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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Maurice Vellacott, MP
Saskatoon-Wanuskewin

Vellacott acknowledges recognition by Canadian website

For Immediate Release

January 30, 2006

OTTAWA – Maurice Vellacott expresses thanks for the recognition of his involvement in his constituency, in his country and elsewhere.

Vellacott distances himself from the ‘Miss Piggy’ comment on the same website about Belinda Stronach (named “Worst Canadian Politician of 2005”) following Vellacott’s citation.

The citation is listed under the website’s January archives <http://cjunk.blogspot.com/2006_01_01_cjunk_archive.html>. It is titled “Celestial Junk Best Canadian Politician of 2005.”

The website creator is Paul Marek. He can be reached at (306) 665-5545 or pmarek@shaw.ca.

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

Celestial Junk Best Canadian Politician of 2005

In keeping with the methodology used to determine that Belinda Stronach was the worst Canada had to offer by way of political sleaze, we used “Character” to pick the best of the best. And, wouldn’t you know it, the field of choice was enormous. A great number of Liberal, Conservative, New Democrat, and Bloc members of parliament are outstanding personalities who bring to politics admirable depth, conviction, and honesty.

If it is true, as Samuel Butler said, that “The truest characters of ignorance are vanity, and pride and arrogance!”, then it could be said that the truest characters of wisdom are humility, modesty, and a recognition of ones limitations and strengths.

It is, with great pleasure, that Celestial Junk gives you its Best Canadian Politician of 2005, Mr. Maurice Vellacott, CPC incumbent for the Saskatoon-Wanuskewin riding in Saskatchewan.

If one has the opportunity to speak with Maurice, one is immediately struck by the openness and humility of this 3 term MP. The pretentious and salesman-like pomposity that oozes from so many politicians is completely absent.

Vellacott is a tireless worker, pushing himself in a variety of party and parliamentary functions, and taking on leadership roles within the CPC and community. Days are filled with official functions, as well as many volunteer endeavors. Being active in caucus, The House, and in the Saskatoon region are not enough for this passionate man. He takes ongoing French lessons, and promotes outreach to immigrant communities. As well, Maurice travels abroad regularly on humanitarian missions, visiting countries like Vietnam where he offers support to minorities on the fringes of communist society. He’s been to China, Sudan, and elsewhere, and always on compassionate missions where human rights, freedom, and liberty are the focus. Not only does he make these trips as a parliamentarian, but he makes some as a private individual outside the umbrella of parliament.

When discussing Canadian immigrants, Maurice’ humility shines through. There is none of the “I know what is needed” attitude; that pugnacious manner that drips from so many politicians. Instead, he speaks of his work among Ontario’s and Saskatchewan’s immigrant communities as a learning experience, where understanding the concerns, loves, and hates of the many diverse groups is the goal. In other words, he doesn’t reach out to new Canadian communities to sell snake oil, he reaches out to learn and educate himself and his party. What a refreshing change!

Maurice is a devout Christian, who believes in the right of all Canadians to be at the table together, no matter how diverse their views. His personal beliefs are often Socially Conservative, but there is no doubt that he’d go down fighting for beliefs he may not hold, simply to defend the right of others to liberty.

Summertime will find Maurice towing his Fifth-Wheel office around the Wanuskewin riding. During the day the camper-trailer, which is half-office and half home, can be found on small town main streets, where anyone can drop by for a chat, gripe session, or just out of curiosity. Evenings are spent at a local campground, where Maurice and any accompanying family members get a chance to share the campfire and renew relationships.

In essence, Maurice is the anti-Belinda, a man who views political life as a service. He is motivated by altruism and not “Stronach-like” self-elevation. You won’t find Maurice shoving to the front of the line. There is no veneer of “know it all” with Mr. Vellacott, and first and foremost, he is a public servant. Tireless, genuine, and assertive, yet keenly and intellectually open-minded; Maurice Vellacott is Celestial Junk’s Best Canadian Politician of 2005.