

Canada Post Review Panel.

The newspaper article which alerted me to the website and this email address mentions that Minister Lawrence Cannon explained that, *"this review follows upon our Conservative Government's directive in December 2006 requiring Canada Post to implement an operational plan to restore and maintain rural mail delivery to ALL Canadians living in rural areas"*. Didn't come across this MAIN objective on your website.

When I read this 'objective', I thought, now they are looking at it, about 30 years too late. I moved onto my land in 1986. It is located in the Farrell Creek farming community, 30 miles due west of Fort St. John, BC, 63 miles by road, and 22 miles by road from Hudson's Hope.

When I went to the Post Office to advise them of my name and location they told me, Canada Post does not deliver to the Farrell Creek area, or anywhere near it, and offered a P.O. Box in Hudson's Hope. I knew in 1986 that I would never have reason to go to Hudson's Hope. Fort St. John is our business center for everything. Obviously, I will not make a 44 mile round trip to Hudson's Hope, at a vehicle and personal cost of \$100.00, merely to pick up my mail. So, my mail box is in Fort St. John. That is a 126 mile round trip, but it is combined with personal and business purchases. Nevertheless, we only go to Fort St. John and that mail box, once or twice a month, no exceptions.

In the footer of my letters I make it clear to the reader:

"Canada Post does not deliver to us, use email or fax to contact us, or expect an eight week response period". Other important deadlines, like property taxes, drivers license renewal, etc., which insist on mailing things, were likewise informed that: *"We will not be responsible for Canada Post's and the relevant minister's failure to enforce and apply basic human rights, which includes door to door mail delivery to ALL Canadians, WHEREVER they may establish their permanent residence in this country"*.

In 1986 I wrote many letters to all federal and provincial authorities about this betrayal. Many couldn't even be bothered to respond. Those who did added insult to Canada

Post's injury by admonishing, either, *"it is too expensive to deliver to rural areas"*, or, *"no one forces you to live there"*, which I heard repeated many times over the years whenever it came to the enforcement of the most important principle of democracy: *"The acceptance and practice of the principle of equality of rights, opportunity, and treatment"*.

With the doors closing in my face, my pride in this country closed as well. It has never recovered. If the minister does enforce rural delivery now, it would help with some official notices, my main contact with the world, however, is and has been email and fax, that will not change.

Regards,

Manfred E. Stief