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**TOWN OF VEGREVILLE** *Office of the Minister  
MLA, Edmonton - Mill Woods*

AR69581

February 8, 2017

Honourable Ahmed Hussen  
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada  
The Valour Building, Suite 770  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Hussen:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Government of Alberta to express my concern over the Government of Canada's decision to relocate the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's Case Processing Centre (CPC) from Vegreville, Alberta to a new location in Edmonton, Alberta by the end of 2018. I previously wrote to former Minister John McCallum voicing my concern over this matter on October 31, 2016.

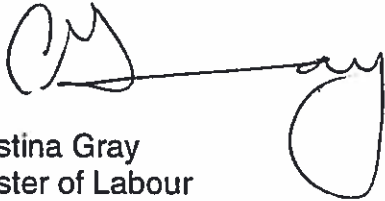
I understand the decision to relocate the CPC is intended to improve efficiency in light of increased demand on Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's various lines of business. I also understand that ease of access to amenities in Edmonton makes it easier for federal recruitment efforts; however, I am concerned impacts of the closure have not been adequately considered.

The decision to relocate the CPC to Edmonton will have a profound negative impact on workers and their families. The CPC provides 280 jobs in Vegreville and its surrounding areas and is Vegreville's single largest employer. I am concerned not only by the decision to relocate the CPC but by the lack of consultation in the local community. I am also concerned this decision may signal reduced support for rural communities in Alberta and across Canada.

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The Mayors of Vegreville and Waskatenau have stated this decision is devastating to their communities. The Public Service Alliance of Canada has also voiced their concern and opposition to the CPC relocation to Edmonton. I am asking you to reconsider your government's decision in light of these concerns. I look forward to your response on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christina Gray', with a long horizontal line extending to the right and a large loop at the end.

Christina Gray  
Minister of Labour  
Responsible for Democratic Renewal

cc: Jessica Littlewood  
MLA for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville

His Worship Don Iveson  
Mayor of Edmonton

His Worship Myron Hayduk  
Mayor of Vegreville

His Worship Casey Caron  
Mayor of Waskatenau