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November 18, 2006

Council of the Federation
Suite 630, 360 Albert Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7X7

Attention Loretta O'Connor, Executive Director;

Re: The Criminal Code of Canada and Torture by Non-State Actors

On September 18, 2006 we sent you a letter regarding the *Criminal Code of Canada* and torture by non-state actors with the request that our letter be distributed to the premiers. Enclosed is a background paper entitled, *Within Canada: Trafficking and Non-State Actor Torture Combined*, providing insights into non-state actor torture victimization. Two brief first person stories are included, contextualized within the environment of captivity created by human traffickers—spousal and parental—and the acts of non-state actor torture committed. Canadian civil society must be willing to name and address the full extent of the violent acts that occur within families. This is where prevention begins. It is where impunity must also begin to be addressed.

We ask the Council of the Federation to consider the need for due diligence by naming non-state actor torture as a stand alone criminal offence in the *Criminal Code of Canada* and a specific form of human rights violation that occurs in Canada. A review of all our recommendations is listed on pages 20 -22 of our enclosed paper.

Please confirm that you have received this letter and paper. And please contact us for any additional information that might be required.

Respectively submitted,

Jeanne Sarson, MEd, BScN, RN & Linda MacDonald MEd, BN, RN

cc. MP Bill Casey