

# **Beaconsfield Citizens Association**

#### **Brief Submitted to:**

La Commission sur le développement social et la diversité montréalaise On the Elimination of Home Mail Delivery by the Provision of Community Mail Boxes



## Canada Post's 5 Point Action Plan

- 1. Community Mailboxes
- 2. A New Approach to Pricing
- 3. Franchise Post Offices
- 4. Streamlining Operations
- 5. Labour





## Canada Post's Action Plan

- Migrate the remaining home delivery customers to CMB
  - Home delivery discontinued
  - Lettermail, admail and packages delivered to CMB
  - COD, registered and oversized packages delivered to post office

Boxes for package delivery



"Canadians expect Canada Post to continue to be financially self-sufficient and not to look to their hard-earned tax dollars for funding."

[1]



## **Beaconsfield in Profile**

- Beaconsfield is a bedroom community
- Population 19,505<sup>1</sup>
  - 15.7% 65 yrs and older
  - 6.5% 60-65 yrs
  - 10.9% less than 10 yrs
- No industry & ~500 businesses
- Mostly single family dwellings
- 125 km of roads with 95km without sidewalks

<sup>1</sup> 2011 Statcan census



# Beaconsfield in Profile

- A typical street





# **Challenges and Dangers**

- •The proposal affects our most vulnerable citizens:
  - seniors, handicapped, single parent families
- Summer extreme heat
- Winter extreme cold + road conditions



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[1]



# **Challenges and Dangers**

- Roads (conditions and no sidewalks)
- Traffic
  - ✓ Pedestrians
  - √ Vehicles around mailbox
- Lighting
- Location
  - ✓ Limited free space
  - ✓ Open drainage ditches
  - ✓ No sidewalks
  - ✓ Security
- Maintenance
  - ✓ Area cleanliness
  - √Snow removal
  - √ Capital expenses



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# Maintenance & Appearance Issues









#### **Economic and Social Considerations**

- For Canada Post
  - ✓ Lettermail
  - ✓ Unaddressed admail (junk mail)
  - ✓ Package delivery
- For Governments
  - ✓ Municipal Government
    - Capital expenses
    - Road clearing
    - > Cleaning
  - Federal and Provincial Governments
    - > UI Costs
    - Lost taxes
    - > Health care costs

Falls common cause of serious injury, death among elderly



By Tom Walsh, BDN Staff Posted March 28, 2013, at 4:58 p.m.

Helen Evancheck, 89, of Bangor is among the survivors of a hip fracture, which is a leading cause of death among the elderly....

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#### **Economic and Social Considerations**

- For the Individual
  - ✓ Convenience and Safety
  - ✓ Independence
- For Businesses
  - ✓ Admail timing lost revenues
  - √ Forced to use alternate suppliers
  - ✓ Potential loss of revenue to advertising firms





# **Alternate Approaches**

The digital world is an unstoppable force, changing the way we do business forever. However, the government subsidizes many unprofitable services simply because they are part and parcel of running a country. Canada Post was given the mandate to provide service to Canadians and while the economy is changing, that responsibility remains.

- Reduced home delivery days
- Phased transition
  - Maintain home delivery for seniors and handicapped
  - Offer service at a fee for others who are willing to pay for it
  - Phase out when no longer needed
- Maintain door to door delivery for packages, registered and COD mail
- Offer other services

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## **Municipal Legislation**

In order to preserve the unique appearance of the various communities, protect the security of their citizens and minimize the financial impact on their taxpayers, we urge them to enact legislation governing the installation and maintenance of community mailboxes.

- Safety and Access
- Lighting
- Drainage
- Refuse (return box)
- Maintenance
- Other (modular design)





























#### Conclusion

- Plan's approach is that of a private rather than crown corporation
- Plan may improve Canada Post's bottom line, but it
  - ✓ Transfers costs to other levels of government
  - ✓ Inflicts hardships on the vulnerable
  - √ Neglects CP's responsibility to the citizen
  - √ Impact significantly on the lives of many (public, employees, taxpayers)
- Failure to act responsibly with CMB's already installed
- CP should be obliged to provide detailed economic evaluations of:
  - ✓ Projected savings of proposed implementation (e.g., lost jobs and severance costs, transferred costs, lost revenues to competition, etc.)
  - ✓ Comparable scenarios for proposed alternatives
- CP should provide more and better services to be more competitive
- CP has continually demanded customers provide safe access for letter carriers, yet it fails to provide the same for the public.
- CP must respect installation and maintenance requirements
- CP must respect its mandate as a crown corporation and maintain home delivery service

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