

June 6, 2016

RECEIVED JUN 15 2016

George Bridge
Mayor
Town of Minto
5941 Hwy 89
Harriston, ON N0G 1Z0

George Bridge,

Re: Federal government reviewing our public postal service - Have your say!

I am writing to let you know that the federal government is conducting a review of Canada Post. It says that everything but postal privatization is on the table. This means daily mail delivery, restoring home delivery, postage rates, the moratorium on post office closures and more.

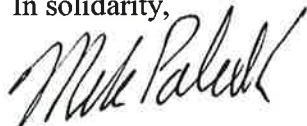
The review will have two phases. The government has appointed an independent task force to collect input from Canadians, do research, gather facts and identify options for the future of our postal service by September 2016. Following this, a parliamentary committee will consult with Canadians on the options identified by the task force and make recommendations to the government by year's end. The government expects to announce its decisions about Canada Post in the spring of 2017. For more information, go to CUPW.ca/canadapostreview and Canada.ca/canadapostreview

While CUPW welcomes the opportunity to look at the future of our public postal service, we have a number of concerns about the review. The review's first phase – the part that determines the options that will be examined – is being held over the summer. As well, there has been very little information and advertising about the review, except in social media. We are concerned people will not learn about the review until it's too late.

CUPW would like to ensure that the views of municipalities are considered. Therefore, we would like you, if at all possible, to provide input to the Canada Post Review. We have attached a resolution for your consideration, information on providing input and some fact sheets on key issues.

Thank you very much for considering our request. There's a lot at stake and we appreciate anything you can do to help. We would also like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the many municipalities that supported our campaign to stop the cuts that Canada Post announced in December 2013, including the end of home mail delivery. We had a major victory when Canada Post announced a temporary hold on its plan to eliminate door-to-door delivery. CUPW is confident that we can build on this success and convince the Canada Post Review to recommend against further cuts in favour of new services that generate revenues and allow us to build a universal, affordable and green public postal system for future generations.

In solidarity,



Mike Palecek
National President

c.c. National Executive Committee, Regional Executive Committees, National Union Representatives, Regional Union Representatives, Specialists, Campaign Co-ordinators, Negotiators, CUPW locals



A Canada Post for Everyone



Daily door-to-door delivery: It's not just more convenient. It's better for the environment.

Canada Post delivers billions of letters and parcels to homes and businesses every year. Many Canadians consider it a trusted and valuable service.

But did you know that home mail delivery is the most environmentally friendly way of moving letters and parcels from sender to receiver? And it's greener when it's done five or six days a week.

Why Canada Post is the greener option

The boom in online shopping means that millions more parcels are being delivered by Canada Post and other delivery companies. That's a lot of cars and trucks on delivery runs.

Last year, the number of parcels delivered by Canada Post alone increased by almost 10%. But with Canada Post, the amount of greenhouse gas emissions barely increases. Why? Because, unlike other delivery companies, Canada Post already has people delivering mail and parcels to every neighbourhood in the country on a daily basis.

From an environmental perspective, Canada Post is the best delivery option. According to a 2011 report, getting a parcel delivered by Canada Post can cause up to 6 times less CO₂ emissions than an overnight delivery by a courier, and 3 times less than having a customer make a 5-km trip to pick it up in a store.

Why daily delivery is the greener option

If we cut mail delivery back to three days per week, Canada Post would lose its environmental advantage. It would make Canada Post's parcel delivery more expensive, which would result in the corporation losing market share to less environmentally efficient companies.

A vehicle delivering letters and parcels together keeps down the cost and environmental impact of each piece.



**Our daily
door-to-door
delivery network
is part of a
sustainable future
for Canada Post.**

**Let's keep it
greener.**

What if I don't get my mail every day?

Lots of us don't get mail every day. That kind of fluctuation in volume is already built into the delivery system. Having carriers deliver fewer days per week would only make it harder to reduce our carbon footprint.

Businesses of all sizes rely on daily delivery for cash flow and time-sensitive items. So courier companies would step in to fill in the gap, meaning three or more delivery trucks and vans driving the same streets.

Why door-to-door delivery is the greener option

There are many reasons why people hate so-called "community mailboxes":

- they cause more traffic congestion
- lower property values
- thefts, and injuries due to slips and falls

They also cause more people to drive to pick up their mail, creating more pollution. Cars sit idling while residents struggle to open frozen locks and get the mail.

One poll shows that over a third (34.2%) of people drive to pick up their mail from a group mailbox.



A Canada Post for Everyone



Our Postal Service is Under Review: What's In It For You?

The federal government says it wants to ensure that "Canadians receive quality postal services at a reasonable price."

It's asking Canadians for our input. So, how do you think our national postal service should change with the times?

High Quality Service to Meet Our Changing Needs.

People everywhere are sending fewer letters through the mail, which has affected the revenues of post offices around the world. Some postal systems have raised prices or cut services and jobs, as Canada Post did when the Conservatives were in power.

But post offices in many other countries have expanded their services and branched out into new avenues in order to make more money.

It's time for Canada Post to make full use of its presence in every community and add new revenue-generating services. Here are a few options to think about:

Why Not Get More At The Counter?

With 6,300 outlets, Canada Post has the largest retail network in the country. It could be doing a lot more with this network.

Get Your Documents:

Canada Post already processes passport applications and issues fishing and hunting licenses. It could also accept identity card applications, provide identity authentication services, register voters, certify documents, issue permits and much, much more.

Canada Post could also process payments and cheques for federal and provincial governments, and offer government services in places that don't have any.

Get a Bank for Everyone:

Canada Post used to and could still provide financial and banking services like other post offices around the world. We could provide savings and chequing accounts; bank machines; lines of credit, mortgages, money transfers, etc.

Postal banking is profitable in many parts of the world and could reinvest its profits back into our communities. See CUPW's A Bank for Everyone campaign and go to cupw.ca/PostalBanking.

Get Display Space:

Canada Post's retail space could be better used in many locations. Why not rent display space to artists and producers for showcasing their specialty goods for fixed lengths of time? Showcase "Canadiana"? Or help on-line sales of products through a website portal like the Swiss post office?

Why Not Get Better Cell, Internet and Secure Data Service?

Canadians want simple, affordable internet and cell phone service. Canada Post could offer basic cell phone packages. It could also use its infrastructure to provide high-speed internet in rural and remote areas that do not have access to this service. Many post offices in Europe, such as the UK, Italy and France, already offer internet and cell service.

Canada Post could also collect data quickly and frequently for ethical use in transportation, infrastructure and public planning.

Why Not Get More at the Door?

With the largest delivery network in the country, Canada Post could deliver a lot more.

Get More Parcels:

The parcel delivery sector is growing rapidly as a result of e-commerce and internet marketing. It doesn't make sense to have multiple courier companies driving down the same streets every day to deliver parcels.

Canada Post could provide last mile delivery for the entire sector. This would lower prices and be good for the environment because it would reduce our use of fossil fuels, and cut pollution and traffic congestion.

Canada Post already provides last mile for FedEx in rural and small communities.

Get Your Groceries:

Canada Post could partner with large grocery stores to offer home delivery across the country like the Swiss and Danish post offices.

Remember, It's A Canada Post for Everyone

Of course, Canada Post isn't simply about making money. Like other Crown corporations, it is supposed to serve our public interest.

As well as considering revenue-generating services, Canada Post ought to be strengthening and expanding the services it provides to all Canadians. For example:

Get Better Services to Indigenous and Northern Communities:

- Postal Banking
- Food Mail

Get a Greener Canada Post:

- Electric Car Charging Stations at Post Offices
- Made in Canada Electric Postal Fleet
- Door-to-door as the greener option

For more information, visit cupw.ca and deliveringcommunitypower.ca



Get Better Services for Seniors and People with Mobility Issues:

Our population is aging and we need to keep our communities connected.

Canada Post used to have a service called Letter Carrier Alert that allowed letter carriers to monitor seniors and people with disabilities. Many letter carriers still informally check up on their neighbourhoods and the people on their routes. In partnership with municipal governments, communities, health care providers and seniors, we can keep doing this, helping older Canadians to remain in their homes for as long as possible.

La Poste in France is a leader in testing such new roles for the letter carriers. It partners with pharmacies to deliver medicine and works with organizations to check on people who are vulnerable, isolated or disabled.

Japan Post also has a service called "Watch Over" that checks on seniors and reports back to family members for a small monthly fee.

This service costs the equivalent of about \$8.40 US per month. According to the Inspector General of the United States Postal Service, a similar service in the US would generate \$12.6 million in revenues annually if just one per cent of its 12.5 million older adults that live alone signed up.

Japan Post will deliver 4-5 million iPads to seniors by 2020. The iPads will have apps that facilitate check-ins and remind seniors to take their medications, eat and exercise.

Public review on future of Canada Post

Whereas Canada Post announced drastic cutbacks to our public postal service in December 2013, including plans to end home mail delivery in our country.

Whereas there was a huge public outcry in response to the cutbacks and stiff opposition from most federal parties, including the Liberal Party, which promised to halt the delivery cuts and conduct a review of Canada Post, if elected.

Whereas the delivery cuts were halted and our Liberal government is currently conducting a Canada Post Review, starting with an independent task force that will collect input from Canadians, do research, gather facts and draft a discussion paper in September of 2016, identifying viable options for postal service in this country.

Whereas a parliamentary committee will consult with Canadians in the fall of 2016 on the options that have been identified in the task force's discussion paper and then make recommendations to the government on the future of Canada Post.

Whereas it will be crucial for the task force and parliamentary committee to hear our views on key issues, including the importance of maintaining the moratorium on post office closures, improving the Canadian Postal Service Charter, restoring home mail delivery, keeping daily delivery, adding postal banking, greening Canada Post, and developing services to assist people with disabilities and help older Canadians to remain in their homes for as long as possible.

Therefore be it resolved that (name of municipality) provide input to the Canada Post Review task force and make a submission when the parliamentary committee consults with Canadians this fall.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR CANADA POST REVIEW

Step 1: Providing input to the task force now

The task force is collecting input from Canadians through a ‘question of the week’. It is also providing a number of ways for people to make general comments (June 23rd deadline for municipalities and organizations, end of July deadline for public):

- Online: Canada.ca/canadapostreview
- Email: TPSGC.ExamendeSPC-CPCReview.PWGSC@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca
- Twitter: Tweet and use #CPReview2016 hashtag
- Facebook: Like, share and comment at [Facebook.com/Canada-Post-Review-521437564704406](https://www.facebook.com/Canada-Post-Review-521437564704406)
- Instagram: Share photos and include the #CPReview2016 hashtag
- Fax: 1-844-836-8138
- Mail:
Canada Post Review
CP 2200
Matane, QC G4W 0K8

Please share your input with us at Feedback@cupw-sttp.org or mail to Mike Palecek, President, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, 377 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K2P 1Y3

What to say?

Tell the task force what you want from your public postal service and what you don’t want. Make suggestions on how postal services could be expanded. You can get information on new services and other issues in the weeks to come at CUPW.ca/canadapostreview

Step 2: Providing input to the parliamentary committee in the fall

The government says that details about the parliamentary committee’s consultations will be made public as they become available.



A bank for everyone

Support P♥stal Banking

Postal banking is the provision of financial and banking services through a post office. It is not a new or radical idea. Postal banks already exist in many parts of the world where they are used to:

- increase financial inclusion
- promote economic development
- and generate revenue to preserve public postal service and jobs

In fact, our post office used to have a national savings bank – up until 1969 – and there is no reason we shouldn't have one today.



Why do we need postal banking?

1 Banks are failing to meet the needs of a growing number of Canadians. Thousands of towns and villages across our country do not have a bank. But many of them have a post office that could provide access to financial and banking services.

2 Nearly two million Canadians in urban and rural areas desperately need an alternative to predatory payday lenders. A postal bank could be that alternative.

3 Canadian banks have raked in enormous profits while cutting service, closing branches and charging some of the highest banking and ATM fees in the world. We deserve better.

4 Post administrations around the world, including Canada Post, have seen traditional mail volumes decline in recent years. Many post offices have added or expanded financial services in order to lessen their dependence on declining mail volumes and revenues. Postal banking could help Canada Post make money and increase its ability to provide public postal service and create decent jobs in communities throughout Canada.



Canada Post's secret postal banking study

Canada Post conducted a secret four-year study on postal banking that indicates that adding this service "would be a win-win strategy" for the corporation. This study was obtained through an Access to Information (ATI) request. Unfortunately, 701 of the study's 811 pages were redacted. CUPW has asked Canada Post's President to release the full report, but he has refused.

What would a postal bank look like?

There are many different models of postal banking. Some postal administrations set up their own bank. Others act as a financial intermediary by providing services in partnership with banking and other financial institutions, such as credit unions. In this instance, they work with one or a number of institutions, which operate nationally or in different regions. Some postal banks deliver a broad range of financial services, while others provide a more limited offering.

Services provided by postal banks:

- Savings and checking accounts
- Online banking
- Bank machines
- Credit cards, debit cards, pre-paid cards
- Money transfers, including remittances
- Insurance (home, auto, travel, etc.)
- Loans and mortgages
- Investment products (RRSPs, mutual funds, annuities)
- Foreign currency
- Other services such as financial counselling

Government review of Canada Post

CUPW wants the government review of Canada Post to recommend the addition of financial and banking services at Canada Post, or at a minimum, a task force to determine how to deliver new financial and banking services through our postal service.

Please consider making this recommendation to the review.

For more information:

A postal bank for everyone – Support Postal Banking
www.cupw.ca/PostalBanking

Why Canada Needs Postal Banking
<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/publications/reports/why-canada-needs-postal-banking>

The Banks Have Failed Us: Postal Banking To The Rescue
<http://www.cupw.ca/postal-banking-rescue>

Rural Canada is underserved by financial services:
Why post offices need to offer banking services
http://cpaa-acmpa.ca/pub/files/banking_services_SEPT23Eng.pdf

Banking on a future for posts
<http://www.cupw.ca/campaign/resources/banking-future-posts>

