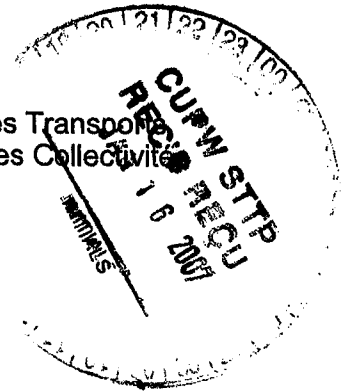


Office of the Minister of Transport,  
Infrastructure and Communities



Cabinet du ministre des Transports  
de l'Infrastructure et des Collectivités

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N5



JAN 12 2007

Ms. Deborah Bourque  
National President  
Canadian Union of Postal Workers  
377 Bank Street  
Ottawa ON K2P 1Y3

Dear Ms. Bourque:

Thank you for your correspondence of October 31, 2006, to the Honourable Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, in which you requested information on the federal government's position on a number of issues regarding postal policy and Canada Post Corporation. The Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf. I also appreciate your providing me with a copy of this correspondence.

I understand that the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) may wish to prepare for a future election; however, an election has not been called. The federal government remains focused on achieving the program on which it was elected.


As I have indicated to you in previous correspondence, the Government of Canada is committed to ensuring that Canadians in rural communities and other areas continue to receive quality postal services. In fact, on December 13, 2006, the government issued a directive to Canada Post to restore and maintain mail delivery to rural roadside mailboxes, while taking into account the health and safety of its employees and respecting all applicable laws.

With respect to your question regarding a review of Canada Post's financial and policy framework, I should note that the framework is not under review at this time.

As for the other issues raised in your letter, I can assure you that the federal government has no plans to privatize Canada Post. Furthermore, I should note that no changes to Canada Post's exclusive privilege would be considered without thorough policy analysis. As you are aware, the *Canada Post Corporation Act* defines Canada Post's exclusive privilege; thus, any changes to that privilege would require legislative amendment and public debate in Parliament.

I trust that the foregoing has addressed your questions. Again, thank you for writing.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Terrien". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long horizontal stroke.

Paul Terrien  
Chief of Staff