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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Maurice Vellacott, MP
Saskatoon-Wanuskewin

Committee for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development chooses Vellacott as Chair

For Immediate Release

May 1, 2006

OTTAWA – Today, Saskatoon-Wanuskewin Conservative and fourth term Member of Parliament Maurice Vellacott was elected as Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. The other Conservative Members of Parliament on the Committee are Rod Bruinooge (Parliamentary Secretary), Inky Mark, Colin Mayes, and Harold Albrecht. According to the House of Commons Standing Orders, a government-side Member must chair this particular committee.

This was a role that Vellacott had expressed a desire to serve in. He has previously served as a Vice-Chair of this House Standing Committee.

On this the first meeting of the Committee in the new Parliament, an election took place for the Chair and Vice-Chairs. Vellacott felt that in the past years he has had good working relationships with the various Members of the different parties on this Committee and was optimistic that he would be voted in by a majority of the committee for the position of Chair.

Vellacott says, “I look forward to working with colleagues of all parties on the Committee and also with aboriginal people across Canada to improve the lot of First Nations and Metis throughout our land.”

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For further comment, call (613) 992-1966