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AG's REPORT SHOWS THAT OTTAWA IS FAILING THE NORTH
Both Liberals and Conservative governments failed on Inuvialuit land claim

OTTAWA – A report by the Auditor General of Canada on the Federal government's implementation of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement shows systematic failure by both Liberal and Conservative governments to fully implement the 23-year-old treaty.

"This report is another in a continuing series which show how Liberal and Conservative governments have not respected the spirit and intent of this constitutionally protected agreement," said Dennis Bevington MP (Western Arctic). "Since 1984, successive federal government have failed to develop plans as to how to carry out their obligations."

The report found that:

- "Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) had not met some of its significant obligations and management responsibilities for implementing federal obligations related to the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement*"
- "Federal organizations had not established the necessary processes to meet significant obligations, and as a result, some of the obligations had been left unmet";
- "INAC had never concluded on a process by which federal organizations could return unneeded Annex R lands to the Inuvialuit" and
- "INAC had not followed through on any of these commitments [for economic performance monitoring]. No one monitored progress towards the economic objectives of the Agreement."

"The 1990 Audit of the Northern Affairs Program and the 2003 Audit of the transfer of federal responsibilities to the North showed the same lack of action," said Bevington. "If we had seen the necessary political leadership on Northern issues, Canada's Arctic Sovereignty would not be in question."

At the 2006 NDP National Convention in Quebec City, the NDP approved a policy of implementing land, resources, and self-government agreements in a manner that respects the spirit and intent of these agreements.

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