



Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Association

February 1, 2014

Hon. Lisa Raitt
Minister of Transport
Place de Ville
Tower C, 29th Floor
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N5

Re: Canada Post, Door to Door Delivery

Via: email and original by post

Dear Ms. Raitt:

Although many of us appreciate the needs of Canada Post to be relevant and self-sustaining in a time where increasingly many of us are using on-line sources for our communication and finances, we also hold that Canada Post and door-to-door delivery remain important services for local residents and businesses. Therefore, we oppose the move by Canada Post to cancel door-to-door delivery in urban areas for the following reasons:

- Many elderly and ill residents and people with disabilities will have a hard time getting to the proposed community mailboxes
- Certain critical pieces of info are legally required to be sent by mail (eg. Municipal Act in Ontario – the kinds of notifications we get about developments, CDP, OMB appeals, Committee of Adjustment notices, property tax bills)
- Local bulk mail delivery is a very important service for local businesses. But it's also important for the City of Ottawa and for community groups like ours for newsletters and to alert residents about upcoming public meetings. When this mail isn't coming to the door but rather to a box that's less likely to be looked at regularly, it will be more difficult to ensure that residents are aware of what's happening in their city.
- Unlike new suburban or rural locations, there is not much “spare” land in dense urban areas to properly locate community mailboxes – you could really see fights about where they are located, or rather where they are not

- Community mailboxes often have line-ups of nearby idling cars (especially in cold weather like we've had this winter) and litter around them (all the junk mail that nobody wants to take home anyway)
- Parcel boxes at community mailboxes are limited and therefore usually shared, meaning you might have to wait for days until your "turn" comes up
- Community mailboxes are often vandalised or broken into posing a security issue
- There has been barely been any consultation in connection with the elimination of this important service. Canada Post is a public institution. People have the right to input.

Further, we support our Mayor Jim Watson, in his opposition to this plan along with other municipal councils and mayors across Canada. We know that Vancouver, Victoria and Medicine Hat have already passed resolutions in support of keeping door-to-door delivery and that many other councils are looking at passing similar resolutions.

The Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Association requests that you reconsider the plan to eliminate door-to-door delivery, or at least put this plan on hold until you have publicly consulted with Canadians.

Thanks in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Eady', with a stylized, flowing script.

Peter Eady
Vice-President, on behalf of CHNA

Cc via email: Paul Dewar, MP
 Yasir Naqvi, MPP
 Katherine Hobbs, Councillor
 Jim Watson, Mayor of Ottawa
 Deepak Chopra, Canada Post President
 Denis Lemelin, President, Canadian Union of Postal Workers