

The Honourable Kristopher Wells
Senator | Alberta



L'honorable Kristopher Wells
Sénateur | Alberta

August 10, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Letter of Support – National Centre for Police Excellence (NCPE)

I am writing to extend my formal support to the concept advanced by the Coalition for Canadian Police Excellence for a National Centre for Police Excellence (NCPE) to serve as an independent, federally supported body dedicated to strengthening the education and professional development of Canada's police officers.

Parliament has recently taken significant steps to strengthen the *Criminal Code*, including the *Bail and Sentencing Reform Act* that introduced over eighty targeted changes affecting bail, sentencing, and repeat-offender provisions, and the *Combating Hate Act* that reformed the *Criminal Code* to add a new offence for specific targeted acts of hate. These reforms reflect a serious legislative response to public safety concerns that had been raised by police services, victims' advocates, and communities across the country.

However, passing legislation is only the first step. The Department of Justice has itself acknowledged that these reforms will only achieve their intended effect if provincial and territorial partners properly resource their implementation — including the training of police services responsible for applying new bail, sentencing, and hate crime provisions on the ground. A new legal standard is only as effective as the officers tasked with understanding and applying it consistently, fairly, and lawfully.

This is precisely the gap the NCPE is designed to address. By coordinating a standardized, evidence-informed education foundation for entry-level and career-long police training, delivered in partnership with accredited institutions, the NCPE would help ensure that officers in every jurisdiction are equally prepared to implement new legal standards — and to do so in a manner that reflects ethics, procedural justice, and community trust. Without this kind of coordinated investment in education, the gains Parliament has worked to secure through legislative reform risk being applied unevenly or not fully realized in practice, which would be a great disservice to Canadians.

I encourage continued attention to the NCPE concept as a complement to the legislative reforms already underway, and I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this initiative further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "K. Wells".

Honourable Kristopher Wells, PhD
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Senate of Canada