The Town of
Tofield
Honour the Past. Build the Future.

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Office of the Minister
Environment & Protected Areas
224 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

RE: Exemption of Newspaper from EPR Program Revisions

Dear Minister Savage,

Print media (newspapers) are essential to the lifeblood of Alberta. Newspapers provide a traditional sense, and source of information to our residents. In what has become ever consistent in social media and internet-based forms of news, newspapers rely on facts, sourcing their stories and identifying truths.

The past number of years have been challenging for both business and small business. The continued rise in costs, accompanied by the downturn in the economy has forced job loss and ultimately business closure. Looking to enforce further constraints on what is one of our oldest and most relied upon industries truly seems unfair.

The newspaper industry has already looked at ways to reduce costs and become both more efficient and compliant, such as reducing paper thickness, which has come at a cost. This cost is not only monetary, but also content based. The reduction in paper-based weight has also reduced the amount of content which can be provided to our residents, once again, affecting them.

By expecting newspapers to have the same level of compliance with the EPR Program as plastics, seem short-sighted and unrealistic. The Provincial Government needs to recognize the importance of newspapers to Albertans and stand to make the same move as the Ontario Government. Please exempt newspapers from the revised EPR Program.

Sincerely,

Debora L Dueck

Debora Dueck
Mayor

C.C
Jackie Lovely, MLA Camrose
All Alberta Municipalities
Kerry Anderson, Tofield Mercury