



Legislative Assembly

JOHN YAKABUSKI, MPP
Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke

NEWS RELEASE

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Yakabuski to Takhar: Support Our Troops

Queen's Park, Toronto - Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP, John Yakabuski, took the Provincial Minister of Government Services, Harinder Takhar, to task yesterday in the Ontario Legislature, asking him why he talks the talk about supporting our Canadian Armed Forces, yet does not even provide the courtesy of a response to letters that have been written to him by their top officials. Yakabuski also pointed out that Takhar has not responded to a letter of support he wrote and personally handed to Takhar over a month ago.

The subject of the unanswered correspondence is access to licensing services for the people of CFB Petawawa. Yakabuski is working with Lieutenant-Colonel Keith Rudderham for licence services for the personnel and family members who live and work on base Petawawa. Rudderham is asking for a meeting with Takhar to impress upon him the need and urgency for such a service to be offered at Ontario's largest military base.

"It's hard to fathom a Minister of the Provincial Government taking cheap shots, such as accusing me of not being supportive of the troops, rather than seriously considering the request for government service, apologizing for his tardiness and agreeing to meet with those he claims to support," said Yakabuski.

Yakabuski went back at it again today, offering Minister Takhar "a golden opportunity to say, 'not only do I say I support Canada's troops, but I will see that they get the proper services within the town of Petawawa so that I can attach actions to those words'." Yakabuski pointed out that the town of Petawawa has a population of over 16,000 residents, of which 5,300 are serving members of the military, a thousand civilian support people and 5,600 family members of those military families and said, "they should not be denied the kind of licensing services that they would have in any other area of the province."

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For further information or to arrange for a personal interview with John Yakabuski, call 416-925-2170 or 613-639-3005