

Butter not for popcorn

Hot butter is being used in a rising number of assaults at the North Fraser Pretrial Centre.

The Chair of BC Corrections and Sheriffs says overcrowding and a rising gang population are behind the assaults.

Dean Purdy says the Centre was designed with 300 inmates in mind but now 600 to 650 prisoners are regularly held there. He says guards every week or two have deal with prisoners brutally assaulting each other, "An inmate will heat up a cup of hot butter in the microwave, add sugar to it and sometimes bleach and throw it in the face of another prisoner to enact revenge." He says Corrections Officers are doing the best they can to keep everyone safe and secure but with overcrowding it's a major challenge.