

BY MAIL AND EMAIL

October 4, 2016

Tom Lukiwski, MP
Chair, Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates
Sixth Floor, 131 Queen Street
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr, Lukiwski:

Re: Committee's Online Survey about Canada Post

I am writing further to my July 29, 2016 letter to raise an additional concern about the Standing Committee's consultations on Canada Post.

As part of its consultations, the Committee is conducting an online survey that is largely based on options outlined in the discussion paper produced by the Canada Post Review Task Force.

CUPW believes the Task Force's discussion paper is very flawed and is disappointed that the Committee's survey, like the paper, focuses on cuts and rate hikes.

Quite frankly, we are alarmed by some of the survey questions, including the one on closing postal outlets. This question indicates the Committee is seriously considering the Task Force's suggestion that Canada Post be allowed to close or privatize public post offices, in spite of Minister Foote's assurances that privatization would not be considered.

Additionally, we are very concerned that the survey does not ask Canadians for their views on adding new money-making services at Canada Post, such as postal banking.

As you may recall, Minister Foote promised that all options, other than privatization, would be considered during the Canada Post Review. Unfortunately, this is not happening.

We suspect that the Committee has not included postal banking in its survey because the Task Force dismissed postal banking as an option, except in very limited situations. Regrettably, the Committee appears to be dismissing this concept as well, without having really looked at it. Has the Committee requested the secret postal banking study conducted by Canada Post from 2009 to 2013? Has it seen the confidential postal banking report produced for the Task Force by the global consulting firm of Oliver Wyman?

CUPW would like to see the study and report and think you should as well. However, Canada Post has refused to give us its study. As well, the secretariat attached to the Task Force has told us that it cannot provide us with Wyman's report as it was developed using commercially sensitive information from Canada Post. We'd like to know what everyone is hiding.

We urge the Committee to request these documents, seek out additional information, and take a real look at postal banking.

CUPW would very much appreciate hearing back from you on these matters.

Yours truly,



Mike Palecek
National President
Canadian Union of Postal Workers

c.c. National Executive Committee
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 National Union Representatives
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 Caroline Massicotte, Clerk, Standing Committee on Government Operations
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