

THE WCR LEARNING COMMUNITY

This project is made possible through funding from the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.



PHOTO – CANADA POST ARCHIVES

Canada Post makes changes

Canada Post has a new business plan. The corporation needs to make more money. They will make more money in three ways.

Stamps will cost more in 2014.

A stamp costs \$0.63 today. On March 31, a stamp will cost \$1.00. In 2000, a stamp cost \$0.46.

The cost to mail a letter in Canada is going up.

Mail will not be delivered to homes.

One-third of Canadian homes get mail delivered to their door.

It will take five years to stop delivery to homes. Mail will be delivered to group mailboxes. Rural areas of the country already receive mail at group mailboxes.

Labour costs will be reduced.

Canada Post will get rid of 6,000 to 8,000 employees. This will take up to ten years.

Canada Post will not replace employees when they retire. About 15,000 employees plan to retire in the next five years.



Group mailboxes in new subdivision
PHOTO – PHRAWR / CC,FLICKR

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A history of postal services in Canada

Canada started to deliver mail in the 17th century. In 1874, door-to-door delivery started in Montreal. Door-to-door delivery of mail will stop by 2019.

17th century

Mail moved by canoe on the St. Lawrence River.

18th century

1753: The first Canadian post office opened in Halifax.

1771: Weekly mail service began.

19th century

Mail took ten days to get from Quebec City to Windsor, Ontario.



1851 stamp

1857: Trains began to carry the mail. Trains took the mail from Quebec City to Windsor in forty-nine hours.

1867: A letter stamp cost \$0.03.



1868 stamp

1874: Door-to-door mail delivery started in Montreal.

1886: Mail service from Halifax to Port Moody started.



1887 stamp

20th century

1908: Rural mail delivery started in Ontario.



1908 stamp

1981: Canada Post privatized and became a for-profit business.



1981 stamps

1985: Canada Post began using group mailboxes in new subdivisions.



1985 stamp

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1989: Canada Post reported a profit for the first time in thirty-two years.



1989 stamp

21st century

2000: Canada Post started ePost, a digital mailbox for bills. A letter stamp cost \$0.46.



2000 stamp

2007: The amount of letter mail delivered began to go down. Canadians increased their use of the internet.



2010 stamp

2013: Canada Post lost over \$200 million. A letter stamp cost \$0.63

2014: Canada Post will begin phasing-out home delivery. The cost of a letter stamp will be \$1.00 starting April 1, 2014.

Adapted from *The Vancouver Sun*

Links

Go to *The Westcoast Reader* website for links to more information and videos.
www.thewestcoastreader.com

Answer key for Exercise on page 4

1. Mail will not be delivered to homes.
2. One-third of Canadian homes get mail delivered to their door.
3. It will take five years to stop delivery to homes.
4. Mail will be delivered to group mailboxes.
5. Canada started to deliver mail in the 17th century.
6. In 1874, door-to-door delivery started in Montreal.
7. Door-to-door delivery of mail will stop by 2019.
8. Door-to-door mail delivery started in Montreal.
9. Rural mail delivery started in Ontario.
10. The amount of letter mail delivered began to go down.

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Vocabulary

Root word – **deliver**

The verb ‘deliver’ means ‘to give’ or ‘to bring.’

Add a ‘y’ to ‘deliver’ and it becomes a noun: **delivery**

Put the right form of the word ‘deliver’ in each sentence.

deliver, delivery, delivered

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