

## MP BRAD TROST'S FOUR ORDER PAPER QUESTIONS – MARCH 18, 2019

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/house/sitting-391/order-notice/page-9>

### Q-2319<sup>2</sup> Firearms Interest Police (FIP) Database Deficiencies

### Q-2320<sup>2</sup> Auditor General Firearms Program 'major additional costs'

### Q-2321<sup>2</sup> Benefits of Firearms Ownership

### Q-2322<sup>2</sup> Effectiveness of Firearms Interest Police (FIP) Database

**Q-2319<sup>2</sup>** — March 14, 2019 — [Mr. Trost \(Saskatoon—University\)](#) — With regard to reports by the Privacy Commissioner of Canada and the Auditor General of Canada, and their recommendations to correct deficiencies in the Firearms Interest Police (FIP) database: (a) what is the status of the implementation of the recommendations of the Privacy Commissioner and Auditor General; (b) how are persons notified that they have been flagged in the FIP database; (c) how can persons flagged in the FIP Database access their records; (d) how can persons flagged in the FIP Database appeal to correct their records; and (e) what evidence is there that the FIP database has been an effective gun control measure?

**Q-2320<sup>2</sup>** — March 14, 2019 — [Mr. Trost \(Saskatoon—University\)](#) — With regard to paragraph 10.29 of the Auditor General's 2002 Report to Parliament, which outlines unreported costs that would be incurred by the government: what is the total amount for each of these unreported costs since 1995?

**Q-2321<sup>2</sup>** — March 14, 2019 — [Mr. Trost \(Saskatoon—University\)](#) — With regard to firearms policy: has the government analyzed the benefits of gun ownership, and, if so, what are the details of such an analysis, including whether the government has analyzed the topics cited in the Library of Parliament, Parliamentary Research Branch paper entitled "The Benefits of Gun Ownership", prepared by Lyne Casavant, Political and Social Affairs Division, and Antony G. Jackson, Economic Division, dated April 2, 2004, namely (i) self-defensive use of firearms (i.e. firearms use to defend persons from human and animal attacks (wilderness survival); firearms use to defend homes and property from theft and robbery; victims of attempted homicide and assaults are less likely to be injured if they defend themselves with a gun than if they offer no resistance or use any other weapon to protect themselves; and robberies and thefts are less likely to be successfully completed if the victim is seen to be in possession of a firearm), (ii) deterrence to criminals and crime, (iii) economic benefits of firearms ownership (i.e. sustenance hunting; sport hunting (big game, small game, migratory birds); wildlife management and conservation; sport shooting — recreational, olympic and international competitions; gun clubs and shooting ranges; gun shows; predator control; hunting licence sales; firearms and ammunition sales; tourism — Canadian and foreign hunters; guiding and outfitting; gun collecting; gunsmithing; firearms and ammunition manufacturing; firearms importing and exporting; firearms museums; sporting goods sales, manufacturing and related goods; recreational vehicle manufacturing, sales and service; movie and television productions; historical re-enactments; and employment for Canadians in all of the above), (iv) family relationships and character development (i.e. turning around juvenile delinquents — reducing youth crime; sport open to all cultures and the handicapped; and to bring people and families together), (v) environmental benefits (i.e. wildlife habitat protection and conservation), (vi) firearms and aboriginal hunting rights (i.e. Aboriginal communities, business and employment; guiding and outfitting), (vii) firearms in war, defence of country and sovereignty (i.e. military manufacturing, imports and exports; Cadets, Arctic Rangers, Reserves, Coast Guard; military training, Army, Navy, Air Force; and fighting terrorism), (viii) gun owners available to assist police in emergencies, (ix) firearms and Canada's history, heritage and culture (i.e. historical re-enactments; museums; and antique firearms and ammunition collecting), (x) protecting Charter rights, freedoms and democracy (i.e. ultimate defence against government tyranny; protection of property rights; and right to life and security of the person)?

**Q-2322<sup>2</sup>** — March 14, 2019 — [Mr. Trost \(Saskatoon—University\)](#) — With regard to the continuous-eligibility screening of firearms licence holders and the Firearms Interest Police (FIP) database, for the year 2017: (a) how many FIP events were matched to a person with a firearms license; (b) how many FIP events were matched to a person without a firearms license; (c) what was the average time it took to initiate an investigation of a FIP event; (d) what was the average time it took to complete the investigation of a FIP event; (e) how many FIP events that resulted in firearms being removed from possession of the licensed gun owner; (f) how many FIP events that resulted in firearms being removed from possession of a person without a firearms license; (g) what was the average time it took from reporting of the FIP event to the firearms being removed from the possession of the licensed gun owner; and (h) what was the average time it took from reporting of the FIP event to the firearms being removed from the possession of the person without a firearms license?

<sup>2</sup> Response requested within 45 days

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**Q-2319<sup>2</sup> FIREARMS INTEREST POLICE (FIP) DATABASE DEFICIENCIES**

**OFFICE OF THE PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF CANADA**

**Review of the Personal Information Handling Practices of the Canadian Firearms Program**

Department of Justice Canada and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Final Report - August 29, 2001

[https://www.priv.gc.ca/media/1175/fr\\_010813\\_e.pdf](https://www.priv.gc.ca/media/1175/fr_010813_e.pdf)

**2002 DECEMBER REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF CANADA**

**CHAPTER 11—OTHER AUDIT OBSERVATIONS**

<http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/docs/20021211ce.pdf>

Royal Canadian Mounted Police—Canadian Firearms Program

Information to screen applicants for firearms licences may not be accurate

[http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/parl\\_oag\\_200212\\_11\\_e\\_12405.html#ch11hd3c](http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/parl_oag_200212_11_e_12405.html#ch11hd3c)

**LETTER SENT BY PRIVACY COMMISSIONER RADWANSKI TO MP GARRY BREITKREUZ ON**

**JANUARY 17, 2003 - EXCERPT:** " To date, the department has not implemented my recommendations, nor has it provided any of the progress reports I have requested. I do not have the power under the Privacy Act to order DOJ to implement these and my other recommendations concerning this initiative. However, I will continue to express my concerns to the Minister of Justice and urge him to quickly take appropriate measures with his stakeholders to bring the Program into compliance with the Privacy Act. The Auditor General's report has underlined the vital importance of introducing controls immediately to ensure the accuracy of all FIP records. It serves to underscore the critical importance of implementing the recommendations I made some 18 months ago regarding the issue of data integrity.

[https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/opc-news/news-and-announcements/2003/le\\_cfp\\_030117/](https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/opc-news/news-and-announcements/2003/le_cfp_030117/)

**FIP: A POLICE DATABASE CANADIANS CAN'T ACCESS OR CORRECT**

**by Dennis R. Young - September 26, 2015**

<https://dennisryoung.ca/2015/09/28/cssa-e-news-fip-a-police-database-canadians-cant-access-or-correct/>

**Q-2320<sup>2</sup> AUDITOR GENERAL: FIREARMS PROGRAM MAJOR ADDITIONAL COSTS**

[Auditor General paragraph 10.29 of the Auditor General's 2002 Report to Parliament](#), *Further, in its Regulatory Impact Analysis Statements the Department of Justice did not provide Parliament with an estimate of all the major additional costs that would be incurred. This disclosure was required by the government's regulatory policy. The costs incurred by the provincial and territorial agencies in enforcing the legislation were not reported. In addition, costs that were incurred by firearms owners, firearms clubs, manufacturers, sellers, and importers and exporters of firearms, in their efforts to comply with the legislation were not reported.*

**Q-2321<sup>2</sup> BENEFITS OF GUN OWNERSHIP**

**PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH BRANCH**

**“THE BENEFITS OF GUN OWNERSHIP” DATED APRIL 2, 2004**

by Lyne Casavant, Political and Social Affairs Division and Antony G. Jackson, Economic Division

<https://dennisryoung.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Library-Study-Benefits-of-Gun-Ownership-April-2-2004.pdf>

## **Q-2322: EFFECTIVENESS OF FIREARMS INTEREST POLICE (FIP) DATABASE**

### **JANUARY 18, 2019 - RCMP: NO STATISTICS ON FIREARMS INTEREST POLICE (FIP) EVENTS**

RCMP response to Access to Information Act Request dated January 11, 2019 - Received January 18, 2019

Important statistics about firearms license holders who are 'involved in an event involving violence or other offences' are not tracked. <https://dennisyoung.ca/2019/01/18/rcmp-has-no-statistics-on-firearms-interest-police-fip-events/>

### **ONTARIO CFO DOES NOT TRACK FIREARMS INTEREST POLICE (FIP) STATISTICS**

Important statistics about firearms license holders who are 'involved in an event involving violence or other offences' are not tracked. Ontario CFO FOIP Response dated December 31, 2018 – Received January 9, 2019 by Dennis R. Young.

<https://dennisyoung.ca/2019/01/09/ontario-cfo-does-not-track-firearms-interest-police-fip-statistics/>

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **(A) RCMP AUDIT OF THE CANADIAN FIREARMS PROGRAM CONTINUUM OF ELIGIBILITY FOR FIREARMS LICENSING**

<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/audit-the-canadian-firearms-program-continuum-eligibility-firearms-licensing>

### **(B) THE CANADIAN PRESS ARTICLE FIREARMS LICENCE SCREENING BACKLOGS POSE SAFETY**

**RISKS: RCMP AUDIT** – Excerpt: However, there were "significant delays in both initiating investigations and in the duration of eligibility investigations themselves." For the 27 files in the sample that were still under review, an average of 331 days had passed since the incident in question. By Jim Bronskill, By Jim Bronskill, The Canadian Press - Published Friday, November 16, 2018

The Canadian Press - Published Friday, November 16, 2018 <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/firearms-licence-screening-backlogs-pose-safety-risks-rcmp-audit-1.4179698>

### **(C) THE FIREARMS COMMISSIONER'S 2016 REPORT TO PARLIAMENT WHICH STATES: CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY SCREENING OF FIREARMS LICENCE HOLDERS:**

"The Canadian Firearms Information System (CFIS) contains current and historical firearms licence holder data. If a licence holder is involved in an event involving violence (or other offences specified in Section 5 of the Firearms Act), it is reported in CPIC via a Firearms Interest Police (FIP) event and sent to the relevant CFO for review. Licence holders are regularly screened to assess their continuous eligibility to remain licensed. There were 29,487 FIP events in 2016 that were matched to a person with a firearms licence. 8,408 FIP Events in Ontario (Table 8)." <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/2016-commissioner-firearms-report>

<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/2017-commissioner-firearms-report>