



Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police  
Association canadienne des chefs de police

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## Canada's police chiefs welcome royal assent of Bill C-14 on bail and sentencing reforms

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACCP) welcomes the passage of Bill C-14 on bail and sentencing reforms and commends the Government of Canada and Parliamentarians from all parties for advancing legislation that responds to long-standing concerns regarding repeat violent offenders and community safety.

For several years, police leaders from across Canada have called for reforms to address the risks posed by offenders who repeatedly commit serious crimes while under judicial supervision. Through engagement with governments, parliamentary committees, and justice system stakeholders, the CACCP has consistently advocated for measures that balance individual rights with the need to protect victims and communities.

This legislation represents an important step forward in addressing the risks posed by repeat violent offenders and strengthening public confidence in Canada's justice system. Police leaders across the country have consistently raised concerns regarding the disproportionate impact that a relatively small number of chronic and violent offenders have on victims, communities, and public safety.

The CACCP is encouraged by several measures contained within the legislation, including enhanced consideration of repeat violent offending in bail and sentencing decisions, expanded reverse onus provisions for certain serious offences, greater scrutiny of release plans, and strengthened recognition of organized crime and violence committed against Canadians, including first responders.

The Association also welcomes the Government of Canada's investments in justice system data collection, reporting, and analysis, as well as additional funding for legal aid and victims' services. Effective public safety policy requires evidence-based decision-making and meaningful support for victims and justice system participants.

While this legislation marks significant progress, the CACCP remains committed to working with all partners to evaluate its impact and identify opportunities for future improvements that enhance community safety and public confidence.

The CACCP thanks the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Sean Fraser, for his leadership in introducing and advancing Bill C-14 and the federal government for recognising the serious impact of organized crime, chronic, and violent offenders within our communities, and for advancing legislative change that prioritizes public safety and protects Canadians from preventable harm. The CACCP also appreciates the Government's willingness to engage with policing partners on these important issues and looks forward to supporting the successful implementation of the legislation.



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