

September 5, 2006

## **MP returns to Ottawa, prepares for NDP Policy Convention**

**Yellowknife, NT** – Western Arctic MP Dennis Bevington departs the North today, en route to Montreal for an NDP Caucus meeting on Sept. 7. Following that Bevington, his staff and seven Western Arctic delegates head to Quebec City for the 22nd NDP policy convention, to be held Sept. 8-10.

“This policy convention comes at a very important time as we’re moving into some very interesting issues in the House of Commons,” said Bevington. “We’re expecting 2,000 delegates, observers, special guests and media to be in attendance. We haven’t had a convention this large since 1995. It’s a very exciting time for us.”

Keynote speakers on the agenda this year include Stephen Lewis, Shirley Douglas, Gary Doer, Lorne Calvert and Tim Flannery, author of the best seller “The Weather Makers,” a critically acclaimed account of the implications of global climate change. Canadian actor Kiefer Sutherland will deliver a video address to the convention delegates.

The Western Arctic NDP will be bringing forward eight resolutions. One calls for a 50 per cent increase to the Northern Residents Tax Deduction, an initiative Bevington has been working towards since his election to Parliament earlier this year.

The Western Arctic delegates are: Riding Association President Mark Heyck, Mary Lou Cherwaty, Fernand Denault, Kathryn Paton, Steve Petersen, Joan Bevington and Eileen Marlowe. Marlowe will be part of a special panel of Aboriginal delegates who will be forming the NDP’s Aboriginal People’s Commission.

Following the convention, Bevington will spend a few days in Thunder Bay, Ont., participating in the NDP Caucus Retreat. The fall Parliamentary session will then commence on Sept. 18.

For more information, or to schedule an interview, please contact:

Tara Kearsey  
Constituency Assistant, Communications  
Dennis Bevington, Western Arctic MP  
(867) 669-8817  
(867) 444-0230