

Aug. 11 2008

Prime Minister Stephen Harper

I read a notice in the Aug. 8 2008 The Renfrew Weekender stating that the federal government is conducting an inquiry into our public post office called the Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review. The government's review will look at basic questions. Should our public post office continue to have exclusive privilege to handle letters so that it has enough money to provide universal postal service? Or should it be deregulated by allowing anyone to deliver letters without the obligation to provide service in rural areas? Postal deregulation in other countries have led to post office closures, less service, fewer jobs and higher postal rates for the public and small businesses.

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When will the 'PUBLIC HEARINGS' be?

A couple of months ago several members of our Castleford Women's Institute wrote letters to you our Prime Minister and Cheryl Gallant our Member of Parliament objecting to changes in mail delivery.

We need you to understand that we need rural mail delivery in our area. We live on the Ottawa River about one hour north west of Ottawa at Castleford about 15 km from our nearest Post Office in Renfrew. It would be a great hardship for my family and other residents in our community to have to drive to Renfrew to pick up our mail. Many in our community do not drive and we do not have any public transportation in Renfrew County.

It is environmentally unfriendly to have thousands of people drive 30 or more kilometers to pick up their mail when one carrier can deliver mail to thousands in one trip.

FOR HOME AND COUNTRY

Allan and Mae Craig