

SAVE OUR PUBLIC POSTAL SYSTEM. SAVE HOME DELIVERY.

BACKGROUND: On December 11, the CEO of Canada Post Corporation (CPC), Deepak Chopra announced that the crown corporation would end home mail delivery, cut jobs and increase postage over the next five years. Under these changes, all Canadians will have to use community mailboxes and **pay more for less service.**

Canada Post Corporation wants to:

- End home mail delivery for all Canadians over the next five years
- Force all Canadians to use community mailboxes
- Cut between 6,000 to 10,000 unionized jobs
- Increase the cost of postage

Contrary to what they claim, Canada Post has been a profitable service 16 of the last 17 years. The year it failed to turn a profit was in 2011 when it locked out 48,000 of its workers. While management at CPC claims that Canadians don't use the mail system, this is simply not true. Even though letter volume has decreased, internet shopping has led to recording breaking levels of parcel deliveries. Canada Post is shipping more items now than it did in 1989, before the internet.

Replacing home delivery with community mailboxes will negatively affect at least 5 million homes, or 10 million people, especially those with mobility issues and the elderly. When Deepak Chopra was asked if he was concerned that senior citizens would be forced to trek long distances to pick up their mail (including during Canadian winters), he dismissed safety and health concerns and said that it would be good exercise for the elderly. This heartless attitude towards running a public service should not be tolerated.

Management at CPC and the Harper government are aiming to cut services, reduce quality and increase costs in order to decrease public support for these services. Why? So there is no public outcry when Canada Post's extensive public infrastructure (it is the biggest retail system in Canada), shipping fleet and highly profitable parcel services are privatized.

Recent polls show a large majority of Canadians want to save home delivery. Yet, even with two-thirds opposition, Royal Mail in Great Britain was privatized last year by their Conservative government. It was sold well below its value to wealthy shareholders, investment corporations, and banks.

The need to save Canada Post is part of a larger fight for social justice and fairness in this country. The Harper government wants to cut jobs and force the public to pay more for less. It wants profitable, important public services such as Canada Post to be handed over to the private sector. The CPC management and Harper are not interested in public services which serve the public good. Together we can beat back this assault on our public postal system and fight for a better society.

HOW TO HELP:

- Educate yourself on the situation at Canada Post.
- Talk to your friends, neighbours, family, coworkers, community groups, church groups etc. about how Canada Post's decisions could affect them.
- Put up signs of support in your window or on your mailbox.
- Let your voice be heard: write letters to the newspaper editor, call-in to your local radio station, share news on Twitter and Facebook.
- Organize door-to-door canvassing with your friends to build local support for a strong, accessible and public mail system.
- Organize town halls or fun and creative actions that raise awareness about the issues.
- Contact your local labour council or the Canadian Union of Postal Workers.

If you are interested in being a local contact to organize canvassing and actions email us solidarity4posties@gmail.com

For more info about how to get involved and updates visit:
supportpostalworkers.wordpress.com

Or follow us on Twitter @supportposties



**An injury
to ONE is an
injury to ALL!**