



# NEWS RELEASE

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

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## Ouellette Reaffirms Commitment to Protect Kids in Sports

*Oshawa MPP delivers keynote speech at OLA banquet*

**(Oshawa)** Delivering the keynote address to an audience of 200-300 members at the annual meeting of the Ontario Lacrosse Association on Saturday, Oshawa MPP Jerry Ouellette reaffirmed his commitment to protect children playing organized amateur sports in Ontario.

“I was pleased and honoured to explain the history and rationale behind this legislation to a dedicated audience of concerned parents, volunteers, coaches and organizers”, stated Ouellette.

Ouellette, who introduced Bill 86, *Protection of Minors in Amateur Sports Act, 2010* on May 31, 2010 is looking forward to debating it later this month in the Ontario Legislature. The bill requires coaches, referees, managers and officials to be subject to criminal background checks in order to participate in organized amateur sports with children under 18 years of age. While some organized sports organizations in Ontario already have such policies, there are no wide ranging provincial guidelines or regulations that require mandatory criminal background checks. MPP Ouellette has introduced this bill twice before, but both times it died on the Order Paper when Premier McGuinty prorogued the session of Parliament.

“I am thankful for the overwhelming support for the bill and pleased that the Ontario Lacrosse Association has already adopted some of its guidelines and policies”, revealed Ouellette.

Ouellette was well received by the OLA members and commended for his courage and conviction for proceeding with this initiative to help protect kids from violent offenders.

Second Reading for Bill 86 is scheduled for Thursday March 31<sup>st</sup>.

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