

For Immediate Release  
August 23, 2006

## STATEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL MICHAEL BRYANT

TORONTO — We welcome the investigation by the Ombudsman into the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

The CICB was created in 1971, and was one of the first of its kind in the country. Since then, Ontario has been a national leader in developing innovative and responsive services for victims. We are proud of the record of the CICB, but its ability to serve victims of crime in the way they deserve needs to be updated.

Earlier this year I asked the Chair of the CICB, Marsha Greenfield, for suggestions for improvement. Discussions are now ongoing between ministry officials, the CICB and the Office for Victims of Crime.

We look forward to the result of the Ombudsman's investigation and we will address the concerns raised.

Over the course of the mandate of this government, we will have spent more on victims than the previous government did over eight years. Since 2003, we have spent \$252 million and have committed an additional \$89 million this fiscal year for supports and services for victims.

- 30 -

### Contacts:

Greg Crone  
Ministry of the Attorney General  
Minister's Office  
(416) 326-1785

Valerie Hopper  
Ministry of the Attorney General  
Communications Branch  
(416) 326-2202

*Disponible en français*