

Airdrie, Alberta
July 2, 2017

MY FILE: 117

Ms. Suzanne Legault
The Information Commissioner of Canada
30 Victoria Street, 7th Floor
Gatineau, Quebec
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 1H3

Dear Ms. Legault:

Re: EXEMPTIONS COMPLAINT- RCMP ATIP FILE: A-2017-04659

Please find attached a copy of my original ATIP request dated May 20, 2016 and the copy of RCMP's highly redacted 37-page reply dated June 5, 2017. I wish to determine whether the exemptions claimed by the RCMP were properly applied. The RCMP response to my request is available at this link on my website:
<http://dennisryoung.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/RCMP-ATIP-Response-Report-Crime-Guns-Domestically-Sourced-June-5-2017.pdf>

Firstly, I would like to express my appreciation to your Investigator, Marc Babineau for his help in finally getting the RCMP to release this report that they originally claimed didn't exist. I would also like to acknowledge the work of Conservative MP Bob Zimmer who was able to obtain a copy of this report from the RCMP. Without his efforts, the RCMP would have kept insisting that this report did not exist.

Secondly, once we analyzed this RCMP 2014 report, we realized why the RCMP were trying to keep it from public view. The definitions the RCMP used for 'crime guns' in the report were just plain 'WRONG' and resulted in highly skewed statistics and an exaggeration of the number of crime guns that the RCMP reported to the media that were 'domestically sourced'.

See the analyses of this highly redacted copy of the report in these two links.

ANALYSIS: RCMP STATISTICS ON 'DOMESTICALLY SOURCED' CRIME GUNS ARE WRONG!

http://canadafreepress.com/print_friendly/critique-of-canada-firearms-program-2014-fiesd-annual-report

PROFESSOR MAUSER DISSECTS RCMP's FALSE CLAIMS ABOUT 'DOMESTICALLY SOURCED' CRIME GUNS <http://dennisryoung.ca/2017/06/23/3205/>

Given that the RCMP went to such extraordinary lengths to keep this report out of the public domain, it is also quite possible that they were more than a little overzealous in the application in all the exemptions they used to blank-out so much of what is in this report.

Thanks again for your help in getting the RCMP to release this report that they went to so much trouble to keep from public and media scrutiny. If the RCMP had been more forthright in the first place we might have been less

skeptical about their redactions. As it is, it's hard to take their exemptions seriously or believe anything they say to the media for that matter.

If the RCMP base their enforcement of the *Firearms Act* and *Part III of the Criminal Code* on flawed statistical analysis like they created in this 2014 report, then Parliament needs to have a lot better oversight of their activities and reports.

Yours sincerely,

[Original signed by]

Dennis R. Young
1330 Ravenswood Drive SE
AIRDRIE, AB T4A 0P8
Home Phone: 587-360-1111
New E-Mail: dennisryoung@telus.net
Website: www.dennisryoung.ca

cc MP Bob Zimmer
Garry A. Mauser

Airdrie, Alberta
August 29, 2016

MY FILES: 117

Ms. Suzanne Legault
The Information Commissioner of Canada
30 Victoria Street, 7th Floor
Gatineau, Quebec
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 1H3

Dear Ms. Legault:

Re: COMPLAINT “UNABLE TO LOCATE RECORDS” RESPONSE RCMP ATIP FILE: A-2016-04659

Reference is being made to my original *Access to Information Act* request dated May 20, 2016 and the ‘unable to locate records’ response I received from the RCMP dated July 13, 2016 (copies attached). I wish to complain about the inadequate search conducted by the RCMP for the records I requested.

I don’t know how my original request could have been any clearer:

RCMP - OTTAWA HQ, E DIVISION HQ & SURREY DETACHMENT

Reference is being made to the following news story:

Over 500 firearms and 3,000 rounds of ammunition turned over to Surrey RCMP in Safe City Project

Inspector Chris McBryan, Officer in Charge of NWEST in Western Canada. “It is a fact that the majority of gun related crimes in our communities are committed with guns that are domestically sourced.”

Wednesday, May 4th, 2016 | Posted by Rattan Mall <http://www.voiceonline.com/over-500-firearms-and-3000-rounds-of-ammunition-turned-over-to-surrey-rcmp-in-safe-city-project/>

For the period from January 1, 2015 to present please provide records, studies, reports, statistics, analyses, evaluations, presentations, communications, etcetera proving the validity of the RCMP statement: “*It is a fact that the majority of gun related crimes in our communities are committed with guns that are domestically sourced.*”

Also in a Vancouver Sun article dated April 14, 2016 RCMP Inspector McBryan was reported saying the following: EXCERPT: According to the most recent data available from the RCMP’s National Weapons Enforcement Support Team, 61 per cent of crime guns in the province were domestically sourced. “And the balance, about 39 per cent, were believed to be smuggled from the United States or elsewhere.” The source was not domestic,” said Insp. Chris McBryan, the officer in charge of NWEST’s western region. NWEST worked with Ridge Meadows RCMP on the Stover investigation. “NWEST is dedicated to providing assistance in combating the illegal distribution of firearms to organized crime,” McBryan said.

<http://vancouversun.com/news/crime/criminals-now-getting-their-guns-in-canada-police>

The Vancouver Sun article refers to “the most recent data available”. Available to everyone but the public? If the RCMP truly were “unable to locate records which respond to my request” then RCMP Inspector McBryan was not telling the truth. If he isn’t telling the truth and the data isn’t available to support his statement, then I’m sure his superiors would be all over him for publicly making claims that he can’t verify.

Please have the RCMP conduct a more through search for “the most recent data available” proving that “61 percent of crime guns in the province were domestically sourced” as stated my RCMP Inspector McBryan.

Yours sincerely,

[Original signed by]

Dennis R. Young
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JUL 13 2016

Mr. Dennis R. YOUNG
1330 Ravenswood Drive SE
Airdrie, Alberta T4A 0P8

Dear Mr. YOUNG:

This is in response to your request under the *Access to Information Act*, which was received by this office on May 31, 2016, for:

Reference is being made to the following news story:

Over 500 firearms and 3000 rounds of ammunition turned over to Surrey RCMP RCMP in Safe City project - Inspector Chris McBryan, officer in charge of NWEST in Western Canada. For the period from January 1, 2015 to present provide records, studies, reports, statistics, analyses, evaluations presentations, communications, etcetera proving the validity of the RCMP statement. It is a fact that the majority of gun related crimes in our communities are committed with guns that are domestically sourced.

Based on the information provided, a search for records was conducted by NWEST and the Canadian Firearms Program. Unfortunately, we were unable to locate records which respond to your request.

Please be advised that you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner concerning the processing of your request within 60 days after the day that you become aware that grounds for a complaint exist. In the event you decide to avail yourself of this right, your notice of complaint must be made in writing to:

Office of the Information Commissioner of Canada
30 Victoria Street, 7th Floor
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 1H3

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, you may contact Ms. Victoria Baldwin at 613-843-4716 or victoria.baldwin@rcmp-grc.gc.ca. Please quote the file number appearing on this letter.

Regards,

Supt. David Vautour
Access to Information and Privacy Branch
Mailstop #61
73 Leikin Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0R2

ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT

Access to Information Request Form

For official use only:

My File: 117

Federal Government Institution:

RCMP - OTTAWA HQ, E DIVISION HQ & SURREY DETACHMENT

Details regarding the information being sought:

Reference is being made to the following news story:

Over 500 firearms and 3,000 rounds of ammunition turned over to Surrey RCMP in Safe City Project

Inspector Chris McBryan, Officer in Charge of NWEST in Western Canada. "It is a fact that the majority of gun related crimes in our communities are committed with guns that are domestically sourced."

Wednesday, May 4th, 2016 | Posted by Rattan Mall <http://www.voiceonline.com/over-500-firearms-and-3000-rounds-of-ammunition-turned-over-to-surrey-rcmp-in-safe-city-project/>

For the period from January 1, 2015 to present please provide records, studies, reports, statistics, analyses, evaluations, presentations, communications, etcetera proving the validity of the RCMP statement: *"It is a fact that the majority of gun related crimes in our communities are committed with guns that are domestically sourced."*

Method of access preferred: ☒ Receive copies of originals ☐ Examine originals in government offices

Name of Applicant: Dennis R. Young
Address: 1330 Ravenswood Drive SE
Airdrie, Alberta T4A 0P8

Telephone Number: 587-360-1111 New E-Mail: dennisryoung@telus.net

This request for access to information under the Access to Information Act is being made by:

- ☒ a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or another individual present in Canada, or
☐ a corporation present in Canada

Cheque # 456

Signature: _____
[Original signed by]
Dennis R. Young

Date: May 20, 2016

POLICE REFERENCES TO FIREARMS USED IN CRIME

Unfortunately, the RCMP ATIP office doesn't seem to understand the term: "Crime Guns"

By Dennis R. Young – May 13, 2016

RCMP & POLICE DOCUMENTS MENTIONING "CRIME GUNS"

CURRENT TRENDS IN FIREARMS TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING IN CANADA

RCMP Criminal Intelligence - November 23, 2007

<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ci-rc/reports-rapports/traf/index-eng.htm>

*The statistics available from the RCMP Firearms Support Service Directorate, Tactical Intelligence Unit (TAU), for the first three quarters (Jan 1, 2007 to Sept 30, 2007), indicate that 3,851 seized firearms were reported to the TAU. Of these 3,851 firearms reported seized or recovered, 52 per cent were deemed to be **crime guns**¹.*

¹ The term **crime guns** refers to any firearm that is illegally possessed, used in a crime or suspected to have been used in a crime, or has an obliterated serial number.

PUBIC SAFETY CANADA - RESEARCH REPORT

Strategies for Reducing Gun Violence: The Role of Gangs, Drugs and Firearm Accessibility -

APRIL 2007 <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsracs/pblctns/rdcng-gn-vlnc/index-en.aspx#s8>

PAGE 6 - **CRIME GUNS IN CANADA**

*According to the somewhat dated data available from the "Coalition for Gun Control" website, **firearms used in crimes** in Canada are evenly divided between those that were diverted from domestic owners (52 percent) and those that are smuggled in from the United States (48 percent). These findings are based on data from the mid-1990s.*

RCMP 2015-2016 REPORT ON PLANS AND PRIORITIES

HORIZONTAL INITIATIVE: INVESTMENTS TO COMBAT THE CRIMINAL USE OF FIREARMS (ICCUF) <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/horizontal-initiatives-1>

EXCERPT - GENERAL INFORMATION: *The ICCUF aims to improve the capacity of law enforcement agencies to combat gun crime and smuggling, through the use of ballistics technologies, and support to police to address gaps in information collection on the smuggling and trafficking of **firearms used in crime**. The Government identified improved national collection, analysis and sharing of firearms-related intelligence and information as a priority for ICCUF.*

Program 1.2 - Canadian Law Enforcement Services

Sub-subprogram 1.2.2.2 - Firearms Investigative and Enforcement Services

2015-16 Planned = spending \$\$10,687,139

EXCERPT - 2015-16 Expected results: *Collaborate to provide enhanced criminal firearms information and intelligence: for example, since 2007 a minimum standard set of data for each **illegal firearm** seized (i.e., the National Minimum Collection Standards) has been collected by the RCMP CFP. The collection of a standard data set for **crime guns** enables a consistent national intelligence analysis.*

RCMP 2012-2013 PERFORMANCE REPORT

NAME OF HORIZONTAL INITIATIVE: INVESTMENTS TO COMBAT THE CRIMINAL USE OF FIREARMS (ICCUF) <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/horizontal-initiatives-0>

Name of Lead Department: Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)

Lead Department PAA Program: Canadian Firearms Program (CFP)

Public Safety Canada: Law Enforcement and Policing Branch

Actual Spending 2012-13 (\$millions) = \$0.272

EXPECTED RESULTS: *Provide independent policy advice to the Minister of Public Safety on firearms and crime, and support research on such areas as the relationship between **crime guns**, street gangs, youth and organized crime*

RCMP CANADIAN FIREARMS PROGRAM - PROGRAM EVALUATION FINAL APPROVED REPORT 2010 - NATIONAL PROGRAM EVALUATION SERVICES

<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/pubs/fire-feu-eval/index-eng.htm>

EXCERPT FROM: Appendix E - Op-ed Submission to the Globe and Mail April 7, 2009 by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police: *The report also underscores that rifles and shotguns account for a substantial proportion of **crime guns** seized. Recently police in Surrey seized over 200 rifles and shotguns. In Toronto a significant number of **crime guns** seized were once legally owned rifles or shotguns. Rifles and shotguns, many legally owned, are the weapons of choice in domestic violence, in suicide and in the murders of police officers in Canada.*

TORONTO POLICE SERVICES - 2012 ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

<http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/publications/files/reports/2012statsreport.pdf>

PAGE 1 - GLOSSARY OF TERMS - **Crime Gun**: *The RCMP National Weapons Enforcement Support Team (NWEST) defines a **crime gun** as “any firearm that is illegally possessed, used in crime or suspected to have been used in a crime, or has an obliterated serial number”.*

PAGE 33 - TABLE: **Crime Gun** - Firearm Type - TOTAL 607

NEWS STORIES MENTIONING “CRIME GUNS”

CANADA CALLED FOR A TOTAL OF 1,431 FIREARM TRACES FROM THE ATF LAST YEAR

Last year ATF traced over 364K **guns used in crimes** by Jennifer Cruz - May 10, 2016

<http://www.guns.com/2016/05/10/last-year-atf-traced-over-364k-guns-used-in-crimes/>

CRIMINALS NOW GETTING THEIR GUNS IN CANADA: POLICE

According to the most recent data available from the RCMP's National Weapons Enforcement Support Team, 61 per cent of **crime guns** in the province were domestically sourced.

KIM BOLAN - Last Updated: April 14, 2016 8:03 PM PDT

<http://vancouver.sun.com/news/crime/criminals-now-getting-their-guns-in-canada-police>

TORONTO STAR - GUN CRIME: THE BLEAK FACTS

*If the weapons used in these crimes are ever found, they will be turned over to the gun and gang task force that keeps track of **all guns considered "criminal"** – any firearm used in a robbery or taken from a suspect.* By JOHN DUNCANSON, and BETSY POWELL, Staff Reporters - Mon., Jan. 7, 2013 https://www.thestar.com/news/2007/01/03/gun_crime_the_bleak_facts.html

ILLEGAL GUNS IN OTTAWA SMUGGLED FROM SEVERAL U.S. STATES

According to the most recent data from the Ontario Provincial Police, foreign-sourced guns made up the majority of **"crime guns"** seized by officers.

JORDAN PRESS, OTTAWA CITIZEN - Last Updated: December 29, 2014 7:21 PM EDT
<http://ottawacitizen.com/news/local-news/illegal-guns-in-ottawa-smuggled-from-several-u-s-states>

RESEARCH PAPERS MENTIONING "CRIME GUNS"

CANADIAN NETWORK FOR RESEARCH ON TERRORISM, SECURITY AND SOCIETY

THE MOBILITY OF STOLEN GUNS IN QUEBEC - AUTHOR(S): BLAIS, DOMINIK | MORSELLI, CARLO European Journal on Criminal Policy and Research Criminal Policy and Research (2013): 1-19. Published Online December 29 2013.
http://tsas.ca/fr/tsas_library_entry/the-mobility-of-stolen-guns-in-quebec/

EXCERPT FROM DESCRIPTION: *Using a mix of national (Canada) and provincial (Quebec) data on **crime guns**, this study's findings show that these two new measures are tapping into a unique phenomenon: whereas time-to-crime accounts for a gun's complete lifecycle, time-to-find and distance-to-recovery reflect a gun's criminal lifecycle. At the multivariate level, the most influential factor explaining both time-to-find and distance-to-recovery is the registration status of the gun. Non-registered **crime guns** took longer to find and traveled lengthier distances between the moments and points of theft and seizure.*

CRIMINOLOGY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, LAW & SOCIETY VOLUME 15, ISSUE 3, (2014)

GUNS FOR HIRE: NORTH AMERICA'S INTRA-CONTINENTAL GUN TRAFFICKING NETWORKS
- Christian Leuprechta and Andrew Aulhouseb, Royal Military College of Canada, Queens University
- E-ISSN 2332-886X <https://scholasticahq.com/criminology-criminal-justice-law-society/>
http://post.queensu.ca/~leuprech/docs/articles/Leuprecht_Aulhouse_2014_Guns%20for%20Hire%20Mapping%20Canada_US%20cross_border%20gun%20trafficking%20networks_Journal%20of%20Criminology_Criminal%20Justice_Law%20and%20Society.pdf

PAGE 59 - *Only a minor fraction of all **crime guns** in Canada are domestic, as this requires acquiring guns from stockpiles amassed through corruption or theft. This risky and unreliable practice is also expensive, as it includes bribes or robberies (Cook et al., 2009).*