

May 7, 2011

**For immediate release**  
**The Death of Bill 183 & Accountability**

The public display of flagrant neglect for transparency in Ontario's public bodies, as demonstrated by the government's failure to pass the Bill which would extend the Ombudsman's oversight, is devastating. That the Liberals would suggest there is 'enough' oversight of our school boards, children's aid societies, long-term care facilities, etc is outrageous. MPP Rosario Marchese, who introduced the bill, referred to the pain endured by those most vulnerable and stated, "*the government might claim they have oversight in one form or another, but these people know there is no oversight.*"

**Our government has exhibited a blatant disregard for Ontario taxpayers and what they are enduring.**

Corina Morrison, advocate for children and founder of the London Anti-bullying Coalition, said, "*I am disgusted. My own MPP (Liberal Khalil Ramal) voted against this oversight but who will ensure the safety of children?*" The Liberals suggest trustees are accountable, but cases across the province belie this assertion. No one is accountable.

Ontario remains one of the few provinces in Canada where school boards are not part of the Ombudsman's jurisdiction despite current Ombudsman, Andre Morin's, pleas. The vulnerable, in this province, remain vulnerable. Students remain voiceless and parents powerless when they believe their children are unsafe at school. Unless the school board agrees, there is nowhere for a parent to go in Ontario, but to a lawyer. Sadly, the failure of Bill of 183 ensures a litigious society, at the taxpayer's expense.

We extend our thanks to those 10 courageous and principled MPPs in the NDP and Conservative caucus who stood for transparency and accountability in the House on May 5. To those who stood in opposition, we trust the laments of the people in the public gallery ring loudly in your ears. "*Shame!... wait until October.*"

Please contact your MPP if you share our concerns.

For further information please contact:

Corina Morrison  
Co-founder  
London Anti-Bullying Coalition  
[www.londonabc.ca](http://www.londonabc.ca)  
519-473-5214

Karen Sebben  
Daniel Sebben  
York Region Anti-Bullying Coalition  
[www.yorkregionanti-bullying.org](http://www.yorkregionanti-bullying.org)  
[k\\_sebben@hotmail.com](mailto:k_sebben@hotmail.com)

Lesa McDougall  
Karen Cameron  
Miranda Miller  
Bluewater Citizens for Education  
[www.bcfore.com](http://www.bcfore.com)  
[info@bcfore.com](mailto:info@bcfore.com)

Terri Snell  
St. Thomas-Elgin Anti-Bullying Coalition  
519-764-2470

Katie Neu  
Bullying Canada  
[www.bullyingcanada.ca](http://www.bullyingcanada.ca)