CUPE-SCEP Canadian Union of Public Employees Syndicat canadien de la fonction publique

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August 29, 2008

Canada Post Strategic Review 330 Sparks St. (HCCR) Ottawa, ON K1A 0N5

Dear Members of the Review Panel:

I write to you on behalf of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), Canada's largest union, and its 570, 000 members. Our members deliver quality public services including, health care, electricity, library services, social services, municipal infrastructure, education and more.

The "exclusive mail collection and delivery privilege" assigned to Canada Post has enabled a high quality, reliable, equitable, safe, effective, universal and affordable postal service for all of Canada's residents and businesses. It has also enabled programs that benefit all people in Canada, including making delivery of food to remote communities more affordable, and providing reduced rates for inter-library book mailing.

Eliminating this 'privilege', as the Strategic Review is considering, would have serious implications for Canadian culture and economy and would imperil all of these important aspects of our postal system. Deregulating basic postal services by introducing a competitive market raises a number of concerns that we outline in the attached brief.

Our union is very familiar with the benefits of strong public services and we've had our share of opportunities to witness the harm that can come to communities as a result of privatization and deregulation. We are pleased to contribute our views on the future of Canada Post and hope that you will consider our experience and expertise in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

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PAUL MOIST National President Canadian Union of Public Employees

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PAUL MOIST - National President / Président national CLAUDE GÉNÉREUX National Secretary-Treasurer / Secrétaire-trésorier national

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