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Dear Community Partner:

The Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Counselling Program is part of the Ontario government's strategy to help protect children and youth from exploitation on the Internet and to assist victims of online sexual abuse.

The program provides for immediate counselling services to be made available to eligible child and youth victims of Internet sexual exploitation and members of their families. We have now extended the program to March 31, 2010, to continue to build on our commitment to provide effective supports and services for victims when and where they need help the most.

I hope that your organization and others working with victims of crime will refer appropriate victims and their families to this worthwhile program. Brochures in French and English providing details of the program may be downloaded at:

<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss/programs.asp#internet>

and

<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/french/ovss/programs.asp#internet>

We have also recently taken the important step of amending a regulation under the *Victims' Bill of Rights* to make it easier for victims of Internet child sexual exploitation, hate crimes and other offences to sue offenders for damages. Under the new regulation, offenders are liable for damages to victims of some forms of Internet child sexual exploitation and other offences, for emotional distress and bodily harm resulting from the distress caused by the crime.

Thank you for your continued commitment to providing assistance to victims of crime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Bentley".

Hon. Chris Bentley
Attorney General