



Leader of the
Official Opposition

Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly

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The Honourable Robert Nicholson, P.C., Q.C., M.P.
Minister of Justice, Attorney General for Canada
House of Commons
Parliament Building
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Nicholson,

I am writing to you today on a matter of considerable concern to the people of Saskatchewan. As a result of a recent agreement with prosecutors, the Crown will not proceed with a dangerous offender application against Peter Whitmore.

As you may recall, Mr. Whitmore kidnapped and assaulted an innocent 10 year-old boy from Whitewood, Saskatchewan last year. This was just the latest chapter in his criminal career involving violence against children that spans the last 14 years. Mr. Whitmore has flouted court orders and manipulated justice officials to get back out on the streets where he can claim more innocent victims. He is a prime example of why the dangerous offender provisions were placed in Canada's Criminal Code.

I understand Bill C-27 is currently being discussed in committee. These changes would put the onus on the offender to prove why he or she should not be classified a dangerous offender, if there is a conviction on a third violent or sex offence. It is my belief these changes would have provided prosecutors with an important tool in the Whitmore case, had they been in effect at the time.

I urge you to push forward with speedy passage of Bill C-27. That way, Canadians can have a greater assurance that their families are protected from dangerous criminals like Peter Whitmore.

Sincerely,

Brad Wall
Leader of the Official Opposition Saskatchewan Party.