

Dear

RE: CUPW calls for moratorium relating to rural mail delivery

Canada Post is currently reviewing roadside mailboxes. As a result of this review, the corporation has informed many rural residents that they can no longer have roadside mail delivery because their mailbox cannot be delivered to safely.

In the course of reviewing mailboxes, the corporation does not always take the time to talk to rural residents or explore all available options before moving mail delivery to a community box, green box or a post office. Likewise, it does not consult with union representatives of rural delivery workers who have first-hand knowledge of the safety and delivery problems within a community.

This unilateral approach has lead to frustration and outrage among rural residents and difficulties for rural delivery workers. We believe that Canada Post needs to thoroughly consult (i.e. explore all available options) with rural residents as well as local union officials who represent rural and suburban mail carriers.

This is why the Canadian Union of Postal Workers is calling for a moratorium relating to rural delivery.

Terms of moratorium relating to rural mail delivery

1. Canada Post should stop taking unilateral decisions regarding rural mail delivery.
2. Canada Post should not be allowed to move rural mail delivery from roadside boxes to other locations until it has thoroughly consulted (i.e. explored all available options) with rural residents as well as local union officials who represent rural delivery workers and who have first-hand knowledge of the safety and delivery problems within a community.
3. This process should be subject to an exception in cases where a rural and suburban mail carrier has identified unsafe roadside mailboxes. In such cases, Canada Post, the rural resident and local union officials should work out an interim solution (eg. have the rural delivery worker drive up to the rural resident's door, have a neighbour accept the rural resident's mail on a temporary basis but only with permission from the resident and neighbour or, if necessary, move delivery to a post office, etc.).

4. Canada Post should go back and review roadside mailboxes in cases where proper consultation has not occurred and rural residents have lost home delivery.

In some cases, the solution to an unsafe mailbox may be as simple as moving the box to a safe delivery location. Of course, in other cases, it may not be that simple. There is a chance that it will not be possible for Canada Post to keep delivering to a rural resident's mailbox *if there is no safe way of dealing with problems*. Having said that, there are solutions to many of the delivery problems that rural residents are encountering.

We would like you to consider supporting our moratorium. As the elected representative of rural constituents, your support is vital in ensuring that residents and rural delivery workers have a say in what happens to their mail delivery.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this request.

Yours truly,

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