



I am pleased to join you in celebration of the 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Falun Dafa. The principles of Falun Dafa: Truthfulness, Compassion, and Tolerance, are values that we all aspire to achieve in Canada. Though we come from many different and diverse backgrounds, we unite as Canadians in our commitment towards upholding these values.

Despite torturous oppression by the communist government of China, the teachings of Falun Dafa have positively impacted people around the world. It is a testament to the power of the Falun Dafa message, that despite the efforts of a totalitarian regime to extinguish this moral worldview, it has flourished abroad.

Since 1999, practitioners of Falun Dafa have been subject to cruel and inhumane attacks and experienced many atrocities at the hands of the Chinese communist government. This includes the deliberate targeting of the Falun Dafa for state-sponsored organ harvesting. These brutal crimes must be stopped now, the victims never forgotten and those responsible for this disgusting atrocity must be brought to justice. The corrupt officials who perpetrated these government-sponsored organ harvesting programs must be sanctioned under Canada's new *Magnitsky Act* and stop these gross international human rights violators from using Canada as a safe haven to hid their wealth, their families and themselves. It is unacceptable for these heinous crimes to go unrecognized and unpunished. I was proud to sponsor the *Magnitsky Act* in the House of Commons last year on behalf of the Conservative Party.

We are blessed to live in Canada, a democratic country where we protect freedom of religion, freedom of expression, and freedom of speech. We keep our thoughts and prayers with those who live under regimes where they must hide their faith and beliefs, and we hope for a day when all people may practice their religion freely and openly.

I thank all Falun Dafa who have made Canada home and are making our nation stronger. Together we can stop the persecution of Falun Dafa in China.

Sincerely,

James Bezan, MP Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman Official Opposition Shadow Minister for National Defence