



Health  
Sciences  
Association of  
British Columbia

The Union of Caring Professionals

August 26, 2008

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

Attention: Advisory Panel

I am writing on behalf of the Health Sciences Association of BC (HSA), a union that represents more than 15,000 health science professionals who work throughout the province of British Columbia.

HSA is concerned that the federal government, through the Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review process, is investigating the deregulation our public postal system, and that this deregulation is being considered with little opportunity for public discussion.

Canadians rely on our public regulated postal system as an affordable and reliable service that's accessible to all Canadians – regardless of whether they live or do business in a dense city or a remote community. The current “exclusive privilege” to deliver letters helps Canada Post meet its mandate to guarantee service to everyone in Canada – no matter where they're located. Without that exclusive privilege, universal postal service is threatened as profit-driven providers would have an opportunity to take over the more lucrative aspects of postal delivery – that is, high-volume, low-cost services in urban areas – while less attractive low-volume, high-cost services in rural and isolated communities would suffer.

Canada Post currently provides Canadians with safe, unionized jobs, with fair wages and good working conditions. A deregulated postal system would destroy this employment and transform those good jobs into poor jobs within a profit-driven business model where wages and benefits of the workers are sacrificed to compete with the bottom-line profits.

The strategic review should reject any suggestion that deregulation is an alternative that may improve service and the bottom line. The impact on this critical public service would be too detrimental to the public interest responsibilities Canada Post has historically upheld.

Sincerely,

Reid W. Johnson  
President  
**HEALTH SCIENCES ASSOCIATION OF BC**

RWJ:jsh

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