



**KYLE
SEEBACK, MP**
BRAMPTON WEST



Ms. Linda Beaudon

Dear Linda,

Our Government recently announced new legislation to combat terrorism and radicalization in Canada. The most dangerous terrorist activities in the last year have been perpetrated by radicalized individuals rather than being pre-arranged acts by organized groups. To properly address these new threats, we need to adjust our laws and provide new tools to our law enforcement—that is the goal of our new legislation, which makes several small changes to our laws that I'd like to take the time to explain.

The first change included in this legislation will be the criminalization of the advocacy or promotion of terrorism offences. Under the current criminal law, it is a crime to counsel or actively encourage others to commit a specific terrorism offence. We are expanding the law to apply to someone who instructs others to "carry out attacks on Canada." The penalty for the new offence would be a maximum of five years in prison. We are also proposing to give courts the power to order the removal of terrorist propaganda materials. Currently, courts can order materials related to child pornography or hate propaganda be seized. They can also order website owners to delete these materials from their sites. This new clause would expand the powers of courts to order the confiscation or removal of terrorist propaganda as well. Both of these changes would help combat radicalization in Canada by expanding the tools our law enforcement needs to arrest perpetrators and remove their dangerous propaganda.

The next set of changes would seek to strengthen the preventative powers of law enforcement against suspected terrorist attacks. Firstly, the proposed amendments would lower the threshold to preventatively detain an individual in circumstances where a peace officer believes on reasonable grounds that a terrorism activity "*may* be carried out" instead of the current law that requires that a peace officer must believe that a terrorism offence "*will* be carried out." Additionally, the possible maximum period of preventative detention would be increased from 3 days to 7 days. This detention would still require judicial consent, and the Minister would need to report to Parliament annually on the use of this power. These new powers would make it easier for law enforcement to detain suspected terrorists before it's too late.

Lastly, this legislation will improve information sharing across federal departments and agencies to better identify and address threats. Similarly, it will also ensure that national security agencies are better able to use classified information when denying entry and status to non-citizens who pose a threat to Canada.

I would value your feedback on this issue. Please let me know your thoughts on this new legislation as well as our Government's efforts to protect Canadians from the evolving threat of terrorism. I have attached a short survey that you can return to my office postage free.

Best regards,

Kyle Seeback, your Member of Parliament

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