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## Statement by Canadian Plasma Resources on Alberta's Bill 204: The Voluntary Blood Donations Repeal Act

Today the Voluntary Blood Donations Repeal Act completed the Third reading in Alberta. Canadian Plasma Resources (CPR) welcomes Alberta's efforts to increase plasma collection in Canada and in particular in Alberta. This will, without a doubt reduce Canada's reliance on foreign plasma. This change is consistent with the Health Canada's 2018 expert panel report on Immune Globulin (Ig) product supply that was completely ignored by the Alberta NDP government of the time. The bill removes the monopoly created by the NDP government for operation of Blood Establishments in the province of Alberta. Since Canadian Blood Services was created over 20 years and became responsible for delivering and distributing plasma proteins to Canadian patients, Canadian plasma self sufficiency for Ig has reduced from 100% to just around 10%. This has made our patients completely reliant on foreign donors and costs Canadian taxpayers over \$1 Billion in importation of plasma proteins every year.

CPR will invest in creating four new collection facilities in the province of Alberta which will create 230 direct new jobs for highly skilled professionals such as registered nurses, phlebotomists, medical laboratory technologists, supervising physicians as well as quality control and quality assurance experts.

We encourage Ontario and British Columbia governments to follow Alberta's lead and make the necessary regulatory changes to support Canadian patients by following the recommendations of Health Canada and the patient organizations to increase Canada's self-sufficiency in plasma.

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