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News Release

Alberta Chamber of Commerce approves resolution in support of #ruralcanadamatters

(Leduc) – The Alberta Chambers of Commerce approved a policy resolution submitted by the Vegreville business community that requires the federal government to establish clear criteria before closing offices in rural communities.

The resolution recommends that the Government of Canada:

1. Direct Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) establish clear performance criteria for federal facilities in rural communities.
2. Submit an economic impact analysis to PWGSC and consult with impacted communities prior to any decision by a federal department on relocating a federal facility.

Vegreville learned in October of 2016 that the Case Processing Centre would be relocating to Edmonton. Without any consultation or economic impact study, the federal Government eliminated 236 jobs and the largest employer in Vegreville - the equivalent of moving 38,000 jobs out of the City of Edmonton.

“The business community understands the significant economic impacts of the government’s unilateral decision and we would like to thank the Alberta Chambers of Commerce for their support of this policy resolution” said Mayor Myron Hayduk.

He adds, “We are working hard with all of our partners to ensure that this doesn’t happen to another municipality in Canada.”

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities will also vote on a resolution regarding the closure of federal facilities in rural communities at their AGM in Ottawa this coming weekend. In addition to the Alberta Chambers of Commerce, Vegreville received support from the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties who also approved a similar resolution during their recent policy conference.

The Town of Vegreville commissioned a Socio-Economic Report that clearly indicates the impact the Town will feel when the CPC relocates to Edmonton. For more information please visit www.stopcpcclosure.com.

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