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Press Release

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MARTIN GOVERNMENT “ILLEGITIMATE AND MUST RESIGN”

OTTAWA – Conservative Member of Parliament Brad Trost (Saskatoon-Humboldt), called on Prime Minister Paul Martin and his government to resign today for “ignoring the rule of law and the voice of the people.” Trost made the following statement in the House of Commons:

“Mr. Speaker, 'It is a firm constitutional convention that prime ministers must either resign or call an election if they lose the confidence of the House.' So says professor and constitutional expert Andrew Heard. A constitutional matter: a basic matter of the rule of law.

That, in all its simplicity, is what we are debating in this House. But that is the basis for our democracy. By ignoring a confidence motion of this House, the government is flaunting the rule of law, is ignoring the basic principles of representative and responsible government, is expressing contempt for the electoral choices of the people of Canada.

It has decided that power is more important than principle, that might is more important than right. This government has lost the constitutional right to govern and in choosing to ignore that loss, it has also forfeited the moral right to govern.

It is a truism that power corrupts, and that absolute power corrupts absolutely. And nothing is more corrupt than ignoring the rule of the law and the voice of the people.

This government is illegitimate and must resign.

(Please Note: There is an audio link to this statement that can be found at:
<http://www.bradtrost.ca/gallery/displayimage.php?album=15&pos=0>)