



August 28, 2008

Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities
27th Floor, Tower C
330 Sparks Street (HCCR)
OTTAWA, ON K1A 0N5

Dear Honourable Minister Cannon;

RE: Strategic Review of Canada Post Corporation

The Council of the County of Vermilion River was recently made aware of the Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review which could result in possible changes to postal services.

Our rural municipality in northeastern Alberta already receives a variety of levels of postal service. Residents that are located close to larger urban centers have access to similar services that are available in larger cities. However, a considerable number of residents receive their postal services via rural route distribution or clustered mail boxes, as in the case of Hamlets. Rural route delivery is already restricted to weekly service. I realize that Canada Post cannot be all things to all people but, on behalf of the 7,900 citizens of our community, we wish to express their concern regarding a further reduction in levels of postal service.

Many residents, including myself, have to travel to the nearest urban centre to take advantage of specialized mailing services which require contact directly with a postal worker. In many homes both adults work and are busy during normal post office business hours and have to make special arrangements to receive parcels or send special mailings or parcels. Personally, my closest full service post office is 55 kilometers from my home and for many of the residents that our Council represents the distance could be up to 100 kilometers.

Our request is that special consideration be given to a further deterioration of postal services in rural Canada and rural Alberta.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Don Whittaker
Reeve

- cc
- Canada Post Strategic Review Committee
330 Sparks Street (HCCR), Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N5
 - Leon Benoit, MP, Vegreville – Wainwright
 - Denis Lemelin, President, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, 377 Bank St.
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1Y3
 - Mary Lou Woodfield, Education/Organization Officer, Canadian Union of Postal
Workers – Prairie Region, 407 – 275 Broadway, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4M6