

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

Getting things done on the environment

Cleaner fuels, cleaner air

For Immediate Release

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OTTAWA – Agriculture Minister Chuck Strahl and Environment Minister Rona Ambrose today announced details of the Cleaner Fuel, Cleaner Air Biofuels Initiative – a plan that will benefit both farmers and the environment.

Canada's New Government intends to develop regulations that will ensure gasoline contains 5% renewable fuels by 2010, and that diesel fuel and heating oil contain 2% renewable fuels by 2012.

These regulations will have a real impact: reducing greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 4 megatonnes annually. That's the equivalent of removing almost one million cars from the road.

Today's announcement is only the latest results-based step taken by Canada's New Government towards a greener, cleaner Canada. Since taking office, this government has taken real action by:

- Introducing a Chemicals Management Plan to regulate potentially harmful substances;
- Tabling Canada's first-ever Clean Air Act, a comprehensive plan that tackles both greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution;
- Exempting donations of ecologically-sensitive land from Capital Gains Tax; and
- Creating a new tax credit to reduce the cost and encourage the use of public transit.

These measures replace the all-talk, no action approach to the environment championed by current Liberal leader – and failed former Environment Minister – Stéphane Dion. Under Dion and the Liberals:

- Greenhouse gas emissions increased by 27%;
- Canada's air quality dropped to 27th in the 28 member OECD; and
- One husky was named Kyoto.

Conservatives promised to replace environmental talk with environmental action, and Canada's New Government is delivering on that promise for all Canadians.

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