

DON DAVIES, M.P.

Vancouver Kingsway



March 14, 2014

John Bail National Director, Pacific Region CUPW STTP 999 Carnarvon Street New Westminster, BC V3M 1G2



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Dear John,

RE: Canada Post Town Hall hosted by Don Davies, MP and Libby Davies, MP, February 22, 2014 at the Trout Lake Community Centre

Thank you for attending and speaking at our Canada Post Town Hall last month. As per your request, please see the following main points made by the attendees at the event:

- 1. Canada Post is profitable, returning \$1.6 billion to taxpayers, and can afford home delivery;
- 2. No valid economic case has been made to justify the elimination of home delivery and the virtual doubling of stamp costs;
- 3. No information has been released on the economic impacts of the elimination of home delivery and the virtual doubling of stamp costs;
- 4. Ending home delivery will see the elimination of 6000-8000 well-paying, good jobs;
- 5. The elimination of thousands of jobs hurts young people and the hearing impaired by reducing job opportunities;
- 6. Ending home mail delivery is a step toward the possible privatization of our public postal service;
- 7. Ending home delivery and increasing stamp costs will hurt the business community, in particular small business and the non-profit sector;
- 8. Stamp price increases disproportionately hurt seniors (often on fixed incomes) and those without computers;
- Removing letter carriers from our neighbourhoods reduces the "eyes and ears" in our communities; letter carriers play an important public role in checking on seniors and those with mobility limitations, and in reporting suspicious activity;
- 10. Moving to "superboxes" will increase litter in our neighbourhoods;
- 11. Moving to "superboxes" will lead to more mail theft; theft of identity, credit cards, cheques and important documents are particular concerns;
- 12. Moving to "superboxes" will increase traffic and pollution in our neighbourhoods;
- 13. Moving to "superboxes" will decrease property values for homes in the immediate vicinity;
- 14. Moving to "superboxes" will be disruptive to neighbourhoods, with cars and people accessing mail at all hours of the day and night;
- 15. Moving to "superboxes" will lead to suspicious activity, increased trespassing and crime in our neighbourhoods;

- 16. Moving to "superboxes" will be difficult in dense, urban neighbourhoods; municipal zoning and land acquisition issues may arise; cannot easily retrofit urban neighbourhoods to accommodate "superboxes";
- 17. Moving to "superboxes" will lead to more slips, falls and injuries to seniors and people with mobility issues;
- 18. Moving to "superboxes" will cause difficulty for many people to access their mail, especially in wintertime;
- 19. Moving to "superboxes" will increase Canada Post vehicle traffic and use, and lead to greater fleet and maintenance costs;
- 20. Eliminating 6000-8000 jobs may have a negative impact on the Canada Post pension plan;
- 21. Exploring a reduction in daily mail delivery (eg. 3 days per week) ought to be considered as an alternative to ending home mail delivery;
- 22. Exploring adding services to postal outlets (like banking services; providing affordable cheque-cashing services) ought to be considered as a means of improving Canada Post's profitability; this is particularly the case in rural areas;
- 23. Exploring giving Canadians the option of choosing mailboxes in Canada Post outlets and receiving an annual payment ought to be considered;
- 24. Canada Post is executive and managerial-heavy; reducing the 22 Canada Post Vice-Presidents ought to be considered before direct service cuts to Canadians are implemented;
- 25. These changes may violate Canada Post's legal obligations under their Charter (eg, Article 5) and enabling legislation;
- 26. Keep Canada Post and mail delivery a publicly-delivered service; institutions like Canada Post build our country, connect Canadians and improve national unity;
- 27. Three years ago, Canada Post and the federal government legislated, among others, letter carriers back to work, arguing it was an "essential service"; cutting home delivery now is a contradiction;
- 28. Municipalities (like City of Vancouver) are passing resolutions opposed to these moves.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns regarding the points made above.

Sincèrely,

Don Davies

Member of Parliament

Vancouver Kingsway