

FACTS ON CRIME

Prime Minister Stephen Harper stated:

“But times are changing. Our cities are changing. And the safe streets and safe neighbourhoods that Canadians have come to expect as part of our way of life are threatened by rising levels of crime.”

WHAT CRIME WAVE?

22% decrease in overall crime rate since 1998.

10% decrease in firearm offences from 1999.

50% decline in property crime since 1991.

42% drop in break-ins since 1999.

14% decrease in violent crime to 932 per 100,000 in 2008.

40% drop in auto thefts since 1999.

INCARCERATION RATES & DOUBLE-BUNKING

3% increase in federal incarceration rates from 2009 to 2010/2011.

2,938 prisoners are currently double bunked in Canada or 20.24%.

7% increase in provincial incarceration rates from 2009 to 2010/2011.

82% of prisoners are double-bunked in Millhaven Assessment Unit.

THE COST OF PRISON OVERCROWDING

\$110K average cost of keeping a male inmate incarcerated per year.

\$29K cost to maintain an offender in the community.

\$211K average cost of keeping a female inmate incarcerated per year.

\$2.3B the 2009-10 expenditure on federal corrections, a 36.6% increase.

WHO'S GETTING HIT THE HARDEST

30-50% of those in detention are mentally ill.

61% of incarcerated youth are non-violent offenders.

ABORIGINALS make up 4% of Canada's population, but 25% of male inmates, and more than 1/3 of female inmates. In Ontario, twice as many Aboriginal youth are being sent to jail as non-Aboriginal youth who commit the same offence.