



Statement

Susan Kadis, M.P., Thornhill

Wednesday, October 23rd, 2007

Mr. Speaker,

Recently York Regional Police were awarded the Webber Seaver Award for Quality in Law Enforcement by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. York Regional Police were recognized for their proactive approach in tackling concerns about youth and gang crime. The police agency partnered with community groups, parent associations, faith groups, and athletic leagues to create an anti-gang strategy. Working with the community York Regional Police implemented new youth programs, offer free transportation to community centres and engage young police officers in youth mentoring programs. Through this strategy York Regional Police have significantly reduced the street-level crime associated with youth. I congratulate Chief Armand La Barge and the front line officers for their leadership. The efforts of York Regional Police are a model for police agencies across Canada and around the world demonstrating that the first step in the battle against crime is prevention.