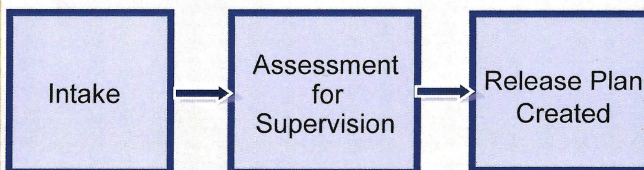
Indigenous Bail Verification and Supervision Program

Bail supervision is a key part of the program. It helps accused persons who do not have the financial means or social ties to be released before trial.

Bail supervision ensures that clients are supervised in the community so that they attend their court dates, comply with their bail conditions, and reside at their approved addresses.

When a referral is received for a client in custody, Indigenous Bail Workers arrange an intake meeting. Following intake, a risk-based assessment is performed to determine if the accused is eligible for bail supervision.

The Indigenous Bail Worker then puts together a bail plan, including eligibility for supervision for the court to use in its decision-making process.



What are my obligations as a client in supervision?

- Attend scheduled meetings with their bail worker;
- Follow all conditions of release;
- Attend all court dates; and
- Comply with the rules and obligations of the bail program.

Who can make referrals?

Referrals can be made by:

- ◆ Defence Counsel and Duty Counsel,
- ◆ Judges, Crown Attorneys,
- ◆ Community Legal Workers,
- ◆ Police Officers,
- ◆ Chief and Council,
- ◆ Community Resource Workers, and
- ◆ Friends and Family.

To refer, contact the Bail Worker in your region directly.

See nanlegal.on.ca or call 1-800-465-5581.

Aftercare and Reintegration

Supportive help is available for clients following release from jail for bail or after serving a sentence.

Staff work one-on-one with clients to develop a healing plan that meets their short-term and long-term goals. Clients are connected to:

- ◆ Positive mentorship;
- ◆ Education and life-skills development;
- ◆ Counselling and crisis assistance;
- ◆ Employment;
- ◆ Housing; and
- ◆ Social and mental health programming.