



Rick Norlock Introduces his Private Members' Bill in the House of Commons

OTTAWA, October 26th 2009. In the House of Commons today, Rick Norlock introduced his private members' bill: *An Act Respecting a National Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Heritage Day*. This enactment designates the 23rd of September of every year as a "National Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Heritage Day".

"Hunting, trapping and fishing are a significant part of Canada's national heritage. This bill acknowledges the historical role that these activities had in the development of our nation and the enjoyment and participation of these traditional activities by millions of Canadians and the significant contribution that these activities make to the national economy".

Hunting, trapping and fishing are part of Canada's national heritage. These activities have made a significant contribution to the development of our nation by traversing and mapping the prairies, forests, streams and rivers from coast to coast.

Today, the millions of Canadians that participate in and enjoy the many aspects of these activities also make significant contributions to wildlife and habitat conservation projects across Canada. Hunters, trappers and fishermen recognize the need for conservation and billions of dollars have been raised for conservation projects through the sale of tags, licenses, stamps, tourism, and many other programs. These funds help protect our wildlife and natural habitat, in addition to the countless hours spent by these Canadians volunteering in conservation efforts across Canada.

Similar legislation exists in the USA and Alberta which recognizes the contributions that these activities make to the cultural social and economic heritage. Manitoba has also had its first hunting appreciation day this year. The legislation in the USA and Alberta recognizes the important role these activities have in the conservation, protection and restoration of natural wildlife habitat.

Mr. Norlock's private member's bill will be up for debate in the House of Commons early 2010.

We would like to thank the following organizations and individuals for their continued support and efforts towards this bill:

Alberta Fish and Game Club Association, British Columbia Wild Life Federation, Delta Waterfowl Foundation, Friends of Fur, Canadian Outdoors Network, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Fur Institute of Canada, Hunting for Tomorrow Foundation, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Outdoors Caucus, Prince Edward Island Wildlife Federation, Newfoundland and Labrador Wildlife Federation, Robert Sopuck, Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation, Wild Life Habitat Canada
