



A Canada Post for Everyone



Broadband!

Canada Post should be moving with the times by providing high-speed access to Internet Broadband in urban, rural and remote parts of the country.

Did you know our postal service actually has a mandate to expand service in light of advances in communications? They should be doing it. Other postal administrations are. For example, post offices in France, Italy and the United Kingdom already offer Broadband service.

Is there a need for Broadband here?

There are serious service gaps in Canada, especially for low-income earners, rural communities, Indigenous people and small businesses.

- First there is the issue of high-speed Internet not being available, even if people want it and can afford it.
- A second major problem is the cost. The cost of Internet prevents many from getting access.

What have other postal services done?

• The French and Italian postal administrations are growing in the mobile telephone and broadband delivery sectors. They do not separate the delivery of these two sectors as the Broadband is delivered through the telephone system - mainly mobile but also fibre landline in the case of France.

• In Italy, profit from Poste Mobile - cell and Internet- is up.

- In France, La Poste Mobile now holds 1.3 million telephone lines after 5 years. Its revenues are on the rise.

Three options for the provision of Broadband by Canada Post

- One** – Building a broadband infrastructure alone.
- Two** – Partnering with the private sector.
- And three** – Partnering with local and regional community-owned Internet Broadband services, as well as existing free nets. This option is only available in a very small part of the country, so Canada Post would probably need multiple kinds of partnerships.

What needs to happen first?

CUPW is proposing that Canada Post begin the process of determining how to proceed by establishing a Broadband Digital Strategy Committee that is comprised of management, postal unions and experts in the field.

It's a reasonable step. We should do it!

For more information, see CUPW's submission to the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates on Broadband: <http://www.cupw.ca/en/campaign/resources/broadband-service>

