

Dear Dr. Campbell, Mrs. Beaudoin and Mr. Bader:

RE: Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review (CPCSR)

I am writing to you because I am very concerned about the future of universal, public postal service in this country.

I am most concerned about the issue of whether Canada Post should continue to have the exclusive privilege of handling our mail, or if it should be opened up to free-market competition. I feel very strongly that deregulation would jeopardize universal postal service. If postal delivery is opened up to free market competition, those living in rural or remote areas would see a reduction or elimination of services because it is not profitable. Postal deregulation in other countries has led to reduced service, higher postal rates and fewer jobs. There is no good reason to make a change that would undermine Canada Post's ability to fund and provide services to all Canadians. I am also concerned that you will not consider the loss of revenue that deregulation will have on the Federal Government's tax base, of which Canada Post has funded by way of 12 straight years of profitability. Will you look at where the Federal Government will cut this money out of budgets, thus affecting services that Canadians rely on. Or do you believe that, with the economy following the American slow-down/recession, we Canadian taxpayers can afford to dig into our pockets to offset potential losses incurred by a deregulated postal service and replace the profit handover that our government has become accustomed to with raised tax rates. I understand that consultations are being held with some of the stakeholders, including government, industry, delivery companies and business groups, however you are failing to consult with the general public in the way of town hall style meetings. I am very concerned that public comment can only be made in written submissions. The lack of public hearings during this review of Canada Post, which most government review panels undertake, concerns me greatly.

While I know that your mandate may not have covered some of my questions, I think it would be irresponsible to consider the deregulation of letter mail, without assessing the financial impact Canadians may have to face when your report is given. I stand with The Council of Canadians and citizens across the country in saying no to postal deregulation.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Mark Golding
CUPW Toronto Local 626
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