

Saskatoon:
Unit 3, 844-51st St. East
Saskatoon, SK S7K 5C7
Tel (306) 975-4725
Toll free (888) 844-8886
Fax (306) 975-4728
vellacott.mp@shawlink.ca



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Ottawa:
Suite 610, Justice Bldg.
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Tel (613) 992-1899
Fax (613) 992-3085
Vellacott.M@parl.gc.ca
www.mauricevellacott.ca

Maurice Vellacott, MP
Saskatoon-Wanuskewin

Maurice Vellacott speaks out on “stripper-gate”

For Immediate Release

May 16, 2007

OTTAWA – Today, Minister Finley introduced amendments to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA) to help prevent vulnerable foreign workers, such as strippers, from being exploited or abused. The proposed amendments will give the authority to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to instruct immigration officers to deny work permits to foreign strippers.

Maurice Vellacott, MP for Saskatoon-Wanuskewin, lauded the amendments by saying, “Over the past year, Canada’s Conservative Government has used all existing legal authority to cut back the number of foreign strippers admitted to Canada. Today’s proposed amendments will go further in helping prevent vulnerable people such as strippers from being exploited or abused.”

The previous Liberal government gave blanket exemptions to foreign strippers to work in Canada despite warnings the women were vulnerable to forced prostitution and other forms of exploitation.

Vellacott stressed, “Canada’s Conservative Government is taking real action to help prevent the exploitation of women and children, while protecting other foreign workers who could be subject to abuse and exploitation.”

Vellacott said, “The previous Liberal government also facilitated human trafficking by permitting foreign strippers into the country, regardless of whether they could be potential victims of abuse or exploitation.”

Vellacott remarked, “The Liberals’ ‘stripper-gate’ promoted the trafficking of vulnerable women for illegal sexual activities in Canada and it contradicted Canada’s foreign policy against human trafficking.”

Vellacott emphasized, “It’s unacceptable to allow situations of exploitation that existed under the Liberals to continue.”

– 30 –

For further comment, call (613) 992-1966 or 297-2249