

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

RE: Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review

I'm writing to voice my concerns with any change to the exclusive privilege granted to Canada Post to deliver our mail. The intent of this privilege is to secure affordable, universal service to all Canadians no matter if they live in Toronto Ont. or Gambo NL.

I believe if the legislation tabled in October 2007 to amend the Canada Post Corporation Act is passed, it will be the end of the Canada Post. The doors will be opened to sell off more portions of the Corporation (but only the profitable ones). The act will be amended time and time again, until there is nothing left. Why would the government take into consideration such an amendment if the current process works, at no cost to the public?

I believe there is immense pressure on the government from the corporate world as a result of the decision on August 12, 2004 - by Justice James D. Carnwath of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice granted Canada Post's motion seeking a determination of a question of law. He found that a proper interpretation of s.14 of the Canada Post Corporation Act, in the English and French versions, is that any one or more of the activities of collecting, transmitting and delivering letters is the exclusive privilege of Canada Post in Canada, including letters addressed to foreign destinations. This is the law and government should not collapse to the pressure of large greedy companies to change it, the companies' who are seeking to have this change don't have a mandate to serve Canadians-just their shareholders.

If this bill is passed, or any other form of deregulation the Corporation will lose money, and there will be job losses at Canada Post. It's not rocket science, when there is less work to do, there is less profits, and there are less workers.

Furthermore, I believe that there isn't another company that can serve all Canadians in this vast country the way the Canada Post does. Canada Post has the infrastructure that reaches every Canadian citizen daily. Canada Post is mandated daily to collect and deliver mail to every address in this country, no matter where they live. No other company has the resources, or the network to do the same. No other company can do what Canada Post does daily without a dramatic reduction in service and an increase in cost. Most large courier companies today use the network that Canada post has developed to deliver their product to rural areas, because they don't have their own.

Are we going to sell off portions of Canada Post, and then continue to deliver their product to the rural areas so that these companies can have bigger profits? I hope not.

Today Canadians have one of the lowest Postal rates in the world. These low rates prevent other companies from extorting the public in paying higher prices for the same service - a benefit to all Canadians. Canada Post is mandated to make a reasonable return.

If portions of Canada Post were sold off or deregulated today, there would be an immediate impact on all Canadians lasting for years. All we have to do is look at other countries that are in the process of changing such as England and Sweden to learn it isn't working.

With technology today, there is no reason why Canada Post can't improve their standards for delivering their products. The Corporation has the ability to move the mail and any other product faster, all they need is to have the proper staff in place using the technology they currently have - a benefit to all Canadians.

For the past 12 consecutive years Canada Post has performed successfully in a competitive market environment and during the same period generated profits. The corporation has remained self-sufficient, while paying more than \$400 million in dividends to the Government of Canada. I believe that Canada Post shouldn't have to pay the government, the Government should keep their hands out of the pockets of the Corporation. These profits should be used to ensure the mandate of affordable universal postal service, while maintaining the jobs in our communities. There is no reason why the price of a stamp has to increase if these dividends remained with Canada Post - a benefit to all Canadians.

In closing, I'm frustrated that my government would have such a review during the summer months. Failing to hold public forums to a question that can affect every Canadian. I would like to invite your committee to visit St. John's NL, to tour our Plant and visit some of our rural Post Offices, areas that UPS and FedEx won't deliver to.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns, if you wish to discuss this issue further with me, please feel free to contact me.

Craig Dyer  
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