



June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
The Honourable Bill Blair (Bill.Blair@parl.gc.ca)  
Minister of Public Safety  
Government of Canada

Dear Minister Blair

On behalf of the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC), I urge you to take steps to alleviate the concerns expressed by Commissioner Lucki in regards to the participation of the RCMP in the implementation of Saskatchewan's Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol Act (Clare's Law).

While we are appreciative the RCMP is subject to federal privacy legislation, we also believe there are mechanisms that can be altered in the Privacy Act to permit their active involvement in this most worthwhile endeavour to protect women and girls from entering into, or continuing in, a potentially abusive domestic situation.

Saskatchewan has a vast rural territory that has the RCMP as its sole policing brigade, and statistics show women in the northern areas of the province experience the highest rate of violence in all of Canada. These women are isolated; there is a lack of services and shelters; all they can do is rely on each other for support. Clare's Law is intended to supply friends and families with the information to assist these women in making their choices, information that is based on facts, not just anecdotes, hearsay, or gossip. There is a definite role for the RCMP in these situations.

Your government has provided financial support for research, programming, and the building of shelters for abused women. These are welcome and important, but they are 'after the fact' initiatives whereas Clare's Law is a very important upstream step to quell the violence from even beginning.

The RCMP has a sworn duty to serve and protect; these women need, and deserve, protection. We urge you to work with Commissioner Lucki to determine a path forward that will enable them to be active participants in the implementation of Clare's Law.

Sincerely

Patricia Leson, President  
National Council of Women of Canada

*The National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) works in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, acknowledging Canada is the traditional territory of First Nations and Metis People. We are grateful to join with others in peace and hope, advocating for an improved quality of life for women, children, families, and society.*

C: Commissioner Lucki [Brenda.Lucki@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:Brenda.Lucki@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)  
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