

## National Bullying Awareness Week November 16, 2009

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### National Bullying Awareness Week

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Fish Creek.

**Mrs. Forsyth:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Too often bullying is dismissed as a harmless and normal part of growing up, but bullying can have devastating consequences, especially on children and youth who may be kept from reaching their full potential by the hurtful words and actions of others. Something that can deeply scar so many lives should not be dismissed as just normal kids' stuff. Bullying must not be tolerated any time, anywhere.

During national Bullying Awareness Week, from November 15 to 21, Albertans are reminded to think about the harmful impacts of bullying and to take steps to prevent it from happening in their homes, their schools, and their neighbourhoods. Alberta has shown tremendous leadership in creating safe and caring schools and promoting the prevention of bullying across the province. Through the bullying prevention strategy government ministries work closely with community groups and schools to prevent bullying at the local level. Preventing bullying isn't just a job for government or schools. As caring Albertans we all have a role to play in ensuring that people feel safe, supported, and respected in their communities.

Additional information and resources are also available at [www.bullyingawarenessweek.org](http://www.bullyingawarenessweek.org). The website features fact sheets, prevention strategies, and links to other interactive websites designed to raise awareness about bullying. I encourage all Albertans to make use of these resources and become part of the solution to bullying. Together we can create brighter futures and safer communities for all Albertans.