

Will the Conservative Omnibus Crime Bill ...

... make Canada

SAFER

OR

MEANER?

A public forum
moderated by

Denise Savoie

MP for Victoria

**Thursday, November 10
6:30 to 9 p.m.**

**First Metropolitan United
Church Fellowship Hall**

932 Balmoral Road

This is a free event – **all are welcome.**

Please call **250-363-3600** for more information.

The public is invited to hear from an expert panel on proposed changes to Canada's Criminal Justice System:

Robert Mulligan – Criminal lawyer

Sibylle Artz – UVic Professor with the School of Child and Youth Care

Bruce Parisian – Executive Director, Victoria Native Friendship Centre

David Hough – Founder of the Restorative Justice Coalition at William Head Institution

Chris Beresford – Member of the Board of the John Howard Society of Victoria

The evening will include an opportunity to ask questions and meet with related community groups sharing information about their work.

C-10, comprising nine separate crime bills, is being fast-tracked through Parliament. Huge decisions will be made with long-term implications for our communities. Let's set aside the sound bites for an in-depth look at the issues. Is the federal government's tough-on-crime plan the best path for Canada? Does the Conservative approach tackle the disproportionate representation of Aboriginal people in our prisons? What does it mean for victims? What about crime prevention? Are we addressing the needs of the large percentage of inmates with mental illnesses? Texas has moved away from mandatory minimums because they are bankrupting the state. Can we afford the high cost of building more prisons when all the experts tell us we need money for treatment, programs and services for at-risk youth, anger management, addictions and fetal alcohol disorders?