



August 20, 2008

Dr. Robert Campbell
Chair of the Advisory Panel
Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review
330 Sparks Street (HCCR)
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0N5

Dear Dr. Campbell,

It has come to our attention that the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure, and Communications and the Minister responsible for the Canada Post Corporation is currently conducting a strategic review of the Corporation.

The Canadian Federation of Students strongly believes that Canadians do not benefit from the deregulation of essential public services, such as post offices and mail delivery. Many Canadians rely on the universal postal service maintaining reasonable prices in order to correspond with friends and family, government agencies, or to operate their business. Furthermore, a universal postal service has allowed many Canadians to build businesses in rural areas and to contribute to the economic development of their communities.

Deregulating our public postal services would allow the private sector to compete with Canada Post in more lucrative urban areas and through business mailing, leaving the less profitable responsibilities to our public postal services. Deregulation would also put upward pressure on prices, especially in rural and remote parts of the country, as the postal service could no longer subsidise these services with more profitable services.

Our public post offices provide stable, quality jobs to many Canadians, especially women living in rural areas. In fact, 86.9% of rural counter workers and 71.5% of rural route mail delivery staff are women. Deregulation would most likely lead to a massive loss of mail volume and therefore layoffs, especially in unprofitable rural areas.

Finally, deregulating our public post offices would reduce the security and privacy of the mail. Maintaining a fully public Canadian postal service allows full control over the security of the mail and ensures that the *Patriot Act* does not affect the privacy of our mail.

As deregulation would increase prices, reduce services, destroy jobs, and potentially eliminate mail privacy, we urge you to recommend that Canada Post remain a fully public service and that Canada's mail service needs not be seen as a private responsibility.

Sincerely,

Katherine Giroux-Bougard
National Chairperson

