

June 6, 2016

Jude Schooner
Mayor
Village of Tahsis
PO Box 219 977 South Maquinna Dr
Tahsis, BC V0P 1X0

Jude Schooner,

Re: Federal government reviewing our public postal service - Have your say!

I am writing to let you know that the federal government is conducting a review of Canada Post. It says that everything but postal privatization is on the table. This means daily mail delivery, restoring home delivery, postage rates, the moratorium on post office closures and more.

The review will have two phases. The government has appointed an independent task force to collect input from Canadians, do research, gather facts and identify options for the future of our postal service by September 2016. Following this, a parliamentary committee will consult with Canadians on the options identified by the task force and make recommendations to the government by year's end. The government expects to announce its decisions about Canada Post in the spring of 2017. For more information, go to CUPW.ca/canadapostreview and Canada.ca/canadapostreview

While CUPW welcomes the opportunity to look at the future of our public postal service, we have a number of concerns about the review. The review's first phase – the part that determines the options that will be examined – is being held over the summer. As well, there has been very little information and advertising about the review, except in social media. We are concerned people will not learn about the review until it's too late.

CUPW would like to ensure that the views of municipalities are considered. Therefore, we would like you, if at all possible, to provide input to the Canada Post Review. We have attached a resolution for your consideration, information on providing input and some fact sheets on key issues.

Thank you very much for considering our request. There's a lot at stake and we appreciate anything you can do to help. We would also like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the many municipalities that supported our campaign to stop the cuts that Canada Post announced in December 2013, including the end of home mail delivery. We had a major victory when Canada Post announced a temporary hold on its plan to eliminate door-to-door delivery. CUPW is confident that we can build on this success and convince the Canada Post Review to recommend against further cuts in favour of new services that generate revenues and allow us to build a universal, affordable and green public postal system for future generations.

In solidarity,

Mike Palecek
National Presidentc.c. National Executive Committee, Regional Executive Committees, National Union
Representatives, Regional Union Representatives, Specialists, Campaign Co-ordinators, Negotiators,
CUPW locals



A bank for everyone

Support Postal Banking

Postal banking is the provision of financial and banking services through a post office. It is not a new or radical idea. Postal banks already exist in many parts of the world where they are used to:

- increase financial inclusion
- promote economic development
- and generate revenue to preserve public postal service and jobs

In fact, our post office used to have a national savings bank – up until 1969 – and there is no reason we shouldn't have one today.



Why do we need postal banking?

- 1** Banks are failing to meet the needs of a growing number of Canadians. Thousands of towns and villages across our country do not have a bank. But many of them have a post office that could provide access to financial and banking services.
- 2** Nearly two million Canadians in urban and rural areas desperately need an alternative to predatory payday lenders. A postal bank could be that alternative.

- 3** Canadian banks have raked in enormous profits while cutting service, closing branches and charging some of the highest banking and ATM fees in the world. We deserve better.

- 4** Post administrations around the world, including Canada Post, have seen traditional mail volumes decline in recent years. Many post offices have added or expanded financial services in order to lessen their dependence on declining mail volumes and revenues. Postal banking could help Canada Post make money and increase its ability to provide public postal service and create decent jobs in communities throughout Canada.

Postal banking is lucrative!

New Zealand: Kiwibank generated 81% of New Zealand Post's after tax profits.

Switzerland: PostFinance produced 48% of Swiss Post's operating profits.

Italy: BancoPosta profits allowed the Italian post office to make 57 million Euros in profits (\$86.1 million CAD) in spite of losses incurred by its postal business.

France: La Banque Postale's operating profits of 842 million Euros (\$1271.6 million CAD) made a significant contribution to Le Group La Poste's operating profits of 719 million Euros (\$1085.8 million CAD).

Sources: New Zealand Post, Swiss Post, Poste Italiane and Le Group La Poste, 2014

Postal banking has social & economic benefits

France: Banque Postale has an obligation to provide products and services to as many people as possible. It provides a Livret A or passbook savings account, at no charge, to anyone who requests it. It also provides banking services to the financially vulnerable and financing for social housing, voluntary organizations and microentrepreneurs lacking bank credit.



Brazil: Since its creation in 2002, Banco Postal at Brazil's post office has opened over 6,200 postal bank branches and provided bank accounts to about ten million people. These efforts are largely designed to meet the needs of poor and marginalized populations living in rural and underdeveloped areas.



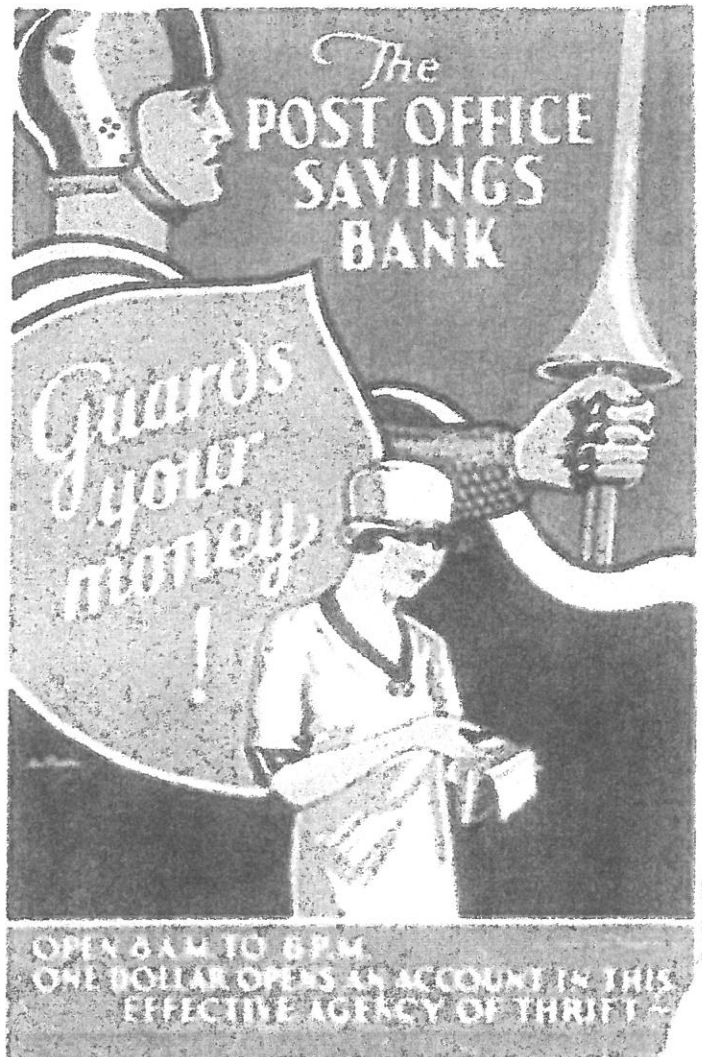
Italy: BancoPosta offers current accounts, payment services and postal savings products on behalf of Cassa di Risparmio di Roma (CDR). The CDR, which is 80% owned by the Italian government, supports the development of the country



by financing the investments of public entities, helping local authorities leverage their real estate assets, investing in social housing, and supporting energy efficiency policies.

We had a postal bank

Canada had postal banking for over a hundred years. The federal government passed legislation establishing a post office savings bank system just after Confederation in 1867 in order to provide a savings service to the working classes and small town residents. This system began operating in 1868 with 81 locations and grew quickly. By 1884, there were 343 post office savings banks, with a balance of \$13 million from almost 67,000 accounts. However, Canada's postal banking system confronted challenges from chartered banks by the 1890s. These banks, facing a recession, became interested in attracting the kind of small-time depositors who used post office savings





Nearly two million Canadians in urban and rural areas desperately need an alternative to predatory payday lenders. We deserve better.

banks and they actively worked to undermine postal banking. In 1898, the chartered banks successfully lobbied the government to reduce the interest rate paid on deposits at postal savings banks from 3% to 2.5%. They also worked to eliminate advertising by postal banks. As time went on, chartered banks and credit unions increased their presence in communities and the post office and government became less interested in maintaining the network. The post office savings bank system was closed down in 1969.

Support for postal banking

Municipalities: Over 600 municipalities have passed resolutions that support postal banking.

Public: Almost two out of every three respondents (63%) to a 2013 Stratcom poll supported Canada Post expanding revenue-generating services, including financial services like bill payments, insurance and banking.

Canada Post: A number of former Canada Post presidents have considered and even promoted the notion of the corporation getting more involved in financial services: Michael Warren, Andre Ouellet, Moya Greene.

Universal Postal Union: The UPU, a United Nations agency, thinks post offices should be looking at expanding financial services. It has produced a global roadmap for the future. This roadmap calls for the continued development of postal networks along three dimensions – physical, financial and digital/electronic.

Federal parties: Most federal parties have expressed either support for or an interest in postal banking. In 2014, the Liberal Party postal critic said the merits of postal banking should be explored in the context of several different options for the future of Canada Post.



Canada Post's secret postal banking study

Canada Post conducted a secret four-year study on postal banking that indicates that adding this service "would be a win-win strategy" for the corporation. This study was obtained through an Access to Information (ATI) request. Unfortunately, 701 of the study's 811 pages were redacted. CUPW has asked Canada Post's President to release the full report, but he has refused.

What would a postal bank look like?

There are many different models of postal banking. Some postal administrations set up their own bank. Others act as a financial intermediary by providing services in partnership with banking and other financial institutions, such as credit unions. In this instance, they work with one or a number of institutions, which operate nationally or in different regions. Some postal banks deliver a broad range of financial services, while others provide a more limited offering.

Services provided by postal banks:

- Savings and checking accounts
- Online banking
- Bank machines
- Credit cards, debit cards, pre-paid cards
- Money transfers, including remittances
- Insurance (home, auto, travel, etc.)
- Loans and mortgages
- Investment products (RRSPs, mutual funds, annuities)
- Foreign currency
- Other services such as financial counselling

Government review of Canada Post

CUPW wants the government review of Canada Post to recommend the addition of financial and banking services at Canada Post, or at a minimum, a task force to determine how to deliver new financial and banking services through our postal service.

Please consider making this recommendation to the review.

For more information:

A postal bank for everyone – Support Postal Banking
www.cupw.ca/PostalBanking

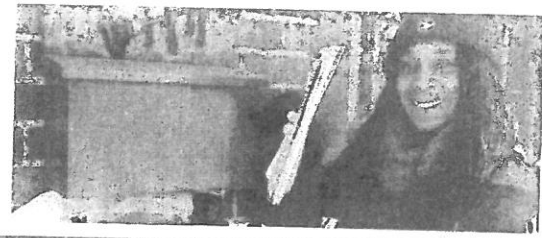
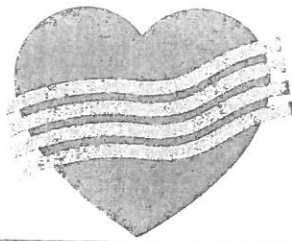
Why Canada Needs Postal Banking
<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/publications/reports/why-canada-needs-postal-banking>

The Banks Have Failed Us: Postal Banking To The Rescue
<http://www.cupw.ca/postal-banking-rescue>

Rural Canada is underserved by financial services:
Why post offices need to offer banking services
http://cpaa-acmpa.ca/pub/files/banking_services_SEPT23Eng.pdf

Banking on a future for posts
<http://www.cupw.ca/campaign/resources/banking-future-posts>





A Canada Post for Everyone



Daily door-to-door delivery: It's not just more convenient. It's better for the environment.

Canada Post delivers billions of letters and parcels to homes and businesses every year. Many Canadians consider it a trusted and valuable service.

But did you know that home mail delivery is the most environmentally friendly way of moving letters and parcels from sender to receiver? And it's greener when it's done five or six days a week.

Why Canada Post is the greener option

The boom in online shopping means that millions more parcels are being delivered by Canada Post and other delivery companies. That's a lot of cars and trucks on delivery runs.

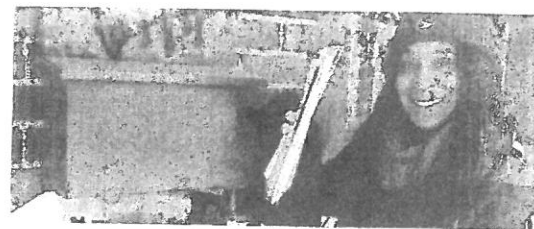
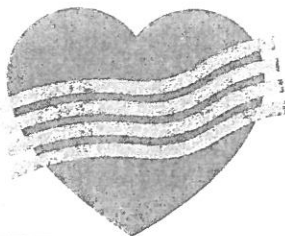
Last year, the number of parcels delivered by Canada Post alone increased by almost 10%. But with Canada Post, the amount of greenhouse gas emissions barely increases. Why? Because, unlike other delivery companies, Canada Post already has people delivering mail and parcels to every neighbourhood in the country on a daily basis.

From an environmental perspective, Canada Post is the best delivery option. According to a 2011 report, getting a parcel delivered by Canada Post can cause up to 6 times less CO₂ emissions than an overnight delivery by a courier, and 3 times less than having a customer make a 5-km trip to pick it up in a store.

Why daily delivery is the greener option

If we cut mail delivery back to three days per week, Canada Post would lose its environmental advantage. It would make Canada Post's parcel delivery more expensive, which would result in the corporation losing market share to less environmentally efficient companies.

A vehicle delivering letters and parcels together keeps down the cost and environmental impact of each piece.



A Canada Post for Everyone



Our Postal Service is Under Review: What's In It For You?

The federal government says it wants to ensure that "Canadians receive quality postal services at a reasonable price."

It's asking Canadians for our input. So, how do you think our national postal service should change with the times?

High Quality Service to Meet Our Changing Needs.

People everywhere are sending fewer letters through the mail, which has affected the revenues of post offices around the world. Some postal systems have raised prices or cut services and jobs, as Canada Post did when the Conservatives were in power.

But post offices in many other countries have expanded their services and branched out into new avenues in order to make more money.

It's time for Canada Post to make full use of its presence in every community and add new revenue-generating services. Here are a few options to think about:

Why Not Get More At The Counter?

With 6,300 outlets, Canada Post has the largest retail network in the country. It could be doing a lot more with this network.

Get Your Documents:

Canada Post already processes passport applications and issues fishing and hunting licenses. It could also accept identity card applications, provide identity authentication services, register voters, certify documents, issue permits and much, much more.

Canada Post could also process payments and cheques for federal and provincial governments, and offer government services in places that don't have any.

Get a Bank for Everyone:

Canada Post used to and could still provide financial and banking services like other post offices around the world. We could provide savings and chequing accounts; bank machines; lines of credit, mortgages, money transfers, etc.

Postal banking is profitable in many parts of the world and could reinvest its profits back into our communities. See CUPW's A Bank for Everyone campaign and go to cupw.ca/PostalBanking.

Get Display Space:

Canada Post's retail space could be better used in many locations. Why not rent display space to artists and producers for showcasing their specialty goods for fixed lengths of time? Showcase "Canadiana"? Or help on-line sales of products through a website portal like the Swiss post office?

Why Not Get Better Cell, Internet and Secure Data Service?

Canadians want simple, affordable internet and cell phone service. Canada Post could offer basic cell phone packages. It could also use its infrastructure to provide high-speed internet in rural and remote areas that do not have access to this service. Many post offices in Europe, such as the UK, Italy and France, already offer internet and cell service.

Canada Post could also collect data quickly and frequently for ethical use in transportation, infrastructure and public planning.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR CANADA POST REVIEW

Step 1: Providing input to the task force now

The task force is collecting input from Canadians through a 'question of the week'. It is also providing a number of ways for people to make general comments (June 23rd deadline for municipalities and organizations, end of July deadline for public):

- Online: Canada.ca/canadapostreview
- Email: TPSGC.ExamendeSPC-CPCReview.PWGSC@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca
- Twitter: Tweet and use #CPReview2016 hashtag
- Facebook: Like, share and comment at [Facebook.com/Canada-Post-Review-521437564704406](https://www.facebook.com/Canada-Post-Review-521437564704406)
- Instagram: Share photos and include the #CPReview2016 hashtag
- Fax: 1-844-836-8138
- Mail:
Canada Post Review
CP 2200
Matane, QC G4W 0K8

Please share your input with us at Feedback@cupw-sttp.org or mail to Mike Palecek, President, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, 377 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K2P 1Y3

What to say?

Tell the task force what you want from your public postal service and what you don't want. Make suggestions on how postal services could be expanded. You can get information on new services and other issues in the weeks to come at CUPW.ca/canadapostreview

Step 2: Providing input to the parliamentary committee in the fall

The government says that details about the parliamentary committee's consultations will be made public as they become available.