

Municipality of  
Emerson-Franklin



~ 115 Waddell Ave. E. ~ P.O. Box 66 ~ Dominion City, MB ~ ROA OHO

~ Phone: (204) 427-2557 ~ Fax: (204) 427-2224 ~  
~ [www.emersonfranklin.com](http://www.emersonfranklin.com) ~ Email: [info@emersonfranklin.com](mailto:info@emersonfranklin.com)

January 24, 2019

Honourable Bill Blair  
Minister of Border Security and Organized Crime Reduction  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada  
K1A 0A6

RE : Illegal Border Crossings at Emerson-Franklin

The Council of the Municipality of Emerson-Franklin feel it is important to bring concerns to your attention with respect to illegal border crossings at Emerson, MB.

The Municipality has requested that concerns be addressed with respect to the impact of illegal border crossings taking place within the Community of Emerson going back to February of 2017. These events continue to take place and there is a significant impact on local resources including Emergency and Medical Reponse, volunteers and citizens.

The Community is the first contact with these individuals who have crossed illegally into Canada, residents are opening their doors and Emergency Services are called to respond.

Illegal border crossings have become a permanent problem in the Municipality impacting the otherwise quiet rural communities.

Council is requesting your attention to this issue and encloses a copy of Resolution No. 19-029 for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Carlson".

Reeve David Carlson  
Municipality of Emerson-Franklin  
Enc 1

C :c M.P. Ted Falk

## 6.7 Illegal Border Crossing

**Resolution No:** 19-029

**Moved By:** Doug Johnston

**Seconded By:** Brian Grier

Whereas Council is receiving inquiries from ratepayers with respect to illegal border crossings; Be It Resolved that Council write to Border Security Minister Bill Blair to request clarification on the difference between the impact of illegal border crossings in Emerson-Franklin, Manitoba in comparison to the impact of illegal border crossings at Roxham Road, Quebec with regard to compensation.

Carried

Minister of Border Security  
and Organized Crime Reduction



Ministre de la Sécurité frontalière  
et de la Réduction du crime organisé

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0P8

Reeve David Carlson  
Emerson-Franklin  
115 Waddell Avenue East – Box 66  
Dominion City, Manitoba R0A 0H0

Dear Reeve David Carlson:

Thank you for your correspondence of January 24, 2019, outlining the impact of irregular border crossings taking place within the Community of Emerson, Manitoba. I appreciate the concerns raised by the Council and the request for clarification on the difference between the impact of border crossings at Emerson-Franklin, Manitoba, in comparison to those at Roxham Road, Quebec, with respect to compensation.

With regards to payments to individual households, the decision to provide payments in St-Bernard-de-Lacolle, Quebec, was based on circumstances which are unique and distinct to this area. That is, of all the interceptions carried out at irregular border crossings across Canada, 96% were carried out at this specific location in St-Bernard-de-Lacolle. This significant level of activity has not been seen in other communities.

Given this significant volume and the resulting increased noise levels, payments were offered to households situated along the corridor, between the end of Roxham Road and the official point of entry at Lacolle, based on a sliding scale that reflects the household's proximity to the border crossing. I trust this information helps clarify the unique circumstances in St-Bernard-de-Lacolle.

Regarding the impact on local resources and expenses incurred by municipalities in Manitoba, I am pleased that Manitoba was among the initial recipients of financial assistance towards extraordinary interim housing costs for asylum claimants, and that senior officials have recently re-engaged in discussions about the pressures faced, and to work towards providing further support to the province.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W. Blair', is positioned below the text 'Yours sincerely,'.

The Honourable William Blair, P.C., COM., M.P.

c.c.: Ted Falk, M.P.  
Provencher