

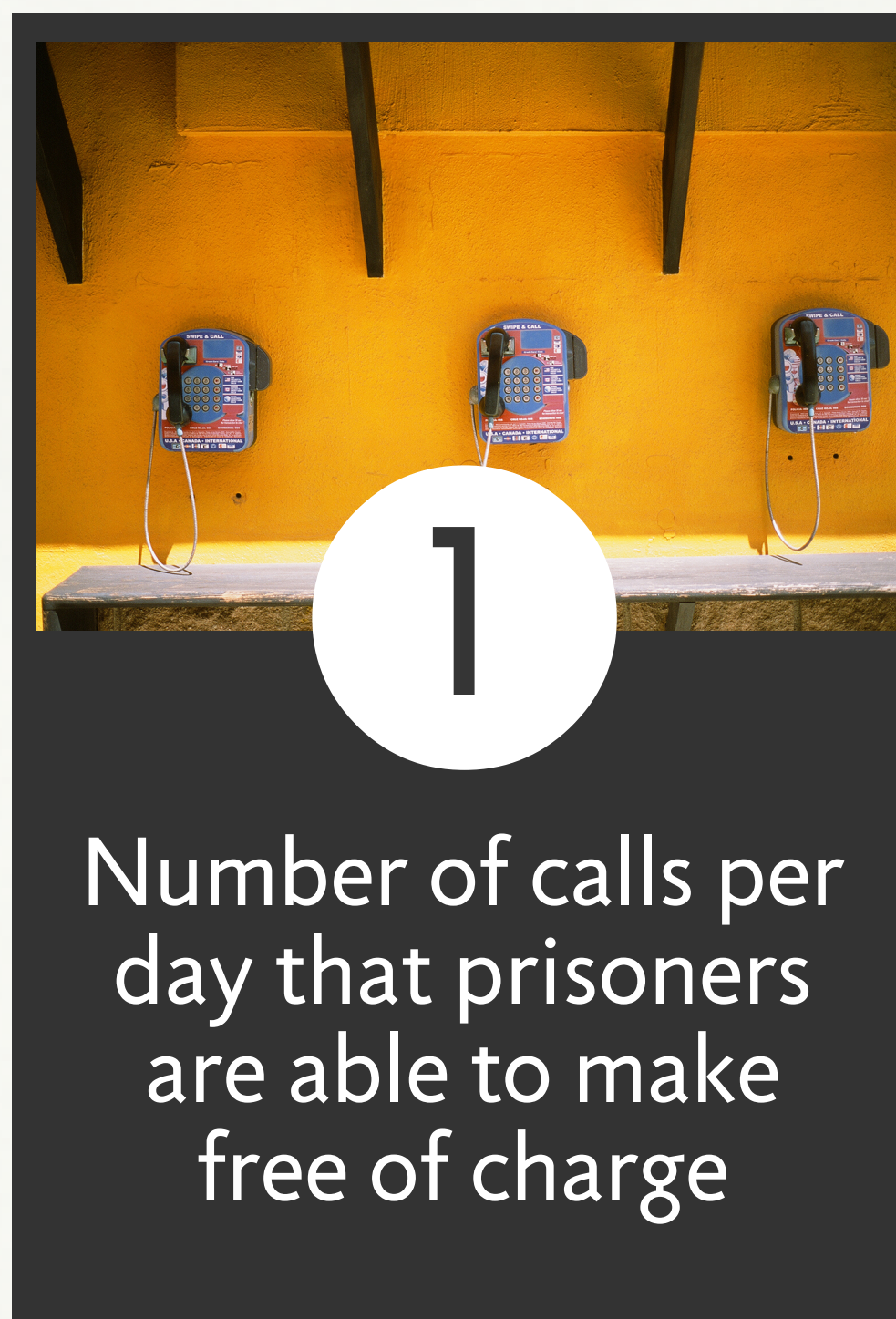
# Telephone Access in Saskatchewan Correctional Centres



Telephone access is vital to the wellbeing of people in prison. Meaningful telephone access:

- Allows people in prison to stay connected with their loved ones
- Allows people in prison to plan for employment, housing, and supports
- Has been shown to reduce recidivism and increase community safety

In Saskatchewan correctional centres, prisoner telephone services are provided by a private, for profit, US-based prison telephone company



1

Number of calls per day that prisoners are able to make free of charge



20

Maximum number of minutes per call



\$2.50

Cost per additional phone call. However, without opportunities for inmates to generate income, this a significant barrier.

## Our Research Findings

Former prisoners identified cost as a major barrier to staying in touch with loved ones over the telephone and planning for their release.

Former prisoners also noted that rules about phoning are not always applied consistently and expressed fear that the right to make phone calls could be taken away at any time.

## Statements from former prisoners:



"If you had no money, you had no way of reaching out to your family. You're stuck."

"It's really expensive. ... They're making ... tons of money off of all the inmates in there."



"As long as I heard their voices and they heard my voice, we'd both be happy. We'd tell each other, 'We miss you,' and, 'I'll be home soon,' I'd tell them, and they'd say, 'We'll see you, we'll see you when you come home.'"

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