

**HICKS ADAMS LLP**  
CRIMINAL TRIALS & APPEALS

**HICKS ADAMS LLP**  
Criminal Trial and Appeal Lawyers

**AdvocateDaily.com**  
Canada's Legal Wire Service

Criminal Law

# Transgender equality not up to snuff in prison system



It's clear the prison system hasn't caught up with society's attempts at gender and transgender equality, says Toronto criminal lawyer [Jordana Goldlist](#).

A transgender woman was detained by immigration officials at Pearson International Airport recently and denied entry into Canada after travelling from the U.K. Immigration officials sent the woman to a holding facility to await a hearing, but because she was biologically a male, she was sent to Maplehurst Correctional Complex, an all-male holding centre.

According to a [Toronto Star](#) article, the woman and her lawyer felt she should never have been put in an all-male facility.

“Even if I should be put in prison, I’m a woman and I should be in a women’s prison,” the woman told a *Star* reporter during a visit with her at the Milton facility. The woman ended up spending one night in solitary at the male facility before being transferred to an all-female facility.

Goldlist says the woman deserves to feel as safe and secure as possible, however, her situation could make other inmates feel less secure.

"What about the other inmates at the women's prison?" says Goldlist. "They would be sharing a cell and showering with a biological male, even though she identifies as a female. I don't know how they would react or whether she would feel any safer or more secure in that environment.

"Clearly the prison system has not yet caught up with our society's attempts at gender and transgender equality. No doubt that includes not only the physical space of the prison but the mentality of many individuals involved, on both sides of the bars."

LEARN MORE

LEARN MORE

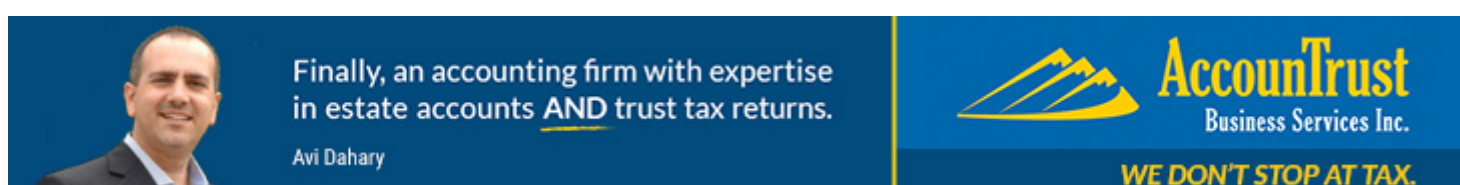
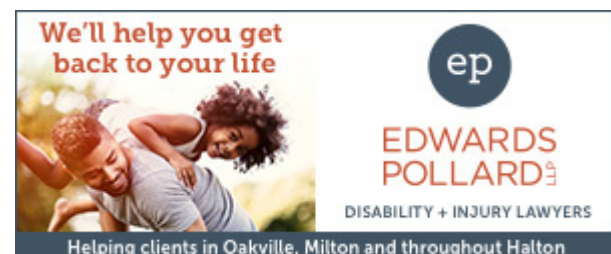
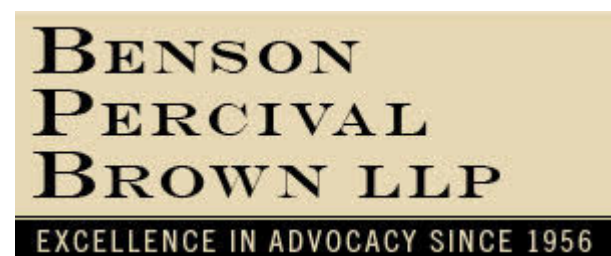
**HICKS ADAMS LLP**  
CRIMINAL TRIALS & APPEALS

**HICKS ADAMS LLP**  
Criminal Trial and Appeal Lawyers

## AdvocatePlus >

- [IIROC mandatory cybersecurity breach reporting](#)
- [Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario awards \\$120,000 award for discrimination in hiring process](#)
- [Join Littler LLP for its 2019 Canada Conference](#)
- [TLA gives voice to the next generation of legal experts!](#)

[View more AdvocatePlus posts](#)



[HOME](#)

[POSTS](#)

[OPINION](#)

[EVENTS/RELEASES](#)

[TV](#)

[PLUS](#)

[ABOUT](#)

[CONTACT](#)

[@ADVOCATEDAILY](#)

[in](#) [ADVOCATEDAILY](#)

