3 February 2017

Honourable Ahmed D. Hussen MP

Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
Office of the Minister
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada
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Dear Minister Hussen,

First of all, please accept my sincere congratulations on your new position in Cabinet. I am certain that you will bring a unique perspective to your new role and you will endeavor to serve Canadians to the best of your abilities. I wish you great success in this undertaking.

The reason for my letter is to bring to your attention an issue of concern to me, and to many of my colleagues. As you might be aware, a recent decision will see the relocation of an *Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Case Processing Centre*, currently in Vegreville, to Edmonton. This unfortunate decision has many Alberta workers and their families, experiencing much distress.

Public Sector jobs such as those with the Federal government bring economic security, family stability, and local purchasing power. This is especially noticeable during the economic downturn that Alberta is currently, and is acutely felt in rural Alberta.

The loss of 280 jobs in a community of 6,000 people is comparable to losing 35,000 jobs in a city the size of Edmonton. The knock on economic effects would be devastating to families that could be uprooted, loss of revenue to local small businesses, and loss of taxes to the municipality.

I respectfully request that you reconsider the decision to close this center, and to renew your consultation with the local workers through PSAC (Public Service Alliance of Canada) and the Town of Vegreville.

Sincerely,

Honourable Ricardo Miranda
MLA for Calgary-Cross
Minister of Culture and Tourism

CC: Town of Vegreville

        Jessica Littlewood, MLA, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville