

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 23, 2009

BEVINGTON APPROVES BILL GIVING JURISDICTION FOR HIGHWAYS TO NWT

OTTAWA – Today Western Arctic MP Dennis Bevington gave approval to a bill which will give the Northwest Territories clear jurisdiction over the construction of new highways.

“With this jurisdiction the NWT will not have to wait for Ottawa to begin the preliminary work for the Mackenzie Valley Highway,” said Bevington. “While we will need Ottawa’s financial assistance to build the highway, we should not have to wait for Ottawa’s approval for work like determining the route, environmental screening and surveying.”

With Mr. Bevington’s approval of the bill it has now been submitted to the Private Member’s Business Office of the House of Commons for inclusion on the order paper. After being added to the order paper the bill can be introduced into the House of Commons for first reading.

“Hopefully we can get first reading of the bill next week ,” said Bevington.

Depending upon the House of Commons schedule, second reading debate and assignment to a standing committee for review could occur late this year or early next year.

-30-

For More Information Contact:

Doug Johnson, Office of Dennis Bevington MP, 613-992-2131

Accompanying this release are photographs of Mr. Bevington signing the bill.