

Perhaps Canada Post would be interested in posting articles that have appeared in newspapers. I'll send them along as I find them: note the one below. All the newspaper articles in Canada on the topic would make a fine collection for reading, and the panel would gain a general idea of how the public feels, if indeed that is a matter of concern.

Port Ed post office woes

By Patrick Witwicki , The Daily News

Published: Friday, July 11, 2008

Port Edward Council has decided to go postal.

At council Tuesday evening, Port Edward reviewed a correspondence from the Canadian United Postal Workers Union about concerns that it has that the Canadian government is considering deregulating the postal service.

The system is currently under federal review, as a study called the "Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review" is looking at questions, such as whether public post offices should continue to have an exclusive privilege to handle letters, or should the letter market be open to competition.

Email to a friend

Printer friendly

Font:****This immediately made Port Edward councillors wonder about the future of the community's own post office, even though the review is incomplete.

"A small post office like us, are they going to try to get rid of it," said Coun. Ed Wampler.

According to the correspondence, the CUPW contends that the postal deregulation in other countries "has led to post office closures, less service, fewer jobs, and higher postal rates for the public and small businesses."

But Mayor Dave MacDonald assured council that it was too early to panic, and he urged council to wait for the final report to come out before taking any action.

"We have had no discussions about what they're going to do about our post office," he said.

Coun. Christine MacKenzie wondered why the federal government was being so secretive about it, however.

"My concern is they're not bringing it to the public," she said.

The CUPW agrees and explains in the document: "The union is also concerned that the government is not holding public hearings as part of its review. The fact that the government is not holding public hearings ... suggests that it is not really interested in hearing from the real owners of the post office - the public."

Despite the fact the review isn't complete, Coun. James Brown urged the rest of council that it would be wise to support the CUPW's letter.

"I make a motion we support this thing," he said, and council unanimously supported his motion.

To find out how to subscribe to the Daily News (we can mail the paper anywhere), please give us a call at (250) 624-6785 or call toll free 1-800-343-0022

S Woodworth
Freelance Journalist
BC