

FIVE REASONS TO SUPPORT POSTAL WORKERS



1. Privatization-pushing Conservatives still run Canada Post

Before the election, Stephen Harper renewed the contract of his hand-picked CEO Deepak Chopra for five years, at a cost of over \$7 million. Chopra has consistently sought to strip down the postal service, refuses to consider service expansion, and is threatening to lock out workers a second time in five years. The Liberals asked Chopra to step down, but he refused. It's time for him and his 22 vice presidents to go.

2. Posties are fighting for pay equity

"There is still a tremendous amount of work to be done." Justin Trudeau said in a speech last March about equal pay for women. Postal workers are doing that work. Rural and Suburban Mail Carriers, overwhelmingly women, do the same work as urban carriers, but make less.

3. Postal workers have won big for all of us

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers has consistently fought attempts to pay work women less for their work, striking for equal wages in 1974. In 1981, union members went on strike for paid maternity leave, setting a precedent that is now widespread in the public sector. CUPW has made outsized contributions to many struggles for social justice, taking strong stands of solidarity when it counts.

4. They have a plan to expand and improve Canada Post

While Conservative-appointed Canada Post managers attempt to degrade services in order to undermine public support, postal workers are proposing high-value services like a publicly-owned postal bank that would serve low-income people and remote communities, checking on seniors, and strengthening access to affordable food in the north.

5. Canada Post can help us transition to a fossil-free economy

Postal workers have been pushing for environmental measures since the 1990s, and are pushing for the next postal fleet to start a large-scale transition to electric delivery vehicles. By adding charging stations to post offices, Canada Post could jump-start national infrastructure for electric cars. Postal banking could provide community-level financing for renewable energy, efficiency retrofits, and climate-friendly businesses.

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