



Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly

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Member

September 22, 2006

Premier Lorne Calvert  
Room 226 Legislative Building  
2405 Legislative Drive  
Regina SK S4S 0B3

Dear Premier Calvert,

In the wake of two reports into the Oyate Safe House by the Provincial Auditor and the Children's Advocate, I am writing today on behalf of the Official Opposition Saskatchewan Party to ask you to reconvene the Special Committee to Prevent the Abuse and Exploitation of Children Through the Sex Trade.

As a former committee member, I was both sickened and frustrated by the findings of these two independent officers of the legislature. It is clear that the Department of Community Resources failed at-risk children whom they were charged to protect. Further information from the report that the Department of Community Resources also closed files on children with the full knowledge those children were still being sexually exploited indicates that additional steps are needed.

The very idea for a safe house to protect these children came out of the hearings held by the Committee. Given the Committee's positive role in highlighting the importance of this issue, it only makes sense for the Committee to continue to play a positive role in safeguarding the welfare of children. Reconvening the committee would be the ideal way of ensuring public accountability. There could be direct reports to the committee on what progress was being made on Oyate, and further, any progress the Department of Community Resources is making on the broader problems that have been identified.

I heard the voices of the many sexually exploited children that spoke to our committee and they still haunt me to this day. For the sake of these children, I hope you will take this request very seriously and reconvene the committee. They deserve nothing less.

I look forward to your response on this urgent matter.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "June Draude".

June Draude  
MLA Kelvington-Wadena

