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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Maurice Vellacott, MP
Saskatoon-Wanuskewin

Vellacott celebrates the end of 2-for-1 credit for time served

For Immediate Release

October 23, 2009

OTTAWA – Today Minister Nicholson announced the Conservative Government’s legislation, to end the practice of granting 2-for-1 credit for time served, has received Royal Assent.

After 13 years on the federal scene, Vellacott finally gets to celebrate the end of 2-for-1 credit for time served. Vellacott noted that this is an important achievement in his Conservative Government’s tackling-crime agenda.

Vellacott said, “Because of our Conservative Government’s action, courts will no longer be able to give 2-for-1 credit for time served when sentencing criminals.”

Vellacott elaborated, “Now the rule will be 1-to-1, to a maximum of 1.5-to-1 in exceptional cases, and in such cases, the courts will have to justify the exception.”

Vellacott emphasized, “My Saskatoon-Wanuskewin constituents and Canadians in general support our Conservative Government’s belief that criminals must serve a sentence that reflects the severity of their crimes. This action will increase Canadians’ confidence in our justice system.”

In conclusion, Vellacott repeated his accusation that, “The Ignatieff Liberals tried to gut this important bill to crack down on crime. Whatever they say when the cameras are on, the Liberals demonstrated again that they are soft on crime.”

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