

Manitoba PC Caucus



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

House passes MLA's resolution fighting child pornography

Ottawa to be urged to change Criminal Code, copyright law to help victims: Yakimoski

Blair Yakimoski, Progressive Conservative MLA for Transcona, today saw his private member's resolution against child pornography passed by the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba. Through the resolution, the Legislative Assembly urges the federal government to change the Criminal Code and copyright law to give victims of the creation of child pornography the right to stop the publication and reproduction of such illegal content.

"The producers of child pornography are currently considered by Canadian law to be the authors and owners of this content for copyright purposes. The victims of child porn should be empowered to stop this publication and reproduction by acquiring the copyright to this material," said Yakimoski. "This change would give victims and the general public much more control in curbing child porn and halting its spread."

Copyright law in Canada is under federal jurisdiction, so it's ultimately up to the federal government to strengthen the rights of victims in this way. Yakimoski noted such a change in Canadian law could apply also to voyeuristic images and videos, and would possibly give victims the right to recover costs and obtain financial damages associated with copyright infringement.

"Victims of child abuse imagery continue to be abused every time such images are shared and viewed," added Yakimoski. "This resolution will hopefully lead to another tool empowering victims to gain control over the removal of these images, and to move forward with the healing they need."

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