

February 2, 2015

Mayor and Members of the General Issues Committee City of Hamilton 71 Main St. West Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for making available to us the City Staff report titled "Canada Post: Replacement of Home Delivery with Community Mailboxes" which will be presented at the General Issues Committee meeting on February 4, 2015.

We note the recommendation in the Report that Staff provide Canada Post with a technical guide to use during community mailbox siting. As you know, we shared our draft siting plans with City Staff in several submissions last September and October for their input and insight and have kept them updated with any consequential adjustment as a result of our consultation and interaction with residents. Once we have received the technical guide we will immediately assess it against the existing siting plans. Our intent is to work with staff to address any problematic locations.

We also note the consideration in the Report of an agreement between Canada Post on technical standards for installation and maintenance of the CMBs. You may be aware that we have such agreements in place with many municipalities across the country and last October sent a draft agreement to City Staff to serve as the basis for discussion. We remain available in this regard.

Canada Post is responsible for all installation and maintenance costs related to community mailboxes and has been since they were introduced 30 years ago. That includes siting, site preparation such as curb cuts to ensure access, installation and ongoing maintenance including snow clearing and any graffiti-removal if required. We do everything possible to reduce incremental costs to the municipality and offer \$50 per site to help offset any potential costs converting existing neighborhoods. We also install the boxes using existing street lighting and sidewalks where feasible.

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Canada Post has worked with municipalities all over Canada for decades in the installation of many thousands of Community Mailboxes. We have always favoured cooperation in the execution of our statutory mandate and have found such collaboration with local experts to be beneficial to all stakeholders and most specifically improve the outcome for residents who ultimately receive the service.

Thank you once again and we look forward to future discussions with City of Hamilton Staff.

Sincerely,

**Andy Paterson** 

Manager, Municipal Engagement

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