Minister of Justice
and Attorney General of Canada

Ministre de la Justice
et procureur général du Canada

The Honourable / L'honorable Sean Fraser, P.C., K.C., M.P. / c.p., c.r., député
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H8

Ms. Trish Mandewo
President
Union of BC Municipalities

Dear Ms. Mandewo:

I am writing to inform you that the *Bail and Sentencing Reform Act* (Bill C-14) is now law.

A safe, peaceful, and prosperous Canada depends on strong protections for our communities. With over 80 changes to the *Criminal Code*, this legislation delivers on the federal government's promise to strengthen bail and sentencing laws, in particular for repeat and violent offending.

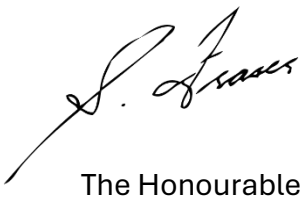
With these reforms, obtaining bail will be more difficult for those accused of repeat offending and for those charged with serious offences such as violent auto theft, organized crime, home invasion, human trafficking, and violent extortion. Sentencing laws will be tougher for serious crimes through consecutive sentences and restrictions on house arrest for certain sexual offences, including sexual offences against children.

These sweeping reforms reflect extensive consultation and close collaboration with partners across the country. We heard your concerns, considered your feedback carefully, and worked hard to reflect those perspectives in the legislation. The result: a stronger *Criminal Code*. Thank you for your collaboration throughout this process.

To support this work, we are providing funding to help provincial and territorial governments strengthen national bail data collection, reporting, and analysis. Better national data will help measure what is working, identify gaps, and support public safety on an ongoing basis. This builds on nearly $1 billion in annual federal investments across the country, including funding for legal aid, victims' services, and other programs that help provinces and territories deliver justice services.

The federal government is doing its part to make communities safer. I look forward to continuing to work closely with you and other partners across Canada to ensure these reforms achieve their intended impact.

Yours sincerely,



The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., K.C., M.P.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency