

Councillor/Conseillère
Kanata South/Kanata-sud

Peggy Feltmate



August 21, 2008

Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review
330 Sparks Street (HCCR)
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N5

I am writing to provide comments on the Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review. Representing the high tech centre of Kanata on Ottawa City Council, I am very aware of the changes taking place in how people communicate. I am also aware that even with developments in technology, the need for a universal postal service remains.

With the decision in the principles to retain a universal postal service in public hands, I would strongly urge against deregulation or allowing additional competition for services currently offered by Canada Post. As is stated in the background section, maintaining a universal postal service adds pressure to Canada Post's operating costs each year. The danger of allowing competition for services currently offered by Canada Post is that it will undermine revenues to the point where a universal postal service is no longer financially viable. While this means there will be services where Canada Post has a monopoly or faces limited competition, the presence of electronic means of communication provides the market pressure for Canada Post to provide an efficient, quality service.

If there is a need to change what Canada Post does it may be worth looking at those countries where the role of the post office has actually been increased. There are many services where office and branch closures have made it harder and harder for people who prefer to deal with someone face to face, rather than navigate through phone or online systems. The post office with its network of outlets is well placed to fill that void.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peggy Feltmate". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Peggy Feltmate, Councillor
Kanata South Ward
City of Ottawa