



March 30, 2017

Honourable Judy Foote  
Minister of Public Services and Procurement  
11 Laurier Street, Phase III, Place du Portage  
Gatineau, QC K1A 0S5

Dear Ms. Foote,

As the review of Canada Post draws to its conclusion, I am writing to urge you to restore postal banking as a feature of Canada's postal service.

For rural Canada, especially, postal banking is part of the way forward. In a study we conducted in 2014 over half of thousands of rural communities had no bank or credit union close by, while many more communities told us their bank or credit union either offered only limited access or was shutting up shop. In your own province of Newfoundland, 84% of the communities who responded had no bank or credit union.

Our post offices are everywhere and we know postal banking is successful in many other countries. Here, it could contribute to the economic development of rural Canada and keep Canada Post thriving: a win-win solution that benefits everybody.

While the Liberal government's recent budget emphasized an infrastructure bank for large-scale projects, the banking sector itself is fraught with issues of inaccessibility, financial exclusion and exploitation. The biggest banks rake in billions of dollars in profits every year. Surely we as a society could benefit from having some of those profits put back into our communities.

Recent disturbing reports have surfaced of the five biggest banks' employees coming forward saying they are pressured to upsell and deceive their customers. The Financial Consumer Agency's launch of an investigation into these allegations, underscores the need to think about other options that serve us, not gouge us.

Bringing back our postal bank would be a welcome move for your government. To date, over 600 municipalities support postal banking while a significant number of Canadians and businesses say they would use the service. While the current president and CEO continues to hide Canada Post's postal banking study from the public, his predecessors were far more open to the idea of Canada Post offering financial and other services.

The way forward is clear: what we need to see now is the will from your government to make it happen.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brenda McAuley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Brenda McAuley  
National President  
Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association

c.c. Karine Trudel (MP)