

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

---

### BILL 46: ACT RESPECTING INDEPENDENT POLICE INVESTIGATIONS OMBUDSPERSON TO ADDRESS PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE DURING EXAMINATION OF BILL

**Quebec City, December 2, 2011** – In February 2010, the Québec Ombudsman tabled a special report in the National Assembly that concluded significant changes need to be made to the Quebec investigative procedure for incidents involving police officers. Ombudsperson Raymonde Saint-Germain asserted that "the *status quo* is neither acceptable nor in the interest of citizens, police officers, or sound governance".

The Minister of Public Security today tabled a bill regarding independent police investigations. The Ombudsperson will intervene when the bill is examined by a parliamentary committee. Out of her usual deference, under similar circumstances, to the National Assembly, Ms. Saint-Germain will not grant any interviews on the subject for the time being, but will do so once she has addressed the parliamentary committee.

The Ombudsperson is one of five individuals appointed by the National Assembly. As stipulated by the Public Protector Act, she is authorized to comment on bills and suggest improvements that she deems relevant.

- 30 -

**Source:**

The Québec Ombudsman

**Information:**

Joanne Trudel, Director of Communications

418-644-0510

[joanne.trudel@protecteurducitoyen.qc.ca](mailto:joanne.trudel@protecteurducitoyen.qc.ca)

[www.protecteurducitoyen.qc.ca](http://www.protecteurducitoyen.qc.ca)