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Serious need for correctional facility in the Okanagan

With the 9 provincial jails well over capacity, are there plans for a facility in Kelowna?

BCGEU spokesperson Dean Purdy says the government needs to start the planning process again, involving everyone.

"The property in Windfield has been around since 1996 for a new jail. We were close to having the Minister John Les announce it in early in 2008. Then it went off the rails because they didn't consult with the First Nations and the citizens in that area."

Purdy says the province is well aware that the 9 provincial jails are running at 180% over capacity.

The government says the new facility in Surrey, which is under construction, will help with overcrowding and say they plan to explore the possibility of a prison in the Okanagan.

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