



**'RED FLAG LAW' FOR DANGEROUS GUN OWNERS PASSED BY PARLIAMENT IN 1995**

The problem is Parliament doesn't know whether it is working or not! By Dennis R. Young – February 5, 2020

**IN THE NEWS**

**CBC - 'RED FLAG' GUN LAWS NEEDED TO SAVE LIVES, EMERGENCY DOCTOR SAYS**

Dr. Alan Drummond says change would be for greater good. It's not yet known how the federal government would put red flag laws into practice, but Drummond has his own ideas about what he wants to see. "In an ideal world, an emergency physician should be able to pick up the phone and call a local police detachment," the physician said, adding that he would request that the patient should not have access to firearms until proper mental health treatment was provided. As for concerns that such laws would deter people from seeking help in the first place, Drummond agreed those criticisms are valid. CBC News · Posted: Feb 05, 2020 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/gun-control-red-flag-law-could-save-lives-doctor-says-1.5452156>

**LIBERAL RED FLAG PLAN PANNED BY GUN SAFETY ADVOCATE AND FIREARM LOBBY LEADER**

A new Liberal plan to include a Canadian version of controversial U.S. "red flag" laws to widen avenues for seizing firearms from gun owners at risk of violence is under criticism from a leading gun-control advocate as well as the head of a leading firearm rights lobby. By Tim Naumetz iPolitics - Published on Feb 4, 2020 <https://ipolitics.ca/2020/02/04/liberal-red-flag-plan-panned-by-gun-safety-advocate-and-firearm-lobby-leader/>

**OTTAWA TO ADOPT 'RED FLAG' LAWS TO ALLOW COURTS TO CONFISCATE GUNS FROM PEOPLE DEEMED TO POSE A THREAT**

New gun-control legislation will include "red flag" laws to remove guns from people deemed by the courts to be at risk of hurting themselves or someone else, Public Safety Minister Bill Blair says. By Robert Fife, Ottawa Bureau Chief. Globe and Mail - Published February 3, 2020 <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-ottawa-to-adopt-red-flag-laws-to-allow-courts-to-confiscate-guns/>

**CANADA ALREADY HAS A RED FLAG LAW CALLED  
THE 'FIREARMS INTEREST POLICE' (FIP) DATABASE**

**SEPTEMBER 2, 2019 - ONTARIO SOLICITOR GENERAL DENIES ACCESS TO FIREARMS INTEREST POLICE (FIP) FILES IN MURDER-SUICIDE CASE**

Complaint to Ontario Information Commissioner by Dennis R. Young – September 2, 2019 <https://dennisryoung.ca/2019/09/05/access-denied-to-fip-files-in-ontario-murder-suicide-case/>

**EXCERPT:** The records I have requested from the Solicitor General and the Ontario Provincial Police will help the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee in the conduct of their review of the Mark Jones murder-suicide and answer questions as to why he was able to retain possession of his firearms after serious reports had been filed with police. It's clear from information being made available to Parliament and the public that the RCMP and the Ontario Chief Firearms Office do not collect enough information on an ongoing basis nor have they done a sufficient evaluation of the effectiveness of the two 'Red Flag' systems aimed exclusively at licensed gun owners implemented by the Firearms Act passed by the Federal Parliament in 1995, namely; the Firearms Interest Police (FIP) Database and the Canadian Firearms Registry Online (CFRO).

**MAY 3, 2019 - MP BRAD TROST'S FOUR GUN CONTROL QUESTIONS: LIBERAL RESPONSES PROVIDE VERY FEW ANSWERS** - Analysis, Commentary and Supporting Documentation by Dennis R. Young – May 3, 2019  
<https://dennisryoung.ca/2019/05/03/liberal-responses-provide-very-few-answers/>

LIBERAL RESPONSE TO Q-2319: **Firearms Interest Police (FIP) Database Deficiencies**

LIBERAL RESPONSE TO Q-2320: Auditor General Firearms Program ‘major additional costs

LIBERAL RESPONSE TO Q-2321: Benefits of Firearms Ownership

LIBERAL RESPONSE TO 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://dennisryoung.ca/2019/01/18/rcmp-has-no-statistics-on-firearms-interest-police-fip-events/>

- No Statistics on the average time it took to initiate an investigation of a FIP event;
- No Statistics on the average time it took to complete the investigation of a FIP event;
- No Statistics on the number of FIP events that resulted in firearms being removed from possession of the licensed gun owner; and
- No Statistics on the average time it took from reporting of the FIP event to the firearms being removed from the possession of the licensed gun owner.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**(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, 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. (Table 8).” <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/2016-commissioner-firearms-report>

NOTE: The number of FIP Events in 2017 were not reported in the RCMP Commissioner's 2017 Report to Parliament <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/2017-commissioner-firearms-report>

## **A CSSA COMMENTARY**

**FIP: A POLICE DATABASE CANADIANS CAN'T ACCESS OR CORRECT** by Dennis R. Young -

**September 26, 2015** - F.I.P. stands for the Firearms Interest Police. If you never heard of this before it shouldn't come as any surprise. On November 3, 1999, Garry Breitkreuz, MP for Yorkton-Melville, released a Library of Parliament research paper showing the F.I.P. data bank allowed police to label someone as a risk to public safety without presenting any proof whatsoever and without notifying the individual. <https://dennisryoung.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/FIP-COMMENTARY-CSSA-E-NEWS-September-26-2015-Updated.pdf>

**LETTER TO THE PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF CANADA JUNE 10, 2015**  
**RCMP SAY THERE IS NO FIREARMS INTEREST POLICE (FIP) DATABASE?**  
<https://nfa.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Privacy-Comm.-FIP-Database-June-10-2015.pdf>

**LETTER TO BREITKREUZ FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF CANADA FEB 16, 2001** <http://cssa-cila.org/garryb/breitkreuzgpress/privacy1.htm>

We have several concerns about the FIP database, many of which are also of concern to you.

- First, we agree that the database contains the names of individuals that should not have been entered because the incidents are not relevant to section 5 of the Firearms Act. We are also concerned that the database contains the names of witnesses and victims.
- Second, inconsistent information coding by contributing law enforcement agencies may lead Firearms Officers to initiate investigations based on information that is unsubstantiated, hearsay, or inaccurate. It may also lead Firearms Officers to conduct investigations regarding incidents that are older than 5 years, or in cases where charges have been dropped and individuals have been acquitted.
- Third, there is no process in place that would ensure that improper or duplicate entries are removed or corrected.
- Fourth, it is extraordinarily difficult for individuals to exercise their access and correction rights because the process is managed by three levels of government and because the FIP database is not described in InfoSource. For example, requests for access or correction addressed to Justice are redirected to the RCMP. The RCMP will only process requests for information that have been entered by its members. The RCMP will exempt information that has been entered by another law enforcement agency.

**BREITKREUZ NEWS RELEASE NOVEMBER 3, 1999**  
**RCMP F.I.P. DATA BANK BIG STEP TOWARDS A POLICE STATE**

"The Research Branch of the Library of Parliament discovered that some police forces may even put witnesses or victims of crimes into the RCMP's F.I.P files." Breitkreuz wrote the Privacy Commissioner of Canada calling the F.I.P data bank "a travesty and an inexcusable invasion of privacy."

<http://cssa-cila.org/garryb/breitkreuzgpress/Fire53.htm>