

# The Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities

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Suite 1106, 1809 Barrington Street  
Halifax, NS  
B3J 3K8

Tel: (902) 423-8331  
Fax: (902) 425-5592  
E-mail: [info@unsm.ca](mailto:info@unsm.ca)  
Web Site: [www.unsm.ca](http://www.unsm.ca)

December 9, 2010

The Honourable Peter MacKay  
M.P., Central Nova  
219 Main Street, Suite 303  
Antigonish, NS B2G 2C1

Dear Minister MacKay:

I am writing on behalf of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) to bring attention to a serious matter which will have a major economic and social impact on your constituency.

As you are aware, Antigonish houses one of Canada Post's National Philatelic Centres.

Canada Post recently announced the privatization of its five National Philatelic Centres including elimination of all term positions. Canada Post has further indicated it will be closing the Antigonish National Philatelic Centre after 2012. The only reason in delaying the closure is because of current collective agreements which protect permanent employees until 2012.

Canada Post plays a vital role in the economic and social development of communities, particularly in rural Canada.

The National Philatelic Centre in Antigonish is recognized worldwide for its specialized services and contributes to the preservation of Canada's history and culture. The closure of this centre will eliminate 65 jobs and result in less spending power in the community. This could lead to reduced employee hours for other businesses and potentially even further job losses.

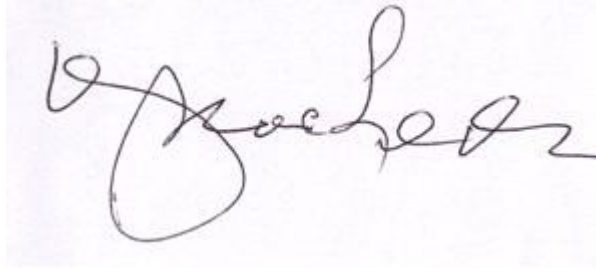
For the last fifteen years, Canada Post has been a profitable Crown Corporation. In 2009 alone it generated a profit of \$281 million.

Given its current fiscal outlook, Canada Post is unjustified in closing the national philatelic centres. The economic, social and cultural importance of the philatelic centre to Antigonish cannot be understated.

To this end, I ask that you meet with The Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister Responsible for Canada Post, requesting him to take appropriate action to reverse this decision.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Billy Joe MacLean". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B" and "J".

**Mayor Billy Joe MacLean**  
**UNSM President**

cc: The Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister responsible for Canada  
Post  
Stewart Bacon, President and CEO, Canada Post  
Canada Post Board of Directors  
UNSM Board of Directors  
Mayor Carl Chisholm, Town of Antigonish  
Warden Herb Delorey, County of Antigonish  
Brock Carlton, CEO, Federation of Canadian Municipalities