



## RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

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PETITION No.: **421-02636**

BY: **MR. PAUL-HUS (CHARLESBOURG-HAUTE-SAINT-CHARLES)**

DATE: **SEPTEMBER 21, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **THE HONOURABLE RALPH GOODALE, P.C., M.P.**

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Response by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

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SUBJECT

**Firearms**

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**ORIGINAL TEXT**

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**REPLY**

Protecting Canadians from gun violence is a priority for the Government.

When a weapons prohibition order is imposed on an offender at the time of sentencing, the prohibition order is entered into the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC). A search of the individual's name in this system would tell law enforcement of the existence of the order and its conditions. Individuals are not required to advise law enforcement of a change of address, but this does not prevent police from being able to search the person's name on CPIC.

With respect to the recommendation that individuals who are subject to a weapons prohibition order be required to report any change of address, the criminal justice system does not generally keep track of a person who is not serving a sentence. A weapons prohibition order is a preventive measure to protect public safety from the commission of future crimes. However, the fact that a person is subject to a weapons prohibition order is flagged on a person's police record. Should the breach of a weapons prohibition order, which is a criminal offence, come to the attention of law enforcement, the person's most recent address would be noted at that time.

The Government is supporting other measures to better protect Canadians from firearms violence. Bill C-71, *An Act to amend certain Acts and Regulations in relation to firearms*, which is currently being studied in the Senate, upholds the

commitments the Government made to Canadians to enhance background checks and licence verification; standardize existing best business practices among retailers; ensure that classification decisions will be made impartially; and bolster safeguards related to the transportation of restricted or prohibited firearms. Together, these measures provide additional tools to law enforcement while respecting law-abiding firearms owners.

The Government has also announced funding of up to \$327.6 million over five years, and \$100 million annually thereafter, to combat gun-related violence and gang activities, including by supporting law enforcement and community-led projects focused on prevention.

The Government of Canada has committed to get handguns and assault rifles off our streets. The Minister of Border Security and Organized Crime Reduction was tasked with leading the examination of a ban on handguns and assault weapons, while not impeding the lawful use of firearms by Canadians. The Prime Minister has publicly committed to examining all options relating to a handgun ban.

# E-1605 (FIREARMS)

42ND PARLIAMENT

*Initiated by Dennis R Young from Airdrie, Alberta, on March 28, 2018, at 10:04 a.m. (EDT)*

keywords

Data banks and databases

Firearms permits

Offenders

Police services

**Government Response Tabled**

## Petition details

### PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

Whereas:

- More than two million licenced gun owners in Canada, individuals who have never done anything wrong but are tracked daily on CPIC (Canadian Police Information Centre) are required to report any change of address to the government within 30 days or face criminal charges with a maximum penalty of two years in jail;
- In his 2016 report to Parliament the RCMP Firearms Commissioner noted that between 2012 and 2016 there were 422,887 convicted criminals prohibited from owning firearms by the courts (Chart #4);
- These 422,887 convicted criminals, prohibited from owning firearms are not required to report their change of address to the government or police unless such an order was specifically stated as a part of their sentence by the courts;
- On November 24, 2004, Firearms Commissioner Bill Baker testified before the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights: "On the change of address, if someone is prohibited from having a firearm in the country they are no longer effectively covered by the Firearms Act"; and
- Those 422,887 persons prohibited from owning firearms are the biggest threat to police and public safety; and are the ones most likely to acquire firearms illegally and reoffend.

We, the undersigned, **Citizens of Canada**, call upon the **House of Commons in Parliament assembled** to enact legislation requiring those convicted criminals who have been prohibited from owning firearms by the courts to report any change of address and this information be made available to police in a database on CPIC (Canadian Police Information Centre).

## Sponsor

## Pierre Paul-Hus

Charlesbourg—Haute-Saint-Charles  
Conservative  
Quebec

### Government response



Petition presented to the House of Commons on September 21, 2018 (Petition No. 421-02636)



Government response tabled on November 5, 2018 (Sessional Paper No. 8545-421-14)

- [421-02636\\_PS\\_E.pdf](#)

### History

**Open for signature** : March 28, 2018, at 10:04 a.m. (EDT)

**Closed for signature** : July 26, 2018, at 10:04 a.m. (EDT)

### Signatures (1765)

#### Province / Territory

	Signatures
Alberta	338
British Columbia	449
Manitoba	77
New Brunswick	38
Newfoundland and Labrador	10
Northwest Territories	9
Nova Scotia	42
Ontario	586
Prince Edward Island	5
Quebec	99
Saskatchewan	105
Yukon	5
Other Countries	2