

Standing up for Northerners !

Many people contributed to an excellent election result for us in the North West Territories.

October 14th represents a new mandate for our work in Ottawa. Our support was spread right across the north, in most communities and all regions. While we didn't attract many endorsements from political figures across the territory, we attracted people from all walks of life to support our efforts to "Stand up for the North" in Parliament. My great thanks to all of you who put such a great effort into our win in the NWT.

The Federal Election Campaign 2008 ended much differently than it started. PM Harper's plans to precede an economic decline with a fast election win didn't quite make it. The world financial crisis showed up and became the dominant issue nationally, overshadowing many others, like health care, the environment, poverty and foreign policy.

The NDP national campaign was very well presented by our Leader Jack Layton, whose efforts through the whole election kept us in the game and increased our seat total in the end. And we will very much welcome the increase in numbers to the efforts of our caucus, pound by pound, the most effective voice in Parliament.

We will need all of this in the days ahead in the House of Commons as the task ahead will be difficult. With the downturn in the economy predicted and with the reckless cuts to taxation made over the past two years by the Conservatives, we will have to be vigilant with the direction of the new budgets, protecting programs and services for northerners and Canadians.

It remains my great honour to represent the people of the NWT in our nation's capital for the 40th Parliament. I feel confident that with my experience from the previous session, with strong staff ready to serve you, that we will have a very successful effort in the work ahead. Please contact us anytime, we are there to serve you.

Dennis Bevington – Member of Parliament