



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ALBERTA

Laurie Blakeman, M.L.A. Edmonton-Centre
Official Opposition House Leader
Shadow Minister for Treasury Board, Finance and Enterprise
Culture and Community Spirit

September 2, 2008

Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0N5

To Whom It May Concern:

As central Edmonton's provincial representative, I appreciate this opportunity to make a submission to the Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review. I have been approached by many of my constituents who are concerned that this Strategic Review may lead to deregulation of postal delivery in Canada, compromising the universality and affordability of this vital service.

I would submit that a public postal service is a means of democratic empowerment; it is about enabling communication between all people in our country. Canada Post's slogan, "from anywhere...to anyone" reflects this, and I would urge you to be very cautious about undermining the universality of a public postal service. Democracy is not served by a policy of deregulation and competition.

I am also worried that this Review, if it leads to competition and private enterprise in the postal system, would lead to job losses and reduced wages for postal workers. This is not a desirable outcome—our postal workers deserve good working conditions and fair compensation.

Finally, as a lawmaker, I am concerned about the short timeline and limited public awareness of this strategic review. In my view, public consultation has been inadequate for this major issue. The Advisory Panel should recommend additional comprehensive public consultation before any changes are made.

Sincerely,

Laurie Blakeman, MLA
Edmonton-Centre

LB/pm

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