

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bevington to call for change to Canada's Motto to include the North

OTTAWA – Western Arctic Member of Parliament Dennis Bevington announced today that he intends to bring forward a motion to change Canada's Motto to include the North.

“There are three coasts to Canada,” Bevington said. “Our motto should be changed to ‘from sea to sea to sea’ – the current motto does not reflect the great heritage and role of the North in the history and future of our nation.”

Bevington says he recognizes this is a small symbolic change but hopes it will act as a catalyst in Ottawa.

“While the change would only be symbolic, it would serve as a constant reminder to the all Canadians that the North is an integral part of Canada,” Bevington said. “As someone who was born and raised in the North, it seems to me that Ottawa forgets that we are full fledged Canadians as well.”

The three northern premiers, along with prominent scientists and Northern Aboriginal leaders and former Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, recently called for the motto to be changed.

Canada's Motto is part of the Coat of Arms for Canada which was approved through royal proclamation on November 21, 1921. The coat of arms was last changed on July 12, 1994 when the Motto of the Order of Canada, “They desire a better country,” was added.

“My motion would ask the Prime Minister to make a request to the Queen to amend the motto,” said Bevington. “I believe we could garner significant support in the house for this change,” he added.

For More Information Contact

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