



House of Commons
Chambre des communes

Jack Layton, M.P.
Member of Parliament / Depute

December 3, 2008

Troy Reeb
Senior Vice-President, News & Current Affairs
81 Barber Green Rd.
Don Mills, ON
FAX: 416-446-5548
TEL: 416-446-5501

Sent by Fax and Email

Dear Mr. Reeb,

I am writing on behalf of Hon. Jack Layton on a matter of utmost urgency.

Mr. Layton is formally requesting each of the three leaders of the opposition in Parliament receive equal time and treatment to address the people of Canada on your broadcast network this evening, following the 7pm statement by the Prime Minister.

I understand the Conservative Party and the current Prime Minister have taken a position that only one member of the proposed coalition government should respond. We respectfully remind broadcasters that the proposed coalition is just that: a proposal to the Canadian people by two of Canada's political parties with the backing of a third.

The proposed coalition for a cooperative government will, and could; only take effect if the House of Commons demonstrates its lack of confidence in the current Prime Minister and his administration of our country. Until such time, the New Democratic Party and the Liberal Party are distinct and functionally separate caucuses in the House of Commons.

Canada, in fact, has precedent on this matter. Former Prime Minister Paul Martin addressed the nation on April 21, 2005, the three other parties in the House of Commons were afforded time to respond.

I look forward to your response,

Anne McGrath
Chief of Staff
Office of the Hon. Jack Layton, P.C., M.P.
Tel 613-995-0065
Fax 613-995-4565