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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Maurice Vellacott, MP
Saskatoon-Wanuskewin

Government of Canada and VIA Rail Honour Canadian Forces with Reduced Year-Round Fares

For Immediate Release

November 4, 2010

OTTAWA - **On November 1st, 2010**, the Government of Canada in partnership with VIA Rail announced an unprecedented offer for military personnel, veterans and their families of a 25 per cent year-round discount off the best available fare.

“Our government is pleased to continue its ongoing partnership with VIA Rail to modernize our rail systems and provide all Canadians with safe and sustainable passenger rail service,” said **MP Maurice Vellacott (Saskatoon-Wanuskewin)**. “With today’s announcement, even more of our Canadian heroes and those who love them will be able to take advantage of this enhanced service.”

Starting November 1st, this new offer applies to all classes of VIA service, including economy, business and sleeper. The 25 per cent discount off the best available fare has no route or date restrictions. The Forces’ members and veterans who qualify may be accompanied by up to five additional family members. These family members will be eligible for the discount provided they travel on the same trains, dates and in the same classes as the Forces’ members or veterans. Proper identification will be required to be eligible for this offer; some conditions may apply.

About VIA Rail Canada

As Canada’s national rail passenger service, VIA Rail Canada's mandate is to provide efficient, environmentally sustainable and cost-effective passenger transportation – in both official languages. Every week, VIA operates 503 intercity, transcontinental and regional trains linking 450 communities across its 12,500-kilometre route network. The demand for VIA services is growing as travelers increasingly turn to train travel as a safe, reliable and environmentally responsible alternative to congested roads and airports.

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