



*“Dedicated to Justice” • «Au service de la justice»*

May 13, 2008

The Honourable Rob Nicholson  
Minister of Justice  
284 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0H8

The Honourable Stockwell Day  
Minister of Public Safety  
340 Laurier Avenue West  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0P8

Dear Ministers:

The Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime (CRCVC) is writing to make you aware of Alberta's current three-pronged strategy of enforcement, prevention and treatment to reduce crime and make communities safer.

In response to the Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force report, *Keeping Communities Safe*, the province will target chronic repeat offenders, providing more support to allow police to swiftly deal with known drug houses and establish mental health and other specialized courts. Additional initiatives include enacting legislation to further aid victims of crime, and working harder to prevent root causes of crime like family violence and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

Working with families impacted by homicide and other serious, violent crimes on a daily basis, we see the clear need to reduce violent victimization and repeat victimization in Canada. We believe strongly in crime prevention strategies and social development programs like providing enriched, subsidized child care for all Canadians, introducing respect for gender and non-violent problem solving to young children, ensuring child literacy, providing after school programs for all children, etc.

In responding to crime, the province of Alberta focus is correctly placed on balancing: enforcement, prevention/harm reduction and treatment. We would like to encourage the federal government to adopt a similar strategy in order to better address some of the factors that can contribute to crime such as mental health, addiction, family violence and poverty.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Heidi Illingworth  
Executive Director