CANADA POST UPDATE



MP for Peace River—Westlock

WERE YOU AFFECTED BY VACCINE MANDATES FOR CANADA POST?

In rural Alberta, access to Canada Post is essential and the temporary closures of post offices is devastating. Post offices supply many things including clothes, packages, farm equipment, OAS, and pay cheques.

In November 2021, the Liberal Government enacted a Canada-wide vaccine mandate for all federal workers. As a Crown Agency, Canada Post extended this mandate to all its workers and post offices.

By the end of November, <u>340 hardworking staff who refused a vaccine in Alberta were put on leave</u> without pay and <u>13 offices had to be closed with reduced hours at others</u>.

This impacted rural communities in our riding like La Crete, Slave Lake, Fort Assiniboine, Joussard, Grimshaw, and Fort Vermilion.

As your Member of Parliament, <u>my position has always been to oppose the Liberal vaccine mandates</u> as divisive and unnecessary. Canada Post workers and their local communities are suffering due to the these mandates. I have also supported the unions of Canada Post workers who have called for non-vaccinated workers to use rapid access tests as an alternative.

I will continue to stand up for the rights of all Canadians.

Arnold Viersen Member of Parliament

On the impact of Covid vaccine mandates in rural Alberta:

"Rural offices are quite a bit different than the cities simply because we know all of our customers. You know them by name, we know their brothers and their sisters and their uncles and you know, we're in the community. We're very involved in our communities....Alberta was hit probably the hardest with the closures."



Xan Moffat-Toews Alberta president of the Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association

I and the Conservative Party have adamantly opposed all vaccine mandates as divisive and unnecessary.

- MP Arnold Viersen

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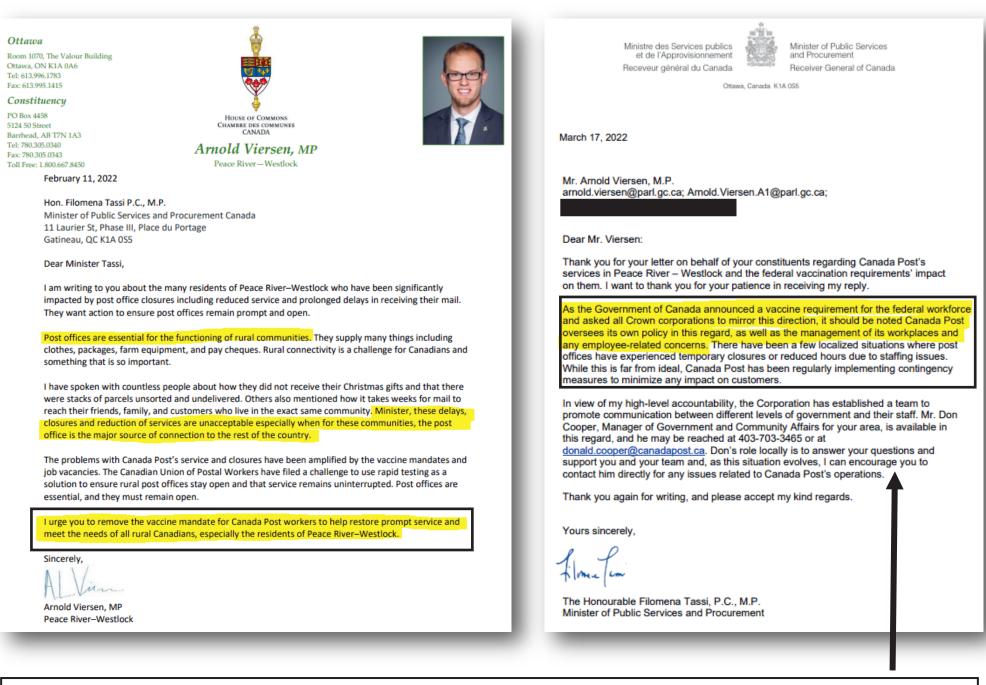
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Arnold Viersen, MP House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

FIGHTING TO KEEP CANADA POST OFFICES OPEN



As you can see, the Minister <u>deflected responsibility</u> to Canada Post indicating they 'oversee' their own policy. This is despite the fact that she admitted that the Liberals directed all Crown Agencies to implement the same mandate.

So I went to Canada Post directly through Mr. Don Cooper as referenced by the Minister above. Mr. Cooper confirmed by email that Canada Post was acting at the 'direction of the Government of Canada'.

Further to the Health and Safety Policy, Canada Post is committed to creating and maintaining a healthy and safe environment for all employees, contractors, visitors, and customers. Vaccination has been shown to be effective in reducing the transmission of COVID-19 and protecting individuals from severe consequences of this virus. At the direction of the Government of Canada, Canada Post has prepared this COVID-19 Vaccination Practice that mirrors the Policy on COVID-19 Vaccination for the Core Public Administration. Accordingly, this Practice sets out the COVID-19 vaccination requirements applicable to Canada Post employees, contractors, and visitors to protect against the spread of COVID-19.

What's Next

Both Minister Tassi and Mr. Cooper work for you—the tax payer. While I will keep fighting for you in Ottawa, I would urge you to contact both directly to share how these mandates have affected you and express your frustration. This cannot happen again.

Minister Filomena Tassi

The Honourable Filomena Tassi Minister of Public Services and Procurement Canada Place du Portage, Phase III, Room 18A1 11 Laurier Street Gatineau, QC K1A 0S5

Don Cooper

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Canada Post closures affected me.

