December 3, 2013

Honourable Lisa Raitt
Transport Canada
Minister’s Office
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N8
By Fax: 613 995-0327

Honourable Minister:

Re: Canada Postal Service Charter Review

At the November 26, 2013 session of Grey County Council, resolution CS98-13 from the November 12, 2013 Corporate Services Committee was endorsed as follows:

WHEREAS the federal government will look at how it handles public postal services with a review of the Canadian Postal Service Charter in 2014;

AND WHEREAS the public has a right to have input on matters involving its publicly owned post offices;

AND WHEREAS the current charter has a number of serious problems that need fixing;

AND WHEREAS the government could use the Charter review to reduce our public post office’s obligation to provide service (instead of improving the Charter) and even lay the groundwork for privatizing or deregulating Canada Post;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County of Grey write a letter to the Minister responsible for Canada Post to request that the upcoming review of the Canadian Postal Service Charter be open to public input and that the Charter be improved by:

i. Ensuring that the moratorium on post office closures in small and rural communities protects the public nature of post
ii. Eliminating the exceptions to the moratorium

iii. Extending the consultation process over possible closures and making the process and moratorium more transparent

iv. Establishing an independent Canada Post ombudsperson to report on Canada Post’s performance in meeting charter expectations

v. Establishing a reasonable, uniform and democratic process for making changes to the postal and delivery network (closures, downsizing removal of rural mailboxes, etc.) but only after consultation with the public and other stakeholders.

We respectfully request consideration of this resolution.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Sharon Vokes, C.M.O., D.P.A.
County Clerk/Director of Council Services
(519) 372-0219 x 1223
sharon.vokes@grey.ca
www.grey.ca
/cc. Kevin Weppler, Director of Finance