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For Immediate Release

Vegreville support continues: Canadian Chambers of Commerce demand rules for federal office closures

Vegreville – Chambers of Commerce from across the country voted overwhelmingly in favour of a resolution requiring the federal government to present a clear business case and consult impacted communities before closing federal facilities.

89.7% of the delegates at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting in Fredericton, New Brunswick on September 23-25 supported the resolution submitted by the Vegreville Chamber of Commerce

The Town of Vegreville has been raising concerns about long-term negative impacts to the community after the sudden announcement the federal government was closing the Vegreville Case Processing Centre (CPC). The Vegreville CPC has been operating in the community for 24 years and staff process Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) applications from across the country.

“The government made this decision without any public business case, no clear benefits, and no consultation. We want to make sure no other community has to endure the same painful process,” said Mayor Myron Hayduk.

He adds, “Other municipalities across the country who are home to federal facilities across the country should be deeply concerned by the actions of the federal government. If this could happen to Vegreville – it could also happen to any community.”

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce joins the Alberta Association of Municipal District of Counties and the Alberta Chambers of Commerce in their support in making sure that the Federal Government is more accountable to the communities their decisions affect.

The closure of the Vegreville CPC means that the community will lose over 230 jobs and almost \$16 million in GDP every year. To put the economic loss in perspective, the impact to Vegreville is equivalent to losing 38,000 employees in Edmonton or 110,000 in Toronto.

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For more information contact:

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