

Minister of Justice
and Attorney General of Canada



Ministre de la Justice
et procureur général du Canada

The Honourable / L'honorable Rob Nicholson, P.C., Q.C., M.P. / c.p., c.r., député
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H8

AOUT
AUG 16 2012

His Worship Robert Bratina
Mayor of City of Hamilton
Floor 2
71 Main Street West
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Bratina:

The Office of the Prime Minister has forwarded to me a copy of your correspondence on behalf of the Hamilton City Council concerning prostitution.

As you may be aware, on March 26, 2012, the Court of Appeal for Ontario found two of the prostitution-related provisions of the *Criminal Code* to be unconstitutional in *Bedford v. Canada (Attorney General)*. The Government of Canada has sought leave to appeal this case to the Supreme Court of Canada and will vigorously defend the constitutionality of Canada's criminal prostitution laws. We are committed to promoting the health and safety of all Canadians and the well-being of our communities.

Please be assured that our goal remains to ensure that the criminal law continues to address the significant harms that flow from prostitution to communities and those involved in prostitution, along with other vulnerable persons.

I appreciate having had your comments brought to my attention.

Yours truly,

The Honourable Rob Nicholson