

# *RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF SASKATCHEWAN*



July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008

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

RE: Deregulation of Universal Postal Service

Dear Sirs:

Please find enclosed a copy of Resolution 124-08 duly passed unanimously at the regular meeting of council held July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 opposing the deregulation of Canada Post.

As a Rural Municipality this council is deeply concerned with the erosion of our rural population which drastically affects our tax base and therefore our ability to provide essential services and maintain our infrastructure. The small communities that are encompassed within our boundaries are finding it ever so difficult to compete with the larger urban centers. They draw our residents to shop for any number of products from fuel, to food, to clothing to large ticket items like vehicles and equipment. Many residents of small towns within our boundaries like Basswood and Rapid City then find it much easier to do all their shopping in Brandon. In some cases they find it just as simple to move and live in the larger centre. Without local support the grocery store closes. Then closing are the hardware and clothing stores, followed by the gas and service stations, and ultimately the bank and postal outlet. The rural residents such as farmers and small holding rate payers then find themselves even further removed from the mainstream of society.

Rural mail service is a staple and must be preserved in its entirety. We need our local post office and our rural mail delivery to help maintain the very fabric of our community.

This was evidenced in Basswood, a lively little town located in our R. M. directly on a major highway, #16, the Yellowhead Route. After the closure of the post office in Basswood a decade ago, the town began to dissipate until it is virtually non-existent today. We can ill afford this to happen again in Rapid City. The loss of jobs for our RSMC's and our postmaster and assistants, as well as an increase in postal rates which would undoubtedly follow if privatization were to occur, would be devastating.

Canada Post must continue to have the exclusive privilege of supplying this essential service to our community. Deregulation and privatization would be a death blow to smaller rural communities and only aid in the erosion of rural municipalities.

In conclusion, to complete a comprehensive review of our universal postal system without even consulting the public is insulting and verging on undemocratic. Canada post is a crown corporation owned by the electorate of this country and we should have every opportunity to share our views and concerns on this very important issue through the public hearing process. On behalf of the ratepayers of the Rural Municipality of Saskatchewan and indeed all citizens of Canada, we urge you to reconsider the format of this strategic review.

Sincerely,



Robert Sharpe  
Reeve  
Rural Municipality of Saskatchewan

# RESOLUTION

## RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

No. 124-08

July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Moved by Councillor K. Bayes

Seconded by Councillor E. Olson

WHEREAS the Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review, which was launched by the federal government on April 21, 2008, is looking at deregulating our public post office such as reducing or removing Canada Post's exclusive privilege on letters,

AND WHEREAS it will become increasingly difficult for our public post office to provide affordable service to everyone, no matter where they live, if the government erodes or eliminates the very mechanism that funds universal postal service -- the exclusive privilege,

AND WHEREAS postal deregulation in other countries has led to post office closures, less service, fewer jobs and higher postal rates for the public and small businesses,

AND WHEREAS the government is not holding public hearings as part of its strategic review or adequately consulting with the real owners of the post office -- the public,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Rural Municipality of Saskatchewan send a letter or submission to the Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review opposing deregulation of Canada Post and insisting that the government hold public hearings and properly consult with the true owners of Canada Post -- the public.

CARRIED.

DEFEATED.

Chairman R. Sharpe

FOR 7

OPPOSED 0

ABSTAINED 0

I, Lois B. Sharpe, Chief Administrative Officer  
for the Rural Municipality of Saskatchewan  
hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy  
of Resolution No. 124-08 as passed by Council of  
the Rural Municipality of Saskatchewan



Lois B. Sharpe, CMMA