



Leader of the
Official Opposition

Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly

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Dear Honourable Members,

I am writing the justice critics for each of the three federal opposition parties on a matter that is garnering considerable public attention in the province of Saskatchewan.

Last year, Peter Whitmore kidnapped and assaulted a ten year-old boy from the town of Whitewood. Mr. Whitmore has a lengthy criminal record involving sexual assaults against children. Yet, the Crown has decided not to proceed with a dangerous offender application for Mr. Whitmore.

Bill C-27, currently before the House of Commons would put the onus on those convicted of three violent or sex offences to prove why they should not be declared a dangerous offender. This law, had it been in effect, could have been an important tool for crown prosecutors in Saskatchewan. Indeed, had Whitmore been designated a dangerous offender from his many prior criminal acts, this kind of reverse onus designation may well have prevented him from being free to kidnap and abuse the two boys last summer.

I urge you to support speedy passage of this bill, so Canadians can be assured dangerous criminals stay behind bars for as long as possible.

Sincerely,

Brad Wall
Leader, Saskatchewan Party Official Opposition