



Inky Mark, Member of Parliament
Conservative Deputy Critic
Citizenship and Immigration
Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette

C-331 and C-333

For Immediate Release

February 25, 2005

**Liberals move to shut down debate on
Ukrainian and Chinese Redress legislation**

(Ottawa) On Tuesday, February 22nd the Liberal government attempted to shut down debate on both C-331, the Ukrainian Canadian Recognition and Restitution Act and C-333 the Chinese Canadian Recognition and Redress Act, both Private Member's Bills initiated by Inky Mark, M.P. for Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette.

Speaking on behalf of the Liberal government, both Dominic Leblanc and Don Boudria expressed concerns that both C-331 and C-333 would be a financial burden on the government and that the Speaker should rule both of the Bills out of order.

The Speaker of the House of Commons earlier ruled that neither Bill required the expenditure of funds by the government until negotiations for fair settlement takes place but that clarification was needed in regards to a museum proposed in C-331.

Referring to C-331 Mark clarified, "The proposed museum would be housed in an existing facility that is currently maintained by Parks Canada as an office complex storage area at Cave and Basin in Banff National Park. As no new museum is being requested, no extraordinary financial commitments are being requested."

Mark concluded by saying, "Canada's Ukrainian community has waited 20 years for redress. Why is this Liberal government afraid of acknowledging Canada's past history and the injustices done to those interned during the First World War? As a result of this shut-down attempt the speaker will again have to rule on C-331 and 1 million Canadians of Ukrainian descent will be left waiting to learn its fate."

-30-

For more information, please contact:
Inky Mark, MP (613) 992-3176
www.inkymark.com

NEWS RELEASE