

after an inmate has served either six months or one half of the time before he is eligible for full parole, whichever time is closer to the date for full parole eligibility. Subject to this, a day parole program may begin two years before the full parole eligibility date for anyone except a lifer who may be granted it three years before that date.

Another type of release, mandatory supervision, is administered by the board. Anyone released from a federal institution 60 days or more before the end of his sentence, because of statutory and earned remission of the sentence, is subject to supervision for the full period of the remission. The release conditions are the same as those for parole.

If the inmate violates the conditions of his release — parole, or mandatory supervision — or commits a further offence or misbehaves in any manner, the board may suspend and then revoke the release, returning him to the institution to serve the part of his sentence that was outstanding at the time his release was granted. Because of a court decision, day paroles are no longer revoked and the board is preparing a new system to differentiate between terminations for violations and terminations when a project prematurely ends. If the person on any release commits an indictable offence for which he might be sentenced to two years or more, his parole is automatically forfeited and he is returned to the institution to serve the unexpired balance of his sentence plus any new term to which he is sentenced for the new offence.

Eligibility for an inmate who forfeits his parole by being convicted of an indictable offence, for which he might be sentenced to two years or more, comes either after he serves one half of his new term, which is made up of the remainder of his sentence plus any new sentence, or after he serves seven years, whichever comes first.

The decision of the board about any one inmate is based on reports it receives from the police, from the trial judge or magistrate, and from various people at the institution who deal with him. Reports may also be obtained from a psychologist or a psychiatrist. Normally, a community investigation is made to secure as much information as possible about his family and background, his work record, and his position in the community. These reports help the board to assess the likelihood that the offender can lead a law-abiding life.

When all the reports are received and the community investigation completed, they are analyzed and presented to the board for consideration. Parole for inmates in provincial institutions is granted or refused on the basis of these reports and investigations. For the inmate in a federal institution there is one more step before the board makes its decision. He is interviewed by a panel of two or more board members before his parole eligibility date to clarify or amplify his reasons for requesting parole and any aspects of his case that may have come to light through report and investigation.

All members have an equal vote on cases and there is a system of voting that states the minimum number of votes needed to grant parole in certain types of cases. Except for those specific instances, two votes are sufficient to grant or refuse full parole and one vote for a decision on day parole.

In federal cases the first voting is made by members of the regional board located in the same region as the inmate. If the regional members fail to reach agreement or if more than two votes are required, the case is sent to Ottawa for additional votes. When the case is of a type normally calling for more than two votes, one, three, or five additional board members in Ottawa will study the case, after the study and recommendation is made by the regional members. Cases of manslaughter, rape, drug trafficking, and armed robbery require more than two votes. If the inmate was sentenced as an habitual criminal or a dangerous sexual offender, or is serving life, the case is also reviewed in Ottawa. In cases of provincial inmates the vote is made by members at headquarters.

A parolee is under the care of a supervisor in one of the district offices of the National Parole Service, an after-care agency worker, or a probation officer.