

# Media Releases

Liberal Party of Canada

## NDP MP Pat Martin Must Apologize For Comments Made During Debate on C-54

May 10, 2007

Ottawa – New Democratic Party (NDP) Member of Parliament Pat Martin must apologize for comments he made in the House of Commons regarding donations made to former Liberal Leadership candidate Joe Volpe.

“It is unfortunate that the NDP are so desperate to discredit legitimate opposing views – as presented by our Party – that they must resort to demeaning Liberal Members of Parliament by perpetuating accusations of wrongdoing for which those Parliamentarians have been completely exonerated,” said the Honourable Marie Poulin, President of the Liberal Party of Canada.

“The New Democratic Party is not interested in the truth or constructive debate on issues,” said Mr. Volpe. “They are just interested in slandering opposition members for partisan purposes.”

On December 5, 2006, Elections Canada formally cleared Mr. Volpe of any wrongdoing in regards to fundraising for his leadership campaign. After reviewing contributions to the Joe Volpe Leadership campaign, Elections Canada stated there was no evidence to conclude that an offence under the *Canada Elections Act* had been committed. Previously, when Mr. Volpe attempted to table the letter from Elections Canada in Parliament, the NDP would not allow consent to table the document.

Furthermore, when a motion requested by Liberals was introduced in Committee to address age limits and to raise the age for donations to leadership campaigns to 18 years old, Pat Martin voted the motion down.