

Eliminating door-to-door delivery will cost the town money

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(FCM) to request the federal government direct Canada Post to maintain door-to-door service in Canada.

Canada Post announced in December that over the next five years households that get mail delivered to their door will be switched to community mailboxes.

Pete Fendley, President of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers who lives locally, spoke to Council before the vote, asking them to support the resolution.

"It will help maintain local jobs for now and in the future," said Fendley.

He added eliminating door-to-door delivery will have a "very significant impact on seniors and disabled persons."

Fendley said, "We believe Canada Post is setting itself up for failure in the eyes of the public," by not providing relief coverage when letter carriers are off sick or on vacation.

"You're not the only one not receiving your mail on a daily basis. We're all wondering what's going on."

Fendley urged area residents to call Canada Post and their MP to complain.

"It's not going to affect only seniors and disabled persons, it's going to affect neighbours," said Bonnette. "I can just see the fights we're going to have — we'll have to

police it— whose going to get the post office box in front of their house?"

"Nobody will want it," said Bonnette.

He said Town Public Works employees will be required to clear the snow and ice around the boxes and they already have enough to do. The resolution stated phasing out door-to-door delivery would download responsibilities, costs and liabilities to municipalities for paving and lighting the superbox locations, and policing due to vandalism, graffiti and mail theft.

"We're going to have jobs lost in this town — good paying jobs," said the Mayor.

Councillor Clark Somerville, 3rd Vice President FCM, said Canada Post hasn't had any "meaningful consultation" with municipalities about the issue.

He said just as it did when rural superboxes were introduced, Canada Post will look at putting them on municipal right of ways.

"I think the issue of consultation not just with the municipalities, but with the people of Canada, is something that has been greatly overlooked," said Councillor Jane Fogal.

She said practically every service the municipality offers loses money.

"That doesn't mean you don't offer the service anymore," said Fogal. "I think people should have the opportunity to say if they want the service or not."



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