NEW DEMOCRATS DOMINATE 'PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS'

OTTAWA – NDP MP Bill Blaikie was named 'Canada's Best MP' as New Democrats swept Maclean's "Parliamentarian of the Year Awards".

MPs from all parties chose NDP MPs in four of the six categories. The recognition confirms what ordinary Canadians across the country already know: New Democrats are effective, respected Members who put the working families they represent first.

Blaikie's win comes as no surprise. As the longest continuous-serving MP and Deputy Speaker, Blaikie has the respect of MPs from all parties. In addition to being admired for his speaking skills and knowing the rules of the House upside down and backwards, Blaikie is known for fighting for his constituents. He has also been instrumental in writing some of Canada's most treasured laws, including the Canada Health Act.

<u>Bill Blaikie</u>, "Best Overall" Elmwood - Transcona (Manitoba)

<u>Peter Stoffer</u>, "Most Collegial" Sackville - Eastern Shore (Nova Scotia)

<u>Joe Comartin</u>, "Most Knowledgeable" Windsor - Tecumseh (Ontario), NDP

<u>Charlie Angus</u>, "Best Constituent Representative" Timmins - James Bay (Ontario), NDP

Read the full story on www.macleans.ca

For more information, please contact:

Tara Kearsey, Office of Dennis Bevington, 867-669-8817