



MEDIA RELEASE

LARGEST CONTRIBUTION MADE TO LIBERAL WOMEN'S POLITICAL FUND

Ottawa, March 28, 2007 – The single largest contribution to the Judy LaMarsh Fund was received thanks to past Liberal candidate, Isabel Metcalfe who transferred the entire surplus from her campaign - \$11,049.77 - to the Liberal Party of Canada.

“In contributing over \$11,000 to the Judy LaMarsh Fund, Ms. Metcalfe proves that women are effective at fundraising. It also underscores they are prepared to financially support the Liberal Party's goal of encouraging more women to run in the next federal election,” said Fund President Nancy Coldham.

“This was a proud moment for me and one that will leave a permanent legacy from running as a Liberal candidate in Carleton-Mississippi Mills. It will help other women to seek public office, get elected and form a Stéphane Dion Liberal government,” said Ms. Metcalfe, a long time advocate of women in politics and a founding chair of the Famous Five Foundation.

“As the Leader, I believe that the fight for equality begins with more women being involved in the political process. It is essential to ensuring our government reflects the voices and priorities of all Canadians,” said Mr. Dion. “Isabel's dedication and work has been central to these efforts for many years. I thank Isabel for her tremendous contribution.”

Belinda Stronach, MP and Chair of the Liberal women's caucus said “there are a number of barriers to greater female participation in politics. Women like Isabel make it look easy, but as everyone involved in politics knows, it isn't.”

The Judy LaMarsh Fund is the living legacy of a remarkable Liberal politician, one of the most distinguished women in Canadian history. As Canada's first woman federal Liberal cabinet minister, she ushered in some of the most progressive legislation of the 1960s. Founded in 1984, the Fund provides financial support to federal women Liberal candidates.

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**“There are hundreds of women, from every walk of life, who would go into politics with some party encouragement.”
- Judy LaMarsh**