

ON THE LINE

From Yellowknife

Bevington shoots back at NWT Chamber of Mines

Western Arctic MP Dennis Bevington is not taking criticism from the NWT Nunavut Chamber of Mines sitting down. The Chamber responded to a letter of support initially sent last month to the President of the UNW and its striking Ekati workers.

The Chamber sent correspondence back saying that as an MP, Bevington should remain neutral. Bevington has responded defending his letter by saying that Northerners voted for change when they elected him and he feels people need his support **more than a multi-national mining company**.

He goes on to say that he will not allow a pro-industry lobby group stop him from supporting working families of the North. The Chamber had said that he was not looking at both sides but Bevington says he has been briefed by BHP Billiton and the PSAC and the UNW. He then alleges that the Chamber has not spoken to anyone on the strikers' side at all.

The MP also re-iterates that he is opposed to the use of replacement workers and he believes it is the role of politicians to get involved and help their constituents.

BHP security "goons" watch and photograph peaceful demonstrators holding a rally in a public place in Yellowknife on April 27th at noon.

We all smiled nicely for them and even offered to share our Chili and buns.



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