



Canada Post Société canadienne
Corporation des postes

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October 17, 1988

Mr. Michael Angottitauruq, M.L.A.
Deputy Chairman
Committee of the Whole
General Delivery
Gjoa-Haven, N.W.T.
~~POE 150~~

Dear Member,

As you may be aware, Canada Post Corporation recently announced a new lockbox policy which removes a long-standing concern of rural residents. This is a demonstration of the Corporation's ongoing commitment to rural Canada.

Beginning on January 3, 1989 customers who depend on lock boxes in postal facilities as their primary mode of delivery, who up to now have had to pay a fee for this service, will receive this service free of charge, effective on their lock box rental renewal date. This initiative, identified in the Canada Post Corporate Plan released in May 1988, will benefit approximately one million Canadians, most of them in rural Canada. It is another step in a national urban and rural delivery policy which ensures that the primary mode of delivery for all Canadians is provided free of charge. As is now the case, customers will continue to be charged a fee if they choose an alternative delivery service in preference to the primary mode of delivery.

Many post offices in the Northwest Territories provide mail delivery through general delivery, as do numerous smaller post office facilities in southern Canada. General delivery will continue to exist as a basic method of providing mail delivery in these offices, and will continue to be available free of charge. The Corporation has also undertaken to increase availability of mail receptacles including lockboxes over the next ten years. This process will be of special interest to you, since the network of postal facilities in the Northwest Territories will also benefit from this increase in access, over the next few years.

During the past several years, Canada Post has been committed to providing reliable, accessible and affordable service for the benefit of all Canadians.

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✓ We recognize that the Northwest Territories are unique in terms of population distribution and transportation services. We want to assure you, therefore, that changes occurring elsewhere in Canada will be introduced in northern Canada only after extensive discussions with our customers, municipal leaders and Northwest Territories Government representatives to ensure that local viewpoints and individual circumstances are taken fully into account.

In our more populated regions, Canada Post is moving to improve access to postal products or services through the expansion of our long standing partnership with local businesses. The result is that the number of locations where Canadians can access postal products or services will actually increase from 13,000 to 18,000. In rural Canada, this means an increase from 5,000 to 7,000 outlets.

These businesses are already established within communities and open longer hours than outlets we staff ourselves. This gives them additional products to sell and provides an extra source of income. By encouraging local shopping it contributes to the local economy.

✓ We will be looking to extend this concept of working in partnership with local businesses to extend our services in the Northwest Territories. We will be encouraging businesses in locations that do not have postal retail services to provide this service to their local communities through franchise and other arrangements with Canada Post.

This is how we are moving to preserve our presence in much of rural Canada. Unlike many other services and companies that have succumbed to economic pressure and been forced to leave, our objective is to offer efficient, reliable and affordable postal service across the country. Even though the way postal services are provided may change, local mail delivery and local postal identity will be maintained in all cases.

When proposing any change in service in any community we introduce our plans and give municipal officials and local customers at least ninety days in which to express their preferences and concerns.

Canada Post is seeking to work in conjunction with the postal unions to continue to protect the income security of individual employees. We are implementing the changes over a period of years to allow attrition to assist in making staffing changes, and moving from corporate to privately-owned outlets primarily in those communities where, for example, retirements, resignations and promotions create natural openings.

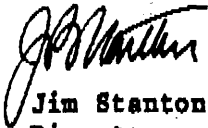
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The best job security is a healthy and vital postal service that provides good service to postal customers at a reasonable price. That's the postal service we're committed to providing to all our customers.

We will be in contact with you shortly to schedule an opportunity to fully brief you and your colleagues concerning Canada Post's plan for providing Canadians with reliable, accessible and affordable postal services.

Sincerely,



Jim Stanton
Director
Government Liaison