



Mauril Bélanger, P.C., M.P. / C.P., député  
Ottawa-Vanier Ottawa-Vanier

(613) 992-4766 (613) 744-4484



Madeleine Meilleur, M.P.P. – Députée

**For immediate release**

## **LOWER DUCK CORRIDOR MAY BE A BETTER SOLUTION**

### **FOR EAST-END BRIDGE**

**Ottawa, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007** – Elected representatives for Ottawa-Vanier are disputing the claims made by those who say the future east-end bridge should be built on the Kettle Island corridor, suggesting instead that the Lower Duck corridor may be a better solution.

The Hon. Mauril Bélanger, MP for Ottawa-Vanier and the Hon. Madeleine Meilleur, MPP for Ottawa-Vanier, support the construction of a new east-end bridge for 2 reasons. Firstly, they believe that an alternate route for heavy trucks and tractor trailers must be provided away from our downtown core. The citizens of Lowertown have endured the current situation long enough and need a definitive timeframe for a new bridge.

Secondly, they also believe in the necessity of a ring road servicing the National Capital Region, through the construction of a second bridge in the west-end. This implies that the corridor must be far enough away from the more developed urban areas so as to ensure a future ring road truly help traffic avoid the urban core.

Meilleur and Bélanger both strongly disagree that the Kettle Island corridor is the solution. They argue that by choosing that corridor the problem would simply be moved from King Edward further east. This would not eliminate the problem of trucks meandering in and near developed communities.

Both Ottawa-Vanier representatives feel that the best solution will be one that avoids built-up areas entirely. In that sense, the Lower Duck corridor appears to be a viable

option. “I cannot favour a solution that moves the problem from one community to another. We need to remedy this situation”, said Madeleine Meilleur.

Mauril Bélanger agrees: ... “I therefore insist that the Environmental Study continue as planned and that no option be eliminated until all the technical evaluations have been completed”, added Mauril Bélanger.

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**Office of Mauril Bélanger, P.C., M.P.**

MP for Ottawa-Vanier  
925 Confederation Building  
House of Commons  
Telephone: (613) 992-4766

**Office of Madeleine Meilleur, M.P.P.**

237 Montréal Road  
MPP for Ottawa-Vanier  
Ottawa, ON, K1L 6C7  
Telephone: (613) 744-4484