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## **Press Release**

**For Immediate Release**

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# **Cut Gas Taxes Now, Says Trost**

**OTTAWA** – Brad Trost, Conservative Member of Parliament for Saskatoon-Humboldt, is calling upon the federal government to cut fuel taxes so that Canadians can receive some relief from crippling gasoline prices.

“The Conservative Party is the only party that’s consistently called for lower prices for consumers,” Trost said yesterday during CTV’s *Question Period*. “I think it’s important to note that the Conservatives are calling for Canadians to keep their own money. Taxes make up 40 percent of the price of gasoline – that is the one thing we can control, and it’s the one thing we can put directly into people’s pockets.

“The Liberals have been split on this issue, with a few Cabinet Ministers even publicly embracing soaring fuel prices. Environment Minister Stéphane Dion has even gone so far as to say higher prices are a good thing,” Trost remarked today.

Trost is referring to remarks made by Dion in August, when – according to the August 24<sup>th</sup> issue of the *Calgary Herald* – Dion said high gas prices are actually good for Canada in the medium and the long term. Minister Dion also said that “*high gas prices are not necessarily a bad thing.*” (*Montreal Gazette*, August 24, 2005)

Similarly, members of the New Democrat Party, have also come out in support of rising fuel costs. Trost says, according to the NDP, the solution is simple – they simply suggest Canadians should walk or take their bicycles.

Trost is the Chair of the Conservative Party of Canada’s Energy Caucus. He will be speaking about high fuel prices and the anticipated spike in home heating costs during an emergency debate in the House of Commons today.