



Colin Carrie MP Oshawa

CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT URGES LOCAL ACTION TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Ottawa, ON, November 21, 2013 – Dr. Colin Carrie, Member of Parliament for Oshawa and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of the Environment, on behalf of the Honourable Dr. K. Kellie Leitch, Minister of Labour and Minister of Status of Women, is encouraging all Canadians to take part in the many events occurring during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence. The campaign to eliminate violence against women and girls begins on November 25.

“This is an opportunity for all of us to take a stand against unacceptable behavior,” said Dr. Carrie. “Women and girls should be able to feel safe in their homes, workplaces and communities and by taking part in this campaign we are sending a strong message that violence will not be tolerated.”

“By standing together in communities across Canada we can make a difference in the daily lives of women and girls,” said Minister Leitch. “This 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence campaign is a tremendous opportunity to draw attention to this problem, and work together to eliminate it.”

The Conservative Government has taken significant actions to make our communities safer for women and girls. The government has recently introduced legislation that will give police and prosecutors new tools to address cyberbullying. This legislation would create a new criminal offence prohibiting the non-consensual distribution of intimate images.

Recently, Minister Leitch announced a call for proposals entitled *Cyber and Sexual Violence: Helping Communities Respond*. This funding will support projects at the local level to help prevent violence against women and girls. Since 2007, the government has provided more than \$62 million for projects to end violence against women and girls through Status of Women Canada.

The *Safe Streets and Communities Act* was passed to improve the safety of all Canadians. The Government also launched the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking, and increased penalties for violent crimes.

The [16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence](#) begins on November 25, with the *International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women*. The campaign concludes with *International Human Rights Day* on December 10. Canada’s [National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women](#) takes place on December 6, in memory of the 14 young women murdered at L’École Polytechnique in Montreal on December 6, 1989, and all women and girls who are victims of gender-based violence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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