

Inmate at Lindsay superjail test positive for COVID-19

Todd Vandonk

An inmate at Central East Correctional Centre has tested positive for COVID-19.

Ministry of Solicitor General spokesperson Kristy Denette says the inmate was placed in medical isolation upon admission to the Highway 36 facility and remains there, in accordance with operating procedures.

MyKawartha.com was told the inmate arrived at the CECC last week.

“The impacted inmate continues to receive medical care,” she explained in an e-mail statement.

Denette says like all correction institutions, Lindsay’s superjail has an individualized pandemic plan in place in consultation with public health partners.

“We continue to monitor this situation and work closely with local public health,” she explains.

Denette says the inmates has not been housed with other inmates.

“All areas where the inmate may have come into contact have been cleaned,” she adds, noting public safety and the health and safety of their staff and those in custody are their top priority.

“We recognize and thank our dedicated staff, who are working hard to keep our correctional facilities and our communities safe.”

Further, Denette says they have made operational changes at their adult provincial jails to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including restricting personal visitors, substantially reducing inmate in-person court appearance and [proactively reducing inmate population](#). CECC population is currently at 776 inmates and usually houses just over 1,000 inmates.

Measures implemented at all institutions include:

- personal protection equipment for all staff as required
- requiring all staff and visitors at correctional institutions to wear masks at all times (masks are also provided to inmates if required)
- temperature checks for staff and visitors
- working with local public health units to test inmates and staff as appropriate
- housing new inmates in a separate area from the general population for 14 days