



# NEWS RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 6, 2011

## Ouellette Re-Introduces Bill To Protect Children Playing Amateur Sports

**QUEEN'S PARK** –Today in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario Oshawa MPP Jerry Ouellette re-introduced a bill that would protect children while playing in organized amateur sports in the province of Ontario. This is the fourth time Mr. Ouellette has introduced this bill, but each time the McGuinty Government prorogued the legislature, the Premier chose not to move this bill forward.

“I have always maintained that protecting our children from convicted offenders is a serious matter,” says Mr. Ouellette. “I feel it is important to continue to bring this legislation forward so that our children are protected to the best of our ability and feel secure when they are involved in valuable organized sports.”

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

Mr. Ouellette has received positive endorsements from provincial sporting associations, some of which are in the process of developing similar policies. While many of the 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.

“There are a great deal of volunteers out there who are making a great contribution not only to our children but to all communities across Ontario”, added Ouellette, “This legislation is in no way meant to take away from the invaluable work that they are doing, but for that small—very small number of individuals out there who are slipping through the cracks and targeting kids.”

-30-

---

**Jerry J. Ouellette MPP, Oshawa**  
Phone: 905-723-2411  
E-mail: [jerry.ouellette@pc.ola.org](mailto:jerry.ouellette@pc.ola.org)