

From: megan.leslie@parl.gc.ca [mailto:megan.leslie@parl.gc.ca]
Sent: December 4, 2012 9:09 PM
Subject: RE: Chaplaincy Services Cuts

Thank you for sending me a copy of the letter you sent to Minister Toews regarding non-Christian chaplains from Canadian prisons. Once again, the Conservatives are making reckless decisions without thinking of the repercussions on the rehabilitation of offenders and the safety of our communities.

This government is cutting an inexpensive program that worked well for offenders looking to rehabilitate by means of their religion. In addition, this government seems to be favouring a particular religion, while 43% of offenders do not identify as Christian.

The Foreign Affairs Minister claims that "Religious freedoms are fundamental freedoms that we stand for and that we firmly support." But while they claim to be defenders of religious freedom abroad, the Conservatives don't even support it here in Canada.

We assure you that we will continue to question this government on its irresponsible public safety decisions. New Democrats advocate programs that favour the rehabilitation of offenders and ensure a safe environment for Canadians.

Sincerely,

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