UPHOLDING OUR PROMISES TO KEEP COMMUNITIES SAFE

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Dear Constituent,

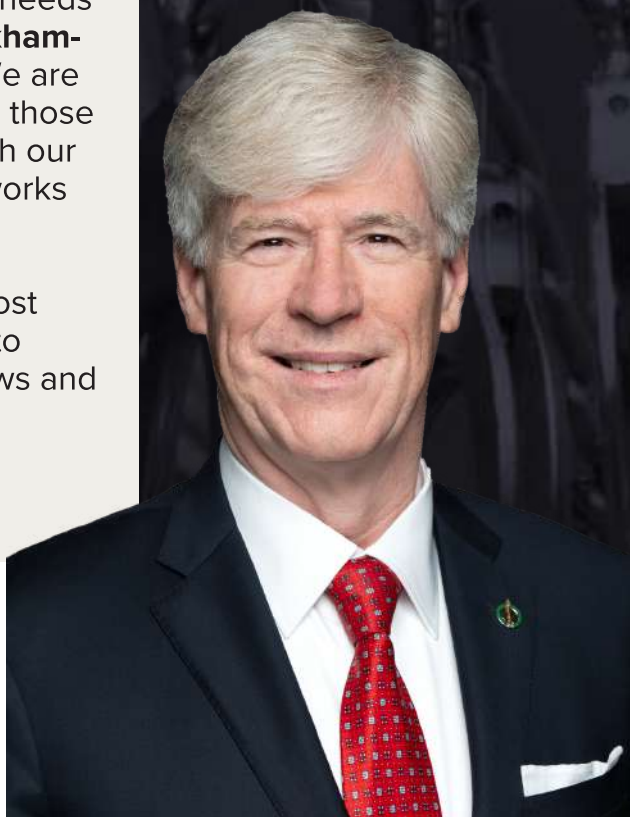
Canada's new government made the promise to implement stricter bail and tougher sentences, and to make our communities safer. To honour our promise, we have implemented stricter bail requirements and tougher sentencing, prioritizing the safety of our communities.

Over the past year, our government has delivered on this commitment by passing three major criminal justice bills, most notably **Bill C-14, *the Bail and Sentencing Reform Act*.** These sweeping reforms strengthen the Criminal Code, support our front-line workers, and invest in long-term crime prevention.

Canadian law enforcement must be responsive to the evolving needs of our communities. To deliver the security that families in **Markham-Thornhill** deserve, we have made public safety a top priority. We are empowering police with the essential tools they need, ensuring those who commit crimes are held accountable, and collaborating with our provincial and territorial partners to ensure the justice system works effectively.

In less than a year, our government has delivered one of the most ambitious criminal justice reform agendas. As threats continue to evolve, we will keep working with urgency to strengthen our laws and protect all residents of **Markham-Thornhill**.

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BAIL REFORM

WITH OVER 80 TARGETED CHANGES TO THE CRIMINAL CODE, THE BAIL AND SENTENCING REFORM ACT ENSURES **BAIL WILL BE HARDER TO GET FOR REPEAT AND VIOLENT OFFENDERS, AND SENTENCES WILL BE TOUGHER FOR SERIOUS CRIMES.**



BILL C-14:



Makes bail more difficult to get in cases of repeat and violent offences, violent and organized crime-related auto theft, break and enter of a home, extortion involving violence, and human trafficking.



Creates new reverse onus rules, meaning the accused must show why they should be released, making it harder for them to get bail.



Directs police to detain an accused for a bail hearing when it is necessary to protect the public, including victims and witnesses.

REQUIRES COURTS TO CONSIDER :

More factors at bail hearings, including whether the **allegations involve violence**

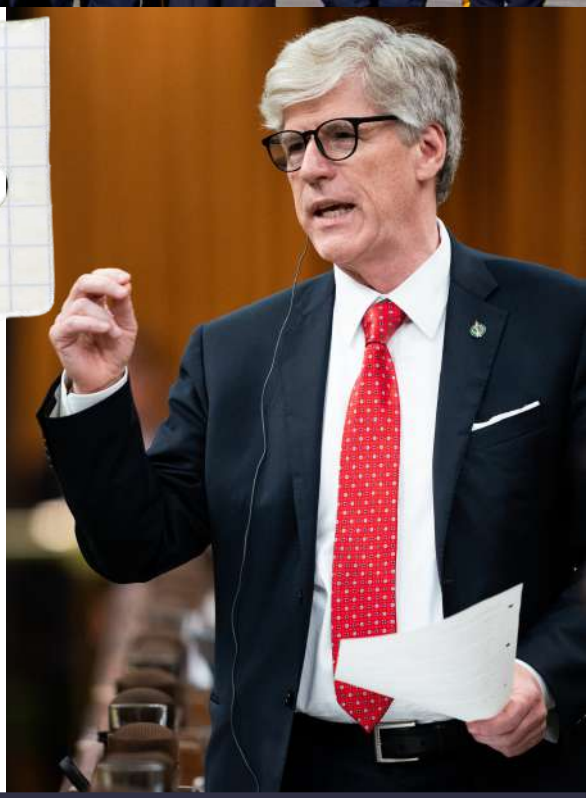
Whether the accused has **outstanding charges** when determining whether to grant them bail

Weapons bans in more cases

More closely review bail plans in reverse onus cases and **limit who can act as a surety,** generally excluding people convicted of a serious criminal offence in the past 10 years



TOUGHER LAWS AND SENTENCES FOR EXTORTION, AUTO THEFT AND ORGANIZED CRIME



While bail reform was an important step of our legislative goals, we've also **toughened laws to specifically target extortion, auto theft and organized crime**.

CHANGES TO THE CRIMINAL CODE:

1. **Toughen sentencing laws** for repeat and violent crime, including car theft and extortion, meaning those found guilty could spend more time in prison.

2. **Require consecutive sentences** for violent auto theft and break and enter offences; and for extortion and arson.

3. **Create a broader range of aggravating factors,** making organized retail theft and offences that interfere with essential infrastructure more likely to receive tougher sentences.

4. **Require courts to impose sentences that emphasize society's disapproval of the crime and deter the offender and others** from committing offences involving repeat auto theft, break and enter, or organized crime.

OTHER ACTIONS TO KEEP CANADIANS SAFE

Alongside the *Bail and Sentencing Reform Act*, our government passed:

BILL C-8

The ***Cyber Security Act*** to strengthen Canada's ability to protect critical infrastructure and digital systems that people in Canada rely on.

BILL C-9

The ***Combatting Hate Act*** to better protect communities from hate crimes, intimidation, and obstruction.

BILL C-16

The ***Protecting Victims Act*** to strengthen federal victims' rights and better protect victims and survivors of crime.

OUR LATEST EFFORTS TO PROTECT CANADIANS GO BEYOND THESE NEW LAWS, INCLUDING:

Proposed **$75 million** over five years for the Canada Community Security Program to help address rising hate-related crimes.

Announced up to **$157.5 million** over three years through the Building Safer Communities Fund to support gun and gang violence prevention initiatives.

Announced Canada's first-ever whole-of-government **National Anti-Fraud Strategy** to protect Canadians from increasingly sophisticated scams, fraud, and financial crimes.

Introduced the ***Strengthening Canada's Immigration System and Borders Act*** to strengthen border security, modernize immigration controls, and keep Canadians safe.

Launched the **Report Cybercrime and Fraud website**, a new national system for individuals, businesses, and organizations to report fraud and cybercrime.