

Town of Vegreville 4829 50 Street Postal Drawer 640 VEGREVILLE, ALBERTA T9C 1R7

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

June 20, 2017

The Honourable Betty E. Unger Senator Room 418, Victoria Building Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A4

Dear Senator Unger:

On behalf of the Town and residents of Vegreville, I would like to convey our sincere appreciation for all your efforts in supporting our campaign to keep the Vegreville Case Processing Centre open.

We have been working diligently since October, when we first heard of the closure, to advocate to reverse the decision to transfer the Case Processing Centre to the City of Edmonton. As you know, this will mean the Town will be losing its largest employer and 10% of its workforce.

The Government of Canada made this decision without any consultation or understanding of the devastating affects this decision will have on our Town. Our community had to hire consultant to conduct a socio-economic impact report so that we could understand what impact this closure will have on residents. The final report from Nichols Applied Management clearly shows that Vegreville will be older, smaller, and poorer due to this closure. Full details are available at: www.stopcpcclosure.com.

Our campaign seeks to ensure that no other community has to endure the same lack of respect or consideration of the devastating impacts of a federal office closure. Recently over 2,000 elected municipal officials from across the country voted overwhelmingly in favour of a resolution from the Town of Vegreville requiring the federal government to present a clear business case and consult impacted communities before closing federal facilities. With this motion, FCM members are supporting local governments' need for transparency and predictability as they build their local economies and a better Canada.

The Town of Vegreville continues to fight the federal government's decision to close the CPC. We appreciate your support as well as individuals and groups across the country to hold the government accountable for this decision. We were disappointed to see Senator Harder's response to your questions which only repeats the same concerns about the community and the facility.

While we have heard the Prime Minister say he wants to work with our community, we have never had an inquiry from his office or Minister Hussen about the consequences to the Town of Vegreville. It would appear that the government's primary concern is justifying the additional expense associated with moving the facility to downtown Edmonton.

Thank you again for all of your efforts. We believe firmly that if this can happen to Vegreville – this can happen to any rural community in Canada.

Sincerely,

Mayor Myron Hayduk Town of Vegreville

cc: Senator Doug Black, QC