



**Dennis Bevington**  
**Member of Parliament**  
**Room 930, Confederation Building**  
**Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6**

May 4, 2007

## **NWT resident Bertha Allen becomes a Member of the Order of Canada**

**OTTAWA** - MP Dennis Bevington offers his congratulations to Bertha Allen, this year's only NWT inductee as a Member of the Order of Canada. This is a special tribute presented by the Governor General to Canadians who make outstanding contributions at the local or regional level, or in a special field of activity.

In a ceremony at Rideau Hall today, Allen, a long-term resident of Inuvik, was recognized with 29 other notable Canadians, including Ferguson Jenkins, Natalie MacMaster, John Neville, Pearl Keenan of Teslin, Yukon, and Janice Stein. The Awards were presented by Her Excellency the Right Honorable Michaëlle Jean.

During the ceremony, Allen was described as "a champion of social, political and economic equality for Aboriginal and Northern women. An elder whose counsel is continually being sought, she is a former president of the Native Women's Association and helped found the NWT Training Centers in Yellowknife and Inuvik. Grounded in her traditions and community, she was appointed to the Council of Grandmothers. After serving as president of the Status of Women Council of the NWT, she is now a member of the steering committee of its Women's Voices in Leadership."

"Bertha Allen has a great influence on all those that know her," said Bevington following the ceremony. "As an Aboriginal woman and community leader, she has managed the extreme changes in life and culture with style and grace. She is so deserving of this honour. It was wonderful to see her accept the award with her family members and friends at her side."

**For more information contact:**

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