



Dene National Office
Assembly of First Nations (NWT)

5125- 50th Street
P.O. Box 2338
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P7

Toll Free: 1 866-511-4081
Phone: (867) 873-4081
Fax: (867) 920-2254
Website: www.denenation.com



Dene Nation Supports Weledeh MLA's Motion on Federal Changes to the Environment

For Immediate Release
February 13, 2013

Yellowknife– Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus says the motion from Weledeh MLA Bob Bromley concerning changes to the environment speaks directly and follows the 17th Legislative Assembly's Caucus Priorities. **“Believing in People and Building in the Strengths of Northerners”**

The **vision** of this Legislative Assembly talks about ,“strong individuals, families and communities sharing the benefits and responsibilities of a unified, **environmentally sustainable** and prosperous Northwest Territories.”

“As elected officials in the NWT, the cabinet and MLAs have a legal responsibility and obligation to their constituents, and must be accountable to speak up on issues that affect people and the land,” says Erasmus.

The impact of the federal legislation was brought to the MLAs attention in October before the Legislature adjourned. MLAs and the cabinet were contacted by the Dene Nation and others, to address the drastic changes outlined in the first Omnibus Budget Bill C-38. Since then, bill C-45 has also been passed by the federal government, which is another huge omnibus bill that impacts and violates Treaty/Aboriginal Rights. The rights of all Canadians are also in danger as a result of the immense changes to the Navigable Waters Act, Fisheries Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, and Species at Risk Act.

“The motion by MLA Bob Bromley is important because it helps to educate Northern people and provides them the opportunity to protect their own future. The federal government doesn't have the final authority to make these sweeping changes unless there is agreement from First Nations and other people living in the North, this is our home and we're in charge of it,” says Erasmus.

Bromley's Motion, “Federal Changes to Environmental Law,” will be before the house tomorrow.

-30-

For information contact Barret Lenoir at 867-873-4081