



To My Member of Parliament,

I am one of over eight thousand Postmasters and Assistants. Our union, the Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association (CPAA), has represented rural post office operators across the country since 1902 and our post offices have always been the beating hearts of Canada's rural communities. We serve well over 6 million rural Canadians on a regular basis.

The pandemic and lockdowns have demonstrated beyond a doubt the importance of having local access to postal and other vital services. That is why I am writing now to ask that you show concrete support for the launch of community hub pilot projects for rural post offices in your riding.

During the last review of Canada Post, a government-appointed task force suggested expanding our range of services: *"In essence, the post office could become a community "hub" since it would become a community resource centre. Internet "bridging services" would allow residents to connect to the rest of Canada, including businesses and various services at all levels of government."*  
("Canada Post in the Digital Age" Discussion Paper, section 7.7)

The federal Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates stated that: *"Many rural and remote communities have limited access to government services. Canada Post could use its vast network of post offices to deliver these services... According to the Task Force's survey results, 75% of Canadians support this option."* The Committee recommended that Canada Post explore pilot projects and find ways to leverage its vast network to offer expanded services ("The Way Forward for Canada Post," 2016, section 4.3).

In order to promote social cohesion, environmental improvements, financial inclusion, and other vital social and economic benefits, our rural post offices could offer such things as:

- Telehealth (remote consultations with medical experts)
- Electric vehicle charging stations
- Transit stops in isolated areas
- Information on environmental initiatives
- Community events and resources (such as resources for abuse survivors, etc.)
- Financial clinics
- Pop-up kiosks for local artisans and producers

and more...

Please call or email the CPAA National Office (613-745-2095 or [mail@cpaa-acmpa.ca](mailto:mail@cpaa-acmpa.ca)) to discuss how you as a Member of Parliament could enact these recommendations and support rural constituents like me by helping to expand the community hub role that rural post offices like mine already play. With your support, we will keep the heart of rural Canada beating.

Sincerely,

My Address / Post Office: