

Date: 12 December 2013

Support Canadian colleagues in face of drastic cuts to Canada Post

Dear colleagues,

Yesterday Canada Post announced a series of drastic proposals to cut postal services to millions of Canadians in a purported plan to return Canada Post to financial viability. The proposals include eliminating door-to-door delivery service in urban areas and replacing it with "community mailboxes", replacing post offices with franchise postal units and increasing postage rates by as much as 70 percent.

Initial reports suggest the proposals would eliminate between 6,000 and 8,000 staff and reduce postal services for millions of Canadians.

UNI affiliate the Canadian Union of Postal Workers has decried the proposals as "short-sighted and foolish" and has vowed to resist them.

CUPW has for many years fervently advocated for more innovative solutions to expand postal services and maintain a sustainable Canada Post. The union has also long advocated for a return of the postal banking system and has garnered growing support across Canadian society. In 2011, along with UNI and our American affiliates, CUPW sponsored an extraordinary postal innovations meeting ahead of the UNI P&L world conference. CUPW insists that Canada Post can be self-sufficient by expanding into new revenue-generating services

CUPW President Denis Lemelin said in statement, "We are extremely concerned that these changes will send Canada Post into a downward spiral...Where many postal operators are responding to a changing postal business with innovation, Canada Post is relying on cuts and rate increases."

UNI has contacted CUPW and promised any support we can offer to CUPW as they prepare to fight against these drastic proposals. We are hopeful our affiliates will join us in this effort.

UNI encourages all affiliates to send messages of solidarity to CUPW at:

377 Bank Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 1Y3
Canada

and

dlemelin@cupw-sttp.org
gbossenberry@cupw-sttp.org
sryan@cupw-sttp.org
postal@uniglobalunion.org

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Stephen J DeMatteo'.

Stephen DeMatteo
Head of Department