

Backgrounder  
Internet Child Exploitation Unit Announcement  
The Honorable Darryl Hickie  
Corrections, Public Safety, and Policing  
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan  
10:00 a.m. March 27, 2008

- The safety and security of children is paramount to this government and we want to stop Internet predators from taking away their innocence.
- Saskatchewan has recently established a dedicated Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit.
- Four officers were put in place effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 by the current opposition, but were only funded until March 2008.
- This Saskatchewan Party Government is committed to fund those four positions in a permanent and sustainable way and add seven more.
- During the election we promised to double existing funding for police resources and work with other provinces to share resources and develop a coordinated Western Canadian response to protect children from sexual exploitation over the internet.
- Corrections, Public Safety, and Policing have allocated \$11.2 million out of the 2008-2009 budget to fully fund these 11 officers dedicated to the ICE Unit.
- Saskatoon will receive 5 of the officers, 4 to Regina, and 2 in Prince Albert, ensuring we have covered north, central, and southern Saskatchewan.
- This funding will help the province advance our commitment of adding 120 new police officers over the next four years, starting with 30 this fiscal year.

For more information please contact Rob Nicolay at 787-1915 or Rebecca Roth at 787-6482.