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**Northern Development given full Critic portfolio in NDP Shadow Cabinet**

OTTAWA - Western Arctic Member of Parliament Dennis Bevington says he is proud to to be appointed as the Official Opposition Critic responsible for Northern Development.

“Previously, Northern Development was a Deputy Critic responsibility,” said Bevington. “This shows how important the North is becoming in Canada’s political agenda.”

“The North is a vital and important part of Canada that Dennis has represented well for years,” said New Democrat Leader Thomas Mulcair. “He will continue to be key to our work in bringing Northern concerns to the national stage.”

In addition to his House of Commons duties, Bevington represents the North as the only MP from North-of-60 on the House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and as the Chair of the NDP Praire and Northern Caucus.

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