

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NEW DEMOCRAT MP THANKS IGNATIEFF FOR SUPPORTING MOTION

OTTAWA – The New Democratic MP for the Northwest Territories is pleased with increased support for his long-standing House of Commons motion to change Canada’s official motto to reflect that Canada has coasts on three oceans.

As reported in Canwest newspapers, Michael Ignatieff has said he will support Dennis Bevington’s motion to change the motto. In an email to Canwest journalist Randy Boswell Ignatieff said that he: “would support the idea of the three-seas motto.”

“I’m really thankful for the Liberal leader’s support of my motion,” said Dennis Bevington (Western-Arctic). “However, I hope the media will remember that it was the New Democrats and not the Liberals who have been pushing this issue. Quite often the Liberals steal New Democratic ideas, promising to implement them then reneging when it comes time to deliver.”

Bevington submitted the motion to amend Canada’s official motto soon after he was elected in 2006. It was resubmitted when the House of Commons returned from the Stephen Harper initiated prorogation. The Bevington motion, which is still on the House of Commons Order Paper reads:

“M-110 — January 26, 2009 — Mr. Bevington (Western Arctic) — That, in the opinion of the House, the government should immediately recommend to the Crown that the Canada Coat of Arms be amended to reflect in its motto the reality that Canada has coasts on three oceans.”

“I sure hope I can count on the Liberal leader’s continued support for my motion when it comes up for debate,” said Bevington.

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