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## Grading the Federal Political Parties on Postal Workers' Issues

While CUPW is currently negotiating new contracts with Canada Post for our two largest bargaining units – Urban Operations and RSMC – it's important for members to know where the federal parties stand on the issues we are fighting for in bargaining as well as where they stand on worker rights.

A federal election will most likely be called between now and October 2025. With this and bargaining in mind, CUPW has produced a report card, grading all federal parties on the issues that are important to CUPW members.

### The Rankings

The New Democratic Party (NDP) is the traditional supporter of labour, and the party's grade reflects this. The NDP supports service expansion, protecting rural post offices, and voted in favour of protecting pensions. NDP MPs have also voted against back-to-work legislation.

The Green Party and the Bloc Québécois also received passing grades as they have both repeatedly defended postal worker rights.

The Liberal Party and the Conservative Party received the lowest grades. While the Liberal Government halted cuts to door-to-door delivery enacted by the Harper government, it also forced an arbitrated contract on postal workers in 2018 as part of its back-to-work legislation.

The Conservatives have continued to prove they aren't friends of workers. Part of their plan to balance the budget if elected is to cut or roll back public services, pensions, and benefits that allow workers retire with dignity.

### What's At Stake

Although we don't know exactly when a federal election will be called, parties are already in campaign mode. Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre has spent the last year attacking the Liberal Government and the NDP coalition. He's traveled the country courting voters, including working class people and union members. While he's positioning himself as a champion of the working class, his voting record over the last 20 years is decidedly anti-worker, and his party's grade reflects this. The Conservative Party has a history of supporting back-to-work legislation, has advocated for employees to be able to opt-out of unions, and attacked pensions.

The last few years have been difficult for everyone. We are all looking for ways to make our lives better, but it is our responsibility to take the time to not only listen to what our elected officials are saying, but to also make sure that their actions match their words. We need to make educated decisions about our future and the future of the public postal service.

In Solidarity!



Jan Simpson  
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