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Bevington releases a new report Omnibus Budget Bill C-38: Implications for Canada's North

YELLOWKNIFE – Western Arctic MP Dennis Bevington today released a report detailing the impact on Northerners of the Harper Conservative's massive omnibus budget bill C-38, which was rammed through Parliament this spring.

"As the Harper Conservatives are now slamming through Parliament their second massive, omnibus budget bill by limiting debate, this report is timely in its examination of the Conservative's previous omnibus bill and how it impacts the people, land, water and government services of the North," said Bevington. "The Harper Conservatives use these massive bills to prevent real consideration of their impacts by parliamentarians and Canadians."

The report reveals that Bill C-38 is much more than a simply "budget" implementation bill for it actually changed 57 laws, created three new laws, and eliminated seven important oversight agencies. Bill C-38 also changed the regulations and processes for a wide range of important issues, from the protection of fish and species at risk, to food safety and employment insurance.

The report highlights five broad categories from a Northern perspective:

- Implications for democracy
- Impacts on Aboriginal people and communities
- Changes to environmental protection and management
- Impacts on social security, labour rights, and jobs
- Oversight of food safety.

Bevington further stated, " The overall impact of Bill C-38 for the North shows just how much the Harper government has moved to consolidate their authority across the entire region to make sure resource exploitation takes precedence over people and the environment."

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