

March 3, 2006

The Honourable Vic Toews, P.C., M.P. Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada House of Commons Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister,

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association, I am writing to extend my congratulations on your new portfolio. The CBA has always fostered a strong and fruitful relationship with the Minister of Justice. We look forward to meeting regularly with you and your officials to convey the perspective of the legal profession on issues of mutual interest.

The CBA is a national association representing over 35000 jurists, including lawyers, notaries, law teachers and students across Canada. Our primary objectives include improvement in the law and in the administration of justice. The CBA is an active participant in the policy development and legislative review process. The Minister of Justice and the CBA share a number of fundamental values that direct our respective work in this regard:

- Ensuring access to justice;
- Adherence to the rule of law: and
- Upholding the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession.

These principles will bear on key issues your government will address throughout its mandate, particularly early priorities such as strengthening the justice system.

I would like to **request a meeting** at your earliest convenience, to discuss critical issues of mutual interest.

Yours very truly,

(Original signed by Brian Tabor)

Brian A. Tabor, Q.C.