

## **SUBMISSION TO THE CANADA POST CORPORATION STRATEGIC REVIEW PANEL**

I would like to start off this submission Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review Panel by saying that I am an employee of Canada Post who lives in a rural part of Canada. My submission will not deal with the issue of job loss as I feel my fellow postal workers have covered these issues adequately. What I want to talk about is loss of services to rural Canada.

Moya Greene, CEO of Canada Post, since being appointed to this position has continually talked about Canada Post's 200 customers. These 200 customers are large volume mailers whose main goal is to make profit from utilizing Canada Post services. My focus, which should also be Canada Post's, will be on the 30 million customers across the country who use the mail everyday and who actually own it.

If this panel decides that deregulation is the way Canada Post should go then it is a portion of these 30 million people who will end up having to pay increased postage rates and a decrease in postal services. The people of this country who choose to live in rural areas would not only see an increase in postage rates but also a decline in postal services compared to those in larger urban areas. All one has to do is look to other countries who have decided to deregulate to see that this is a reality. To treat some of the population different from others simply because of where they choose to live is just WRONG.

Canada Post has continually proven itself to be a sustainable public service, one of the few left, that definitely plays a huge role in keeping this vast country connected. Having lived in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia almost all of my life, I have seen services to my community cut and gouged to the point where they have become almost non-existent. Ferry service to and from Yarmouth has been cut in half, then cut in half again and then cut in half one more time. (2 ferries running year round to 2 ferries running half of the year to 1 ferry doing both runs) I have seen bus services cut drastically and air service cut completely. The railroads are gone and the roads only seem to see improvement when someone needs votes. The transportation links to Yarmouth are virtually gone, please don't let the communications links go the same way.

Rural Canadians have seen too many services cut and slashed to the point of being non-existent. If rural Canadians are expected to pay the same federal taxes as those living in larger urban areas shouldn't they then expect and deserve the same quality of services? The answer is a simple one... YES.

As we continue to hear Ms. Greene refer to Canada Post as a business we should take a moment and think about that. Canada Post is a SERVICE for all Canadians that has proven itself self-sufficient and should be treated as such.

I would like to conclude by quoting a few words spoken to me a long time ago by someone whose opinion I respect immensely. He said to me and I now say it to you..."Sometimes you have to do something simply because it is the right thing to do"

Thank you for taking the time to consider my submission.

George Nickerson  
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