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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Maurice Vellacott, MP
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Conservatives move to strengthen Sex Offender Registry

For Immediate Release

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OTTAWA – Yesterday Minister Van Loan announced a bill to strengthen the National Sex Offender Registry and the National DNA Data Bank.

Maurice Vellacott, the Member of Parliament for Saskatoon-Wanuskewin says that police services and victims' groups have been clear that the National Sex Offender Registry must be strengthened to better protect our children and communities from sexual predators.

Currently, a convicted sex offender is registered only when the Crown asks the court to order registration, and only when a judge agrees. Vellacott says, "The Conservative Government will be making registration mandatory."

The current rules allow police to use the Registry only to solve crimes after they happen. Vellacott says, "The Conservative Government will allow police to use the Registry pro-actively to prevent crime."

Right now there is no way to include those guilty of sexual offences outside of Canada, including child sexual exploitation, on the Registry. Vellacott says, "The Conservative Government will ensure international sex offenders can be included."

Currently, not all sex offenders have their DNA included in the National DNA Data Bank. Vellacott says, "The Conservative Government will prevent sex offenders from escaping the Data Bank."

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For further comment, call (613) 992-1966 or (613) 297-2249