



**DENNIS BEVINGTON  
STANDING UP FOR NORTHERNERS**

NDP CONCERNS ABOUT VOTER ID RULES HEARD BY ELECTIONS CANADA  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**YELLOWKNIFE:** New Democratic incumbent MP Dennis Bevington today said he was pleased Elections Canada has decided to relax the rules for voter identification for people in the North, but continued his call for the flawed law to be amended.

“It’s a bit of a victory for New Democrats that at least the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada understands that the changes to the election law made by the Conservatives are not fair to people,” said Bevington. “Unfortunately there are thousands of urban people who have also been affected by this poorly thought out law.”

Under the changes made to the *Elections Act* made by the Conservatives in order to vote a person must either:

- A. Provide one original piece of identification issued by a government or government agency containing your photo, name and address;
- B. Provide two original pieces of identification authorized by the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada. Both pieces must contain your name, and one must also contain your address; or
- C. be vouched for by an elector whose name appears on the list of electors in the same polling division and who has an acceptable piece or pieces of identification. Both will be required to make a sworn statement. An elector cannot vouch for more than one person, and the person who has been vouched for cannot vouch for another elector.

On September 10, 2008 Chief Electoral Officer Marc Mayrand granted polling officials the power to show leniency in remote communities.

“The head of Elections Canada has shown how poorly thought out this law was, unfortunately it was only the New Democrats who opposed these changes that both Stephen Harper and Stephane Dion supported,” said Bevington.