



# NEWS RELEASE

**JERRY J. OUELLETTE**  
Member of Provincial Parliament  
**OSHAWA**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 15, 2009

## **OUELLETTE'S BILL TO PROTECT CHILDREN PLAYING AMATEUR SPORTS PASSES SECOND READING**

**QUEEN'S PARK** – Bill 30, the *Protection of Minors in Amateur Sports Act, 2007* introduced by Oshawa MPP Jerry Ouellette passed Second Reading yesterday afternoon in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. The bill will now move forward and has been referred to the Standing Committee on Social Policy.

The bill would establish mandatory criminal background checks for all those who volunteer with sports organizations involving youth under the 18 years of age.

“The safety of our children should, and it always does, come first, regardless of the age of our children, but more especially, obviously, our younger children,” said Peter Shurman, MPP Thornhill, “and that is why I support Bill 30”.

“I’m going to support this bill. It’s, again, kind of a no-brainer. I was actually quite shocked that this wasn’t the case when I read the bill. I mean I just assumed, that this was the case,” stated Cheri DiNovo, MPP Parkdale-High Park.

“As an educator for 25 years, a coach, a parent and, of course, an observer and a lover of children, who need our protection and help consistently and relentlessly,” added Dave Levac, MPP Brant, “I think this legislation is another signal to the people out there who may think of the ways in which they can hurt our children that we’re going to track you down.”

Mr. Ouellette has had positive endorsements from provincial sporting associations, many of which are in the process of developing similar policies. While many sports associations in Ontario have already developed similar policies dealing with protecting children, there are no provincial minimum standards or guidelines that require mandatory criminal background checks.

“The protection of our children from convicted offenders is a serious matter and I will continue to work together with all organizations in Oshawa and across the province to make amateur sports safer for our children,” added Mr. Ouellette.

-30-