

APRIL 24, 2015**FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION**

A Statement by Canada Post regarding City of Hamilton issuing “*Order to Discontinue Contravention*”

Canada Post asks the Ontario Superior Court to declare City of Hamilton By-law No15-091 Invalid

The City of Hamilton has issued an “order to discontinue contravention” to Canada Post. This order requires Canada Post to immediately stop installing Community Mailboxes (CMB) until the company complies with the recently passed City of Hamilton Roads – Equipment installation By-law No. 15-091.

Canada Post has continued the installation of Community Mailboxes in the City of Hamilton as the By-law referenced is invalid as it is directly in conflict with the Canada Post Corporation Act and the supporting Regulations. Canada Post has the exclusive jurisdiction over postal services in Canada and has the legal authority to install Community Mailboxes on municipally-owned property.

This morning Canada Post has filed notice in the Ontario Superior Court – Hamilton asking the Court to declare the By-law invalid.

Canada Post regrets that court action is required to address the recent impasse regarding the installation of Community Mailboxes. The City of Hamilton was first advised of the intention to convert roughly 36,000 households to community mailbox delivery in June of 2014. Since that time, Canada Post has met repeatedly with city officials to try and seek input while keeping them aware of our progress. That included providing maps of proposed locations last fall, addressing constituent concerns and sharing the changes made based on the feedback of local residents.

We are acting in response to the urgent need to transform the postal business. Digital alternatives are decimating the traditional mail business. Last year, Canadians sent 1.4 billion fewer pieces of mail than they did in 2006.

Delivering mail to central locations such as community mailboxes is the best way to preserve the postal service for all Canadians. Two-thirds of Canadians do not have mail delivered to their door. Roughly 4 million households, including 34,000 in Hamilton, have been using a community mailbox for years. Those boxes were installed over many years by working constructively with municipalities and within the framework of the Canada Post Corporation Act.

While we have a long history installing equipment in communities across the country, we do so in a thoughtful, consultative manner and in accordance with the laws that govern how postal service is provided in Canada.

- 30 -

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