



Town of Vegreville

"A FRIENDLY PLACE TO LIVE"

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October 28, 2016

Attention: Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Honourable John McCullum
Honourable Judy M. Foote

RE: CLOSURE OF IMMIGRATION CASE PROCESSING CENTRE IN VEGREVILLE

Yesterday representatives from your Federal Government made a devastating announcement that our Case Processing Centre in Vegreville will be closed and moved to Edmonton. Devastating to our friends employed there, devastating to their families and devastating to our community. Over 220 of our fellow citizens (plus their spouses and children) are directly affected---parents, coaches, volunteers in our community. More than 300 children attending our schools, in sports, dance and clubs. This closure will impact every business, every citizen. It is hard to even comprehend the economic, social and psychological impacts your employees and their families will face.

Our town has been working hard towards residential and commercial land development, but the loss these employees, their spouses, their children---roughly 10% of our population, will set us back two decades. The loss of 280 jobs in our town of 5700 is equivalent to Windsor losing their auto manufacturing industry (12,000 out of 211, 000). Imagine the impact of extracting 280 jobs from the regions of Bonavista or Grand Bank---or removing 10% of the population of Markham or Dorval?

Please, give us the opportunity to have more input, the opportunity to discuss alternative options, the opportunity to represent the best interests of our citizens---your citizens.

Sincerely,

David K. Berry

Town Councillor

