

PAROLE BOARD OF CANADA
DECISION

OFFENDER INFORMATION :

Name : **ALEXANDER, CHRISTOPHER MAURICE**

Legally known as : **ALEXANDER, CHRISTOPHER MAURICE**

TYPE OF REVIEW :

- DAY PAROLE - PRE RELEASE (PANEL-VIDEO CONFERENCE)

PANEL INFORMATION :

OBSERVER (S) PRESENT (except during deliberations) : **YES**

EXCLUDED FROM PART OF HEARING : NO

REASON :

ASSISTANT PRESENT : **YES**

ELDER /ADVISOR : **YES**

FINAL DECISIONS :

DAY PAROLE - PRE RELEASE

GRANTED

2021-08-26

LEAVE PRIVILEGES :

LEAVE PRIVILEGE FOR **DAY PAROLE - PRE RELEASE** - REGULAR

MUST RETURN TO FACIL. NIGHTLY

No Leave Privileges - you must return to the residential facility nightly.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS :

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DAY PAROLE - PRE RELEASE

Condition	Status
<div><div>• NOT TO CONSUME ALCOHOL</div><div>Not to consume, purchase or possess alcohol.</div></div>	IMPOSED
<div><div>• NOT TO CONSUME DRUGS</div><div>Not to consume, purchase or possess drugs other than prescribed medication taken as prescribed and over the counter drugs taken as recommended by the manufacturer.</div></div>	IMPOSED
<div><div>• NO CONTACT WITH CERTAIN PERSON</div><div>Do not associate or communicate with any person you know or have reason to believe is involved in criminal activity or substance misuse.</div></div>	IMPOSED
<div><div>• REPORT RELATIONSHIPS</div><div>Immediately report all sexual and non-sexual relationships and friendships with females and any changes to the status of the relationships/friendships to your parole supervisor.</div></div>	IMPOSED
<div><div>• OTHER SPECIAL CONDITION</div><div>Not to travel to or through Kitimat, Terrace, Burnaby or Vancouver Island without the prior written permission of your parole supervisor.</div></div>	IMPOSED
<div><div>• NO CONTACT WITH VICTIM(S)</div><div>No direct or indirect contact with any member of the deceased victim's family.</div></div>	IMPOSED
<div><div>• SEEK OR REMAIN EMPLOYED</div><div>Remain gainfully employed or continue to actively search for employment or pursue academic upgrading. Submit proof of these activities to your parole supervisor.</div></div>	IMPOSED
<div><div>• OTHER SPECIAL CONDITION</div><div>No direct or indirect contact with J.B.</div></div>	IMPOSED
<div><div>• FOLLOW TREATMENT PLAN</div><div>Follow treatment plan/program to be arranged by your parole supervisor in the areas of emotions' management, substance abuse, reintegration and past trauma.</div></div>	IMPOSED

PREVIOUSLY IMPOSED SPECIAL CONDITION(S) STILL IN EFFECT : NOT APPLICABLE

NEW INFORMATION SHARED WITH THE OFFENDER : NOT APPLICABLE

REASONS FOR DECISION(S) :

All persons reading this decision are informed there was a Publication Ban imposed by the Court. Anyone reviewing this decision is reminded of the Publication Ban and legal consequences for violating it.

The Parole Board of Canada (the Board) reviewed your case by way of an Elder assisted video hearing to make a decision regarding day parole.

To make its decision, the Board must determine whether you will not, by reoffending, present an undue risk to society before the expiration of your sentence. The Board must also consider whether your release will contribute to the protection of society by facilitating your reintegration into society as a law-abiding citizen.

In making the decision to grant day parole for six months, the Board considered the following information:

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At 40 years of age, you are an Indigenous man serving a Life sentence for Second Degree Murder. Parole eligibility was set at seven years. Your sentence started on May 8, 2002.

The index offence occurred in December 1998 when you were 17 years old; you were, however, sentenced as an adult in ordinary court. File information states that after a night of drinking and doing drugs, you illegally entered a neighbour's home where she lived alone with her seven-year-old daughter. You had covered your face with a mask and armed yourself with a knife. You wanted to steal from her, knew where the house key was kept, and had burgled her home previously. The victim woke while you were in her home. You stabbed her approximately 83 times, killing her. The victim's daughter found her mother dead the next day and ran for help.

File information states you later returned to the residence in an attempt to clean the scene of any possible evidence.

There are a number of victim statements on file, the most recent of which was received recently by the Board. The victim, who is a loved one of the deceased murder victim, believes you are an untreated offender who has been consistently dishonest. The victim believes you continue to be a risk to public safety and that you have not changed. The victim has made a series of requests including no contact, no internet access, “no go” to four specific locations, victim notification of your location, participation in AA, psychological counselling, anger management, cognitive behavioural therapy, a structured release plan, secure housing, involvement in First Nations' practices, and no sexual relationships until certain conditions are met.

CSC has responded to the victim requests and has stated that counselling may form part of an overall treatment plan. CSC has recommended the geographical restrictions as articulated by the victim. (The Board has noted that the proposed release plan location/facility offers culturally appropriate trauma counselling services.)

At sentencing, the Judge referenced the seriousness of the offence which was aggravated and heinous; the murder was of a helpless and gullible victim and extreme in its brutality. He stated that the violence you engaged in and your apparent willingness to carry out similar acts in the future [referring to the undercover scenarios] suggested an on-going risk to the community. He commented on a lack of remorse on your part.

You were charged with two counts of Sexual Assault in February 2017 but not convicted; these charges were stayed.

You were known to police prior to the index offence due to your reckless driving habits.

During your current sentence, your supervision history has reflected some problems.

You were on an Unescorted Temporary Absence (UTA) in 2011, when you were found in a location that was unauthorized. You had gone to an airport to meet a woman and your parole officer had not given their approval. You successfully completed two separate UTAs for 60 days for personal development in 2013 and 2014.

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In April 2015, you were granted day parole, which was continued on three occasions; however, in June 2016, your case management team was told you were being investigated for two counts of sexual assault; your day parole was subsequently revoked in September 2016. You appealed the revocation, a new hearing was ordered, and your day parole was again revoked.

The Board has weighed and considered your Indigenous social history in making the decision today. You were exposed to alcohol abuse as a child. You moved frequently and were unable to establish long term friendships with peers. You suffered from neglect and report you had steal in order to feed and support yourself. You reported to an Elder conducting an Elder review in June 2017 that you are unaware if any family members attended residential school. The Board notes the 2020 Elder report documents that a number of your relatives attended residential school as evidenced by school records.

In your written submission you have self reported being sexually assaulted as a child and as a teen by two family members and later by a babysitter; you say the first attack occurred when you were five years old and later again when you were 16 (your IPO reported the second attack was at 14). You said you did not speak of the assaults for many years and have described the trauma you experienced and continue to experience today. You also spoke about being bullied and victimized and how you were psychologically harmed growing up.

The Board recognizes and acknowledges that there is a connection between your upbringing and childhood experiences and your engagement in drugs and alcohol use, as well as your involvement in the criminal justice system. The Board notes you were not raised in a traditional way with the protective factors that such an upbringing offers. You were disengaged from your cultural and spiritual ancestry.

There are several psychological and some psychiatric assessments on your file. A psychiatric assessment from 2006 states you claimed to be an “angry drunk” who frequently drank to the point of blackout. You admitted to running a drug dealing business which you enjoyed. You had interpersonal issues with people due to your aggressiveness when intoxicated. The psychiatrist diagnosed you with alcohol and marijuana abuse in remission and a conduct disorder. He stated the testing outcomes pointed to the need for a careful approach to community integration but also expressed cautious optimism.

The January 2018 assessment reported you presented with a moderate to high risk for general and violent recidivism. The January 2020 assessment agreed with previous reports that you present a moderate risk for violent recidivism. The assessor reported that the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (VRAG) indicated that your risk to reoffend is between 58% and 78% at five and twelve years post-release. She states the outcome of this test indicates a high risk for future violent re-offending.

While the HCR-20 does not produce a final score, it identifies problem areas for monitoring and intervention. In your case she found the problematic factors suggest a moderate risk. She also found you have a high protection against reoffending, according to the Structured Assessment of Protective Factors (SAPROF).

The assessor stated that you have deficits in the areas of self control and responsibility and there is “much work to be done.” She commented on your capacity for impression management and that you externalize blame; she said your claims of responsibility are superficial. She stated that you prefer to have your affiliation needs met within a romantic relationship and that your performance on day parole was irresponsible, self centred and impulsive, and that your first impulse is not

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honesty.

The psychologist commented on the sexual assault charges being stayed in your case because the victim did not appear at court; she recommended you explore your gravitation toward vulnerable women. She recommended close monitoring of your relationships with women in the community. She stated your risk on day parole would be moderate.

Your institutional behaviour since the last Board decision has been positive. You are employed and have engaged in counselling. You have participated in the cultural events. You have completed programming and your commitment and ability to use program skills to manage your risk factors are rated as moderate.

The most recent correctional plan update (CPU) indicates that at intake all (7) risk factor domains were identified as contributing to your risk cycle. At the present time you have no need for improvement in substance abuse, associates, community functioning or attitude. You have a low need for improvement in your personal/emotional orientation. You continue you have a moderate need for improvement in the risk factor domains of employment and marital/family.

The CPU points to information that you saw yourself as a victim in some relationships where women took you for money. You also claimed the sexual assault complainant had made false accusations. There are approximately five different women named in your file: Ms. S., K.C., L.C., L.P., J.B. which suggests a high level of interest in relationships and may be linked to your moderate need in the marital/family domain.

CSC has assessed you as highly accountable for your actions and highly motivated to make change, and you are engaged in your Correctional Plan. Your reintegration potential rating is medium.

Your release plan is to a work camp in the north central part of the province that offers occupational training, culturally appropriate counselling, and referral to Indigenous supports and resources.

The Board is in receipt of your lengthy and detailed submission. You chronicle your Indigenous social and family history that includes abuse and neglect. You also provide your recollection of the murder and its circumstances; you say you do not remember stabbing the victim, whom you were robbing, but you do recall hitting her.

Much of your submission is focused on the circumstances that resulted in your prior suspension. The Board granted you day parole in April 2015 with conditions specific to alcohol, drugs, victims, computer, counselling, relationships, and avoiding certain persons. Overnight leave was authorized. The Board continued day parole in October 2015 and again in April 2016 with the same conditions and leave approved.

Your day parole released was revoked in a decision completed on September 12, 2016 after you had been charged with sexual assault. The Board determined your risk had become undue. You appealed this decision and the Appeal Division ordered a new hearing to ensure your right to be heard was respected. The Board revoked your day parole in a subsequent decision completed on March 14, 2017.

Day parole was denied in a decision completed April 19, 2018. You appealed this decision but the Appeal Division affirmed the original decision; day parole denied. On August 28, 2019, the Board authorized escorted temporary absences (ETAs) for community service.

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The decision before the Board today is a result of your application for day parole; the Board ordered a panel hearing on August 19, 2021 to make the decision.

The Board has read the contents of your submission specific to the events and circumstances that followed May 2016; however, the Board has previously considered the circumstances that preceded the prior revocation of your day parole which, following the Appeal Division's decision, was completed in March 2017 and is not re-considering those circumstances today.

Your submission details your relationships with women, your attendance at Narcotics Anonymous (NA), your involvement in your birth culture and your various life goals.

At your Elder assisted video hearing, you confirmed you received the information package from the Board that included an overview of your rights, information about what to expect during the PBC hearing process, the decision criteria and options available to the Board. You indicated you had no additional questions prior to the start of the hearing. You had an assistant present, an Institutional Elder, you agreed to go ahead with the hearing.

Your institutional parole officer (IPO) had no new information to present today. She presented your case in a manner consistent with file content. She reiterated the CMT recommendation for day parole. She chronicled your period of incarceration. She spoke about your prior day parole grant which was generally a positive release with the exception of the sexual assault charges that were stayed. She spoke of the Board's decision regarding revocation and the Board's rationale that determined your risk had become undue.

She spoke of your work to address your risk factors including working well with the Elders. She said you used your supports well but that you sometimes make errors due to a lack of time outside the institution and a lack of experience in the community. She linked your offence to addiction and your use of alcohol. She pointed to two decades of sobriety and remorse. She spoke of your on-going development of better communications' skills. She read the recommended special conditions into the record.

Your IPO told the Board she had recommended the CRF in the north central area as a starting point with a long-term view of you transferring to the lower mainland.

The Board talked to you about the recent psychological report but you could not readily remember the concerns raised by the psychologist. The Board talked to you about the identified deficits in self control and your engagement in impression management. You said you had taken responsibility for everything you did and spoke about self-reporting any issues. You said if you did something wrong you always admit it.

Specific to anger and deception you spoke of not reacting to rejection in a negative way. You said the last time you were rejected and reacted badly was due to your mother's rejection but since that time you have accepted other people's decisions. Asked how rejection was linked to your anger you said you had always kept your feelings inside but admitted when you drank these feelings came out with violence and anger. The Board asked you about feelings of rejection in the community. You said you has been in jail most of your life and hadn't learned about relationships. Asked what you have learned about rejection, you said you have learned it is the other person's choice to be in your life or not.

You told the Board you stopped going to AA and NA because the attendees are vulnerable people. You said you stopped hanging around these people and became more open with your supports.

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You admitted you should have talked to your parole officer about the relationship issues you were experiencing and recognize now you ought to have been more transparent.

You said you did not have a condition to report relationships and if your parole officer had asked you would have reported it. You linked not reporting arguments with J.B., to not being asked specifically about arguments The Board found your explanation somewhat immature as it is your responsibility to be fully open with your parole supervisors. You said you are not interested in a relationship as you are not ready. You say when you are more stable you may be more ready; you spoke of wanting to engage fully in the Sundance which is part of a way of life.

Specific to a history of threatening people with weapons you said your mother's partner had tried to get your little sister into bed with him and you threatened him with a baseball bat. You said you were intoxicated and took your anger out on his truck rather than his person. Before the index offence you said you only engaged in self defence during bullying experiences and that there were no other incidents of violence.

The Board talked to you about the different versions of the index offence presented in your file. You say the different versions are from other people, suggesting you have been consistent. You said you have forgotten certain elements over time.

You appeared to deny the 2020 file information suggesting there was an element of thrill seeking. The Board challenged you on your presentation of events; you suggested it was “just a B&E”. You claimed you had imitated what you saw on TV, blacked out, came to and wanted to leave. You said you then saw her purse and did not see her on the couch. The Board finds official file information that you used a balaclava and took a knife with you highly reliable. The Board did not find your version of events wholly credible and finds you need to work on being completely truthful; minimizing the events suggests superficiality in your accountability.

Specific to the sexual assault charges on day parole you said you had consensual sex with the victim. You said you knew she was consenting because she was “on top and was telling you what to do.” You said she was not in a black out state because she had taken “speed” which makes you alert. You said this relationship is why you stopped going to NA as people there haven't fixed themselves and are vulnerable.

The Board challenged you on your pattern of deception and omission of information; you said if something is out of the normal routine of things, you mention it. You said you have reported “every single relationship” and it wasn't your intention to lie. With regard to the condition requiring you to stay away from substance abusers (which you breached) you said you didn't think about the condition at the time. You told the Board you now realize “users” can put you in a risky situation. You disagree that being with a “user” would be a trigger for relapse. In the community you said that you were engaged in your culture but your practice became less and less as you became more relationship-focused.

You told the Board your plans to support your sobriety will be 1-1 counselling which has felt good and worked in the past. You cannot imagine any situation that would result in you relapsing. You say you now seek help and don't make impulsive decisions anymore. You say you have been non-violent for 20 years even when confronted with violence.

Your relapse prevention plan includes a “time out” when your emotions rise up. You say you will ask for help. The Board observed you have a high level of confidence that may be tested in the community where you will not be as heavily supervised and where temptations will be greater.



Specific to problem solving, you told the Board you had been accused of stealing food and another inmate threatened you. You said you walked away and reported the incident to staff as you don't live by the con-code.

You said you have learned communication is the key to good relationships. You committed to honesty with your parole officer. You claim the last time you were not completely open with your CMT was during your parole. The biggest change you have made since coming back to the institution to choose your friends more wisely to ensure they are “at the same level.” You also state you really focus on your indigenous practices. You said you are working through your childhood trauma with a counsellor and have learned how to be resilient.

Specific to your indigenous history you said you had no sense of purpose growing up. You learned that relationships didn't last, that alcohol was involved and abuse was part of it. You denied any abuse toward your former partner but said you did snap at her and criticize her at times.

Your plan to stay engaged in culture include carving, maintaining your commitment to the sun dance, drumming and singing and attending sweat lodges. Specific to the proposed release location you know about the counsellors, mental healthy supports, workshops, as well as smudge, prayer and spirit baths. You know the CRF manager and Elder in that location. You say you are afraid of losing your supports in the Lower Mainland but will stay in touch. You think you have a grandfather, sister, aunt and cousin who live somewhere in the release the area but have not been in touch.

You told the Board you had no concerns with any of the proposed special conditions. You told the Board you feel regret and shame and want to apologize to the victim's family.

Your assistant spoke of his expertise in working with inter-generational trauma that occurred as a result of residential school. He spoke of the history and impacts of colonization. He talked of his experience of working with you. He spoke of your ability to manage yourself and your Sundance experience. He said that Sundance participants will stand by you as family. He spoke of your commitment to live the Indigenous pathway. He stated you focus on spirit and belief and how they have healed you. He spoke of how you have lived up to your responsibilities. He said you accepted responsibility for your actions and that you have grown a lot over the years.

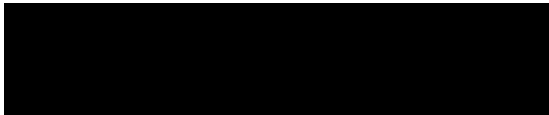
The Board Elder told you we have to take strength in teachings such as humility and being humble; that humility in our world is our ultimate strength. He said we have to communicate in a way that is not offensive or hurtful including our loved ones, especially the women in our lives. He told you to communicate with the women you are involved with in a good way and stated that you need to continue to learn everyday.

The Board finds there are many concerning [negative] factors in your case. The index offence was a violent and brutal killing of a young woman and mother. It occurred when the child was at home and you left this child to find her dead mother's body. You were intoxicated but you had the wherewithal to put a balaclava on your face and carry a knife with you. The Board is concerned that you minimize the crime with the characterization that it was "just a B & E" which points to a waning expression of responsibility for the harm you caused. The Board put is mind to the significant victim concerns present as a result of your criminal and violent actions.

You have had failures on prior releases. These failures were linked to relationships. In one case you were meeting a woman at the airport without your parole supervisor's permission and on day parole you were charged with two counts of sexual assault. You did not fully disclose all your activities and all the conditions of your relationships to your parole supervisors. Waiting to be asked specific questions is not sufficient; you need to be fully, 100% transparent and honest with

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your parole supervisors.

The Board weighed and considered the outcomes of the psychological risk assessment. Overall your risk on day parole is assessed as moderate; however, the psychologist pointed to superficial responsibility and your focus on relationships rather than cultural practice. Your relationships and friendships with women will require close monitoring and supervision going forward. The Board also notes the psychologist identified that your protective factors were high.

On the other hand the Board has weighed and considered the positive [protective] factors in your case. You have completed programming and your commitment and ability to use program skills is moderate. Your dynamic risk factor domain ratings have improved. There has been no violence in your life for approximately two decades, You are sober. You have completed ETAs with success. You have the support of your CMT and your Elder for release.

The weight of your indigenous cultural and spiritual practices was ascribed significant weight by the Board. You are a member of the Sundance which is a way of life. You have committed to your pathway in front of Elders and the community. You have told your Elders, your CMT and the Board that you are committed to your carving and your Indigenous pathway going forward. Your Sundance family are your supports.

The Board also put considerable weight to the viability and specificity of the release plan. The Board is cognisant of the supports, structure and supervision that is present in the proposed release location. The Board recognizes the mental health supports, occupational training and indigenous practices are key features of the release and supervisory plan recommended by your CMT. Your acceptance at the proposed CRF is a crucial factor in the decision being made today.

Having weighed and considered all of these factors the Board has determined that the positive factors in your case outweigh the negative at this juncture. The Board finds that your risk on the proposed release and supervisory plan would not be undue.

Accordingly the Board grants day parole for a period of six months.

Overnight leave is not authorized. You require a period of full compliance and stability prior to overnight leave being appropriate in your case.

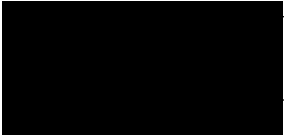
The Board imposes the following special conditions on day parole:

- 1. Not to consume, purchase or possess alcohol.
- 2. Not to consume, purchase or possess drugs other than prescribed medication taken as prescribed and over the counter drugs as recommended by the manufacturer.
- 3. Do not associate or communicate with any person you know or have reason to believe is involved in criminal activity or substance misuse.

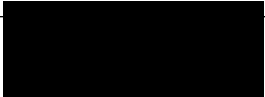
You committed the index offence when intoxicated. Alcohol and drugs are disinhibitors and their use will increase your risk to become violent and reoffend. If you associate with people who commit crime, misuse alcohol or use drugs your risk to reoffend and relapse will increase.

- 4. Immediately report all sexual and non-sexual relationships and friendships with females and any changes to the status of the relationships/friendships to your parole supervisor.

You have a history of poor relationships with women, including your mother. You were accused of



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sexual assault by your last intimate partner who was using illegal drugs. Your parole supervisor must know who you are associating with and the nature of your relationships, including the dynamics of your relationships.

5. Follow treatment plan/program to be arranged by your parole supervisor in the areas of emotions' management, substance abuse, reintegration and past trauma.

You have outstanding needs that will impact your reintegration and after 20 years of incarceration you will have some struggles with institutionalization issues. You are just beginning to learn about relationships and your emotional experiences are immature.
You have historical trauma that has not yet been fully addressed.

6. Remain gainfully employed or continue to actively search for employment or pursue academic upgrading. Submit proof of these activities to your parole supervisor.

Working or going to school will support your reintegration and will help you become self sufficient. Work is a protective factor that will support your return to the community as a contributing member of society.

7. No direct or indirect contact with any member of the deceased victim's family.
8. Not to travel to or through Kitimat, Terrace, Burnaby or Vancouver Island without the prior written permission of your parole supervisor.

There are serious victim concerns. The victims have the right to live their lives without any unwanted contact with you (by any means). Inadvertent expose to you could result in further trauma or psychological harm; therefore you may not be in the places listed.

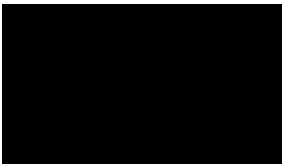
9. No direct or indirect contact with J.B.

Your former partner has the right to live her life without any unwanted contact from you.

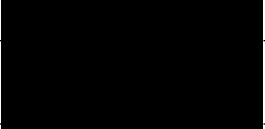
These special conditions are specific to your risk to reoffend or for the protection of victims. As such they are both necessary and reasonable to reduce that risk and protect the public. They are imposed for the duration of day parole unless removed or modified by a future Board.

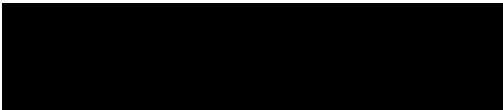
DECISION(S) AND VOTES :

DAY PAROLE - PRE RELEASE	GRANTED	2021-08-26
Board Member	Vote	Vote Date
DAWSON, C. A.	GRANTED	2021-08-26
D'SOUZA, K. W.	GRANTED	2021-08-26



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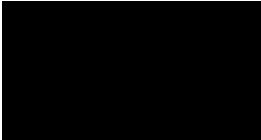
SIGNATURES :

DAWSON, C. A.

Board Member Signature Date

D'SOUZA, K. W.

Board Member Signature Date



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