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TOWN OF VEGREVILLE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
ALBERTA

**Jamie Kleinsteuber, MLA**  
CALGARY - Northern Hills

February 6, 2017

The Honourable Ahmed D. Hussen, MP  
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship  
365 Laurier Avenue West,  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1L1

Dear Minister Hussen,

RE: Please reconsider the closure of the Vegreville Case Processing Centre (CPC)

I wish to voice my concerns regarding the recent decision to relocate the Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Case Processing Centre from Vegreville, Alberta.

Since this centre opened in 1994, it has been the Vegreville region's largest employer, providing 280 jobs in a community of 6,000 people. The loss of nearly 5% of the region's jobs will severely impact those who live here, with the effects felt in other sectors of the local economy. Job loss on this scale will come at a high human cost to this rural region's workers and their families.

Since this centre opened, it has also been the Vegreville region's most stable employer. During downturns in the economy, the government service centre provides steady employment, benefitting Vegreville and surrounding communities with greater economic stability. Alberta is currently recovering from a significant economic downturn. Now is not the time to introduce instability to communities still in economic recovery.

I would like to add my concerns to those expressed by many others. I respectfully request that you reconsider your decision to close this centre and that you renew your consultation with the local workers through PSAC (Public Service Alliance of Canada) and the Town of Vegreville.

Best regards,

  
Jamie Kleinsteuber, MLA  
Calgary-Northern Hills

Cc: Myron Hayduk, Mayor, Town of Vegreville  
Shannon Stubbs, MP Lakeland  
Jessica Littlewood, MLA Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville