



**THIS WEEKS POSTINGS TO THE CANADIAN FIREARMS DIGEST
National and International Gun Control News for the week ending February 28, 2020**

owner-cdn-firearms-digest@scorpion.bogend.ca

POSTS FROM CANADA

WATCH: MP BILL BLAIR BE SAVED BY THE SHOT CLOCK

MP Glen Motz asks the Minister how much it will cost to ban 'military-style assault rifles'

Canada's National Firearms Association - 719 views - Feb 28, 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMlWJaa7Tjk>

MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN TORONTO POLICE'S LARGEST GUN SEIZURE. HE WAS CAUGHT WITH 60 HANDGUNS SMUGGLED FROM FLORIDA - By Betsy Powell, Courts Reporter, THE STAR - Wed., Feb. 26, 2020

<https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2020/02/26/man-pleads-guilty-in-toronto-polices-largest-gun-seizure-he-was-caught-with-60-handguns-smuggled-from-florida.html>

EXCERPT: On Wednesday, the prosecution read a synopsis of the crimes committed by Poyser and his alleged accomplices. During the spring of 2018, Poyser was working in association with Ernest Wilson, a man known as “Biggs” who was living in Florida. Poyser, Wilson, Kareem Lewis — a co-accused who has since died — and a man known as “Apache” worked together to bring illegal firearms north and other contraband south across the Canada-United States border for illegal sale in both countries, court heard. Wilson — who is also now dead — would buy handguns from various dealers in Florida and have them shipped north to the border near Cornwall. Apache would arrange for the handguns and other contraband Wilson was sending north to cross the border and be delivered to a house at 515 Oliver Lane in Cornwall.

LIST OF CANADA'S 24 FEDERAL GUN LAWS AND REGULATIONS

<https://thegunblog.ca/2020/02/27/list-of-canadas-24-federal-gun-laws-and-regulations/>

TheGunBlog.ca — Having and using guns in Canada is hyper-regulated by about 24 federal laws and regulations. Below is the list of federal regulations based mostly on the Firearms Act and Criminal Code. THEGUNBLOG.CA -

FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Why It Matters:

- Complex: The laws are so complex, convoluted and confusing that they overwhelm many lawyers, judges and private firearm users.
- Costly: Developing, adopting and enforcing all the rules costs hundreds of millions of dollars every year, with little or no evidence of benefit. TheGunBlog.ca asked the Department of Justice and the RCMP for any evaluations or audits of the legislative and policy framework. None were provided.
- Criminalizing: Millions of safe and responsible hunters, farmers, ranchers, plinkers, competitors, gun collectors and business owners live under the constant threat of jail for the slightest misstep, such as missing a document or missing a renewal deadline.

CBC - GUNS, GANGS AND DRUGS DRIVE CRIME INCREASES IN REGINA OVER LAST DECADE:

POLICE CHIEF - Statistics collected over the last decade and presented to the Board of Police Commissioners Thursday indicate crime is on the rise in Regina. Guns and drugs are often seized together when police execute search warrants.

By Bryan Eneas · CBC News · Posted: Feb 27, 2020 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/guns-gangs-drugs-drive-crime-regina-1.5478460>

CBC - COURT OF APPEAL SETS ASIDE ACQUITTAL FOR PETER KHILL, ORDERS NEW TRIAL

Ontario's Court of Appeal has ruled Peter Khill, the man found not guilty after admitting he shot and killed Jon Styres, should again stand trial for second degree murder. The court released its unanimous decision Wednesday, saying the trial judge failed to instruct the jury to consider Khill's conduct leading up to the moment the trigger was pulled and Styres, a First Nations man from Ohsweken, Ont., was killed. **The Hamilton-area homeowner was found not guilty following a 12-day trial last year where he argued he fired in self defence.** By Dan Taekema · CBC · Posted: Feb 26, 2020 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/appeal-peter-khill-new-trial-1.5476537>

WE WENT INSIDE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE BOOT CAMP TO SEE HOW FUTURE MOUNTIES ARE TRAINED

- We got an inside look at the intense 26-week training program that all future Mounties must endure before officially joining the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Senior video correspondent Graham Flanagan spent five days at the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Academy, Depot Division in Regina, Saskatchewan where he observed different troops at various stages of boot camp. By Graham Flanagan Feb 26, 2020 <https://www.insider.com/inside-canada-mountie-boot-camp-police-law-enforcement-training-2020-2>

BURNS LAKE GUN OWNERS OPPOSE PROPOSED RIFLE BAN

Paul Hilliard, owner of Woods N' Water in Burns Lake, says law-abiding gun owners should not be paying the price for crimes they did not commit. Feb. 26, 2020 <https://www.bclocalnews.com/news/burns-lake-gun-owners-oppose-proposed-rifle-ban/>

CSSA COMMENTARY: 95% OF RCMP NEGLIGENT DISCHARGES OCCUR DURING LOW STRESS

SITUATIONS - The RCMP classifies negligent discharge of a firearm (when a gun is discharged without intent to do so) as "unintentional". Lack of intention means lack of paying proper attention, as the descriptions above show, which is the definition of negligence. Basic firearm safety tells us to keep your finger off the trigger until you can positively identify your target, know what is beyond your target, and are ready to shoot at your target. Only then do you place your finger on the bang switch. When a firearm is discharged outside of those conditions, it is due to negligence.

TEAM CSSA E-NEWS | FEBRUARY 25, 2020 <https://t.co/KxyJiYAHH0>
<https://dennisyoung.ca/2020/02/26/cssa-95-of-rcmp-negligent-discharges-occur-during-low-stress-situations/>

CBC - U.S. PROSECUTION REJECTS CHALLENGE TO 40-YEAR TERRORISM SENTENCE FOR YOUNG CANADIAN

- In December, defence argued sentence for Abdulrahman El Bahnasawy was inhumane. "The imposition of a term of 40 years' imprisonment for an individual who attempted to carry out a mass-casualty terrorist attack for ISIS in New York City was not 'shockingly high, shockingly low, or otherwise unsupportable as a matter of law," the prosecutors say. "El Bahnasawy's challenge to his sentence is easily rejected." The Canadian Press · Posted: Feb 25, 2020 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/el-bahnasawy-appeal-1.5475740>

MACLEANS - COULD CANADA SOON FACE A VIGILANTE PROBLEM?

Researchers in Europe have identified the conditions in which far-right vigilantes emerge. Canada ticks a lot of the boxes. by Shannon Gormley - Feb 25, 2020 <https://www.macleans.ca/opinion/could-canada-soon-face-a-vigilante-problem/>

TORONTO GUNS-AND-GANGS OFFICER ON MENTAL HEALTH TOLL OF THE JOB: ‘SOMETIMES CAREER SUICIDE’S BETTER THAN THE OTHER ONE’ - By Wendy Gillis, Crime Reporter, THE STAR - Tues., Feb. 25, 2020 <https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2020/02/25/sometimes-career-suicides-better-than-the-other-one.html>

DICKSON QUICK RELAY SHOOTER IN WORLD BIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS

In the final event of her first IBU world biathlon championships, Emily Dickson went out with a bang. The 22-year-old skied the lead leg of Saturday's 4 X 6-kilometre women's relay and with cool efficiency on the range in Antholz-Anterselva, Italy she missed just three of 20 targets in four shooting bouts. That set the stage for the rest of the Canadian team - Emma Lunder of Vernon, Megan Bankes of Calgary and Nadia Moser of Whitehorse, Yukon. They were also quick on the trigger and raced to a ninth-place finish in the 24-team event. By Ted Clarke / Prince George Citizen - February 24, 2020 <https://www.princegeorgecitizen.com/dickson-quick-relay-shooter-in-world-biathlon-championships-1.24083305>

LARIVIERE AIMS FOR ONTARIO GAMES BIATHLON RACES

Rochelle Lariviere will compete in biathlon this Thursday and Friday at the Ontario Winter Games in Orillia. By Laura Young For The Sudbury Star - February 24, 2020 <https://www.thesudburystar.com/sports/local-sports/personal-best-from-the-lab-to-the-range-lariviere-aims-for-ontario-games-biathlon-races>

CBC - DOCTOR WHO SIGNED OFF ON LIONEL DESMOND'S FIREARMS LICENCE SAYS HE DIDN'T POSE RISK

Dr. Paul Smith described the Afghanistan veteran with PTSD as 'non-suicidal' and stable in his notes. By Laura Fraser · CBC News · Posted: Feb 24, 2020 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/desmond-day-15-1.5473483>

MP BOB ZIMMER: MINISTER BLAIR, YOU CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS

Minister Blair's response in the House of Commons is also in direct contradiction to what the Liberals are planning to do in handing over firearms classifications to the RCMP once Bill C-71 is fully implemented. Instead of having elected officials make the final decision on firearms classifications, the Liberals will be instructing RCMP bureaucrats to make these decisions instead. Law enforcement officials have also publicly stated that they do not believe that blanket firearms bans will help make communities safer, and yet the Liberals seem determined to introduce such a ban through Order in Council, a move that will ultimately be up to the RCMP and police to enforce. By Bob Zimmer - February 24, 2020 <https://www.energeticcity.ca/2020/02/mp-bob-zimmer-weekly-report-minister-blair-you-cant-have-it-both-ways/>

MP TAKO VAN POPTA GETS SURGE OF SUPPORT WITH GUN-SAFETY PHOTOS

TheGunBlog.ca — Canadian Member of Parliament Tako van Popta attracted a surge of online fans after sharing photos of himself taking the mandatory safety course for a federal gun licence. The newly elected Conservative Party MP from British Columbia had 129 retweets, 574 “likes” and 54 replies as of 5:15 p.m. Toronto time today in response to his Feb. 22 Twitter message. On Facebook, he had 100 comments and 126 shares. THEGUNBLOG.CA - FEBRUARY 24, 2020 <https://thegunblog.ca/2020/02/24/mp-tako-van-popta-gets-surge-of-support-with-gun-safety-photos/>

GTA MP TABLING BILL RAISING MANDATORY PRISON TIME FOR OWNING A SMUGGLED GUN

A Conservative MP representing a riding in the Greater Toronto Area will use his high-ranking spot in the queue for non-cabinet ministers to push through legislation in the House to introduce a bill that would increase the length of prison sentences for possessing a gun that was smuggled into Canada. By Charlie Pinkerton iPolitics - Published on Feb 24, 2020 <https://ipolitics.ca/2020/02/24/gta-mp-tabling-bill-raising-mandatory-prison-time-for-owning-a-smuggled-gun/>

LIONEL DESMOND'S GUN LICENCE ISSUER DIDN'T KNOW OF HIS MENTAL-HEALTH WOES

GUYSBOROUGH, N.S. — Lionel Desmond wouldn't have had a valid licence to buy the rifle he used to kill his family if the New Brunswick Firearms Office had been aware of the extent of his interactions with mental health care providers and the RCMP. That's what the Desmond fatality inquiry heard from the operations manager for the provincial firearms office Thursday after Judge Warren Zimmer read her a letter signed by doctors at a Fredericton occupational stress injury clinic recommending an inpatient facility in Quebec take Desmond as a client due to his severe post-traumatic stress disorder and depression, amongst other issues. "If our office would have been privy to this letter it would have changed the outcome of his licence review," Lysa Rossignol testified. By Aaron Beswick - February 22, 2020

<https://www.thetelegram.com/news/canada/lionel-desmonds-gun-licence-issuer-not-privy-to-facts-413696/>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/desmond-day-14-1.5470442>

CBC - P.E.I. TO HOST EASTERN BIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS THIS WEEKEND

The Mark Arendz Provincial Ski Park will play host to the Eastern Canadian Biathlon Championships this weekend. The competition is a Biathlon P.E.I. event, which will draw just under 60 athletes from mainly Atlantic Canada and as far away as Ontario. CBC News · Posted: Feb 21, 2020

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-eastern-canadian-biathlon-champions-2020-1.5471421>

MACKENZIE TURNER CALLS PARTICIPATING IN JUNIOR BIATHLON WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AMAZING

- "I think Canada did alright at the two competitions and people were happy with their effort," said Ms. Turner. "My teammate got a personal best at the IBU Cup in Italy, with a 10th in the sprint and a 20th in the pursuit, so that was exciting." In the immediate future Ms. Turner said, "I will be just recovering and getting some training here in Canmore, then head to Quebec for the nationals the middle of March." By Expositor Staff - February 21, 2020

<https://www.manitoulin.ca/mackenzie-turner-calls-participating-in-junior-biathlon-world-championships-amazing/>

OP-ED: LIBERAL GUN LAWS UNFAIRLY TARGET LAW ABIDING FIREARMS OWNERS

Rick Peterson is a responsible and legal gun owner, an Edmonton business owner and candidate for the leadership of the Conservative Party of Canada. Posted on Friday, February 21, 2020 by Rick Peterson

https://www.rickepc.ca/op_ed_liberal_gun_laws_unfairly_target_law_abiding_firearms_owners

Here are Five Key Firearms Initiatives I will lead as Canada's next Conservative Prime Minister:

- Repeal Bill C-71. Criminals don't turn in their illegal guns. The Liberal gun buyback removes property from owners who have been previously screened and approved through the RCMP Canada Firearms program.
- Amend and streamline the current firearms classification by adopting the Simplified Classification System, in line with grassroots Conservative policy.
- Cancel the planned patchwork of municipal handgun bans. This creates inequity of rights and more downloading to communities.
- Permit the use of restricted handguns on rural land under the same rules currently applying to the use of non-restricted large calibre rifles.
- Legislate stricter bail conditions to stop the rotating cycle of firearms offenders coming back onto the streets, based on input from front-line police officers.

POSTS FROM THE UNITED STATES & OTHER COUNTRIES

FIREARMS IN NEW ZEALAND: WHERE TO FROM HERE?

When the gun buy-back began we had absolutely no idea how many firearms were in our communities. We now know that 60 thousand of the most lethal weapons have been handed over, paid for and destroyed. Just over one hundred million dollars was spent on firearms and parts collected at 685 collection points across the country. Police went to private homes

when there were large quantities of guns to collect or owners had transport difficulties, and 43 dealers operated a dealer channel and collected 6145 firearms on behalf of Police. Police have told me they were extremely impressed by the attitude of those who took part, and that 93 per cent of those firearms owners reported the buy-back process to have been a positive experience. Thanks to these gun owners, 60 thousand of the most lethal weapons are gone from our communities. They can't be stolen from their lawful owners, they can't be on-sold to criminals, and they can't be used to inflict massive casualties. Speech: NZ Police Association - Saturday, 29 February 2020

<https://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PO2002/S00251/firearms-in-new-zealand-where-to-from-here.htm>

MILWAUKEE COORS BREWERY SHOOTER ANTHONY FERRILL REPORTEDLY BUILT HIS OWN

GUNS - Anthony Ferrill - who authorities said unleashed one of the worst mass shootings in Wisconsin history on Wednesday - built guns with mail-order parts as a hobby, his next-door neighbor Erna Roenspies told journaltimes.com. By Natalie O'Neill, NY POST - February 28, 2020 <https://nypost.com/2020/02/28/milwaukee-coors-brewery-shooter-anthony-ferrill-reportedly-built-his-own-guns/>

UNTRACEABLE 'GHOST GUNS' SURGING IN SOME CITIES

The number of untraceable "ghost guns" built from kits and seized by police has begun to surge in Washington, D.C., and some other areas nationwide, raising concerns that firearm traffickers have found a new way to bypass background checks, the Washington Post reports. D.C. police said such guns were used in three killings in recent years. Officers last year took 116 ghost guns off the streets, compared with just three in 2017. Police in Philadelphia, Baltimore and suburban Maryland said they are seeing more of the weapons. The kits can be purchased without the background checks and other requirements needed to buy fully operational guns. Assembling a gun out of parts obtained through a gun dealer or the Internet is largely legal, and results in a weapon with no serial number or traceable link to a gun manufacturer. Four states have enacted laws regulating or prohibiting such guns, including California, which has endured three mass shootings by people using ghost guns. By Crime and Justice News | February 28, 2020

<https://thecrimereport.org/2020/02/28/untraceable-ghost-guns-surg-ing-in-some-cities/>

NZ - SAFETY EXPERT SAYS GUN LOBBY IS FIGHTING FOR RIGHT NOT TO BE INCONVENIENCED

Philip Alpers, former host of TV show Fair Go and gun safety expert, is in Wellington today to give a public lecture as a guest of Gun Control NZ.

By Derek Cheng, political reporter for the New Zealand Herald - 28 Feb, 2020

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=12311958

THE JOYS OF WATERFOWL HUNTING: WHY YOU SHOULD START

By Jeff Wood GUNS.COM - February 28, 2020 <https://www.guns.com/news/2020/02/28/start-waterfowl-hunting>

NZ - GUN REGISTRY 'CRUCIAL' TO ANY REFORM

A gun safety expert says a firearm registry is the most important gun control measure this country does not yet have. Marc Daalder takes a close look at gun control in New Zealand. By Marc Daalder, Newsroom - February 28, 2020

<https://www.newsroom.co.nz/pro/2020/02/28/1060020/gun-registry-crucial-to-any-reform>

AMERICAN GUN OWNERSHIP: THE POSITIVE IMPACTS OF LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS OWNING

FIREARMS - It's no secret that mainstream press coverage of gun ownership in the United States tends to be in favor of gun control – especially when those reporting on the topic are not firearm owners themselves. Journalists focus on how many people are killed by guns, how many children get their hands on improperly stored firearms, and how many deranged individuals go on shooting sprees. This anti-gun news bias is widespread among the "urban elite" who have very

little personal experience with guns and yet write for influential newspapers like The New York Times, Washington Post, etc. Despite this bias, law-abiding private citizens owning guns does have positive impacts on American society that often go unreported – many of which are significant. By Molly Carter, Ammo.com - February 27, 2020

<https://ammo.com/articles/gun-ownership-in-america>

https://www.lewrockwell.com/2020/02/no_author/american-gun-ownership-the-positive-impacts-of-law-abiding-citizens-owning-firearms/

LA TIMES - HOW MANY MASS SHOOTINGS MIGHT HAVE BEEN PREVENTED BY STRONGER GUN

LAW? A new database from The Violence Project provides some insight into the history of mass shooting and what measures, if any, could affect them. Researchers there conducted a detailed study of 167 mass shootings resulting in 1,202 deaths that have occurred in the U.S. since 1966. We've cross-referenced their data with five types of gun control proposals. The analysis reveals that if all of these policies had been in effect at the federal level, they would have had the potential to prevent 146 out of 167 shootings, including all but one shooting in the past five years By Rahul Mukherjee - Feb. 26, 2020 <https://www.latimes.com/projects/if-gun-laws-were-enacted/>

EXCERPT: There is no guarantee that these laws would be effective in stopping motivated killers from ultimately achieving their goal. Also, some of the proposals are more recent and could not be expected to have stopped attacks in the distant past. Here are five types of gun laws and which shootings they could have addressed:

- Ban on straw purchases
- Safe storage requirement
- Assault weapons ban
- Mandatory background checks
- Red flag law

COWBOY FAST DRAW WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Nashville, TN -(AmmoLand.com)- The game is Single Action Fast Draw, as near as we come in the 21st century to the OK Corral. 300 Gunfighters mosey into Fallon, Nevada, dressed to reflect their cowboy alias, and ready to draw and shoot wax bullets from Old West holsters. The winning results are speeds down to a third of a second. Ammoland Inc. Posted on February 26, 2020 by Johnnie Scoutten <https://www.ammoland.com/2020/02/new-this-week-on-shooting-usa-cowboy-fast-draw-world-championship-2/#axzz6F61gJvZb>

A RED FLAG FOR A RED FLAG BILL

If you are among those who believe Alaska is such a conservative state that no politician ever would pose a threat to Second Amendment rights you might take a moment to review House Bill 62. Introduced by Democratic Reps. Geran Tarr, Harriet Drummond and Andy Josephson all of Anchorage, it would, among other things, require “physicians, psychologists, psychological associates, social workers, marital and family therapists, and licensed professional counselors” to annually report to a “central registry” all “serious” gun threats – even if that information is not corroborated. What would be “serious” is not clear. Such statutes are known as “red flag” laws and this one would give “physicians, psychologists, psychological associates, social workers, marital and family therapists, and licensed professional counselors” incredible power over those who own guns. By Suzanne Downing, The Anchorage Daily Planet- February 26, 2020 <https://mustreadalaska.com/a-red-flag-for-a-red-flag-bill/>

JOE BIDEN JUST CLAIMED THERE HAD BEEN ‘150 MILLION’ GUN DEATHS, AND NO ONE EVEN

CALLED HIM ON IT - Joe Biden claimed in tonight's debate that guns have killed 150 million people in the United States since 2007. That's roughly half the U.S. population. Neither the moderators nor his competitors corrected his ludicrous error. Why? Well, because disinformation and factual errors are par for the course in the Democrats' anti-gun

narrative. By Brad Polumbo, Washington Examiner - February 25, 2020 <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/joe-bidens-150-million-gun-deaths-democratic-debate-error-didnt-happen-in-a-vacuum>
<https://reason.com/2020/02/25/biden-suggests-bernie-sanders-partially-responsible-for-150-million-gun-deaths-argues-for-renewed-assault-weapons-ban/>

FACTS MUDDLED IN NEW HAMPSHIRE DEBATE OVER DESTROYING GUNS

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) - A discussion about destroying guns provoked strong emotions Tuesday at a public hearing where both sides stumbled over the facts. The House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee heard testimony on a bill that would allow state agencies to destroy weapons voluntarily surrendered by the public. Current law prohibits state police and other state agencies from operating such programs and instead requires them to sell such firearms at auction or keep them for their own use. By HOLLY RAMER - Associated Press - Tuesday, February 25, 2020
<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/feb/25/facts-muddled-in-new-hampshire-debate-over-destroy/>

GUN-CONTROL EXEC SAYS ATTEMPTS TO SELL GUNS TO MINORITIES, WOMEN ‘INCREDIBLY DANGEROUS’ - Igor Volsky, executive director of gun-control activist group Guns Down America, said in a tweet. Volsky, who is also a former vice president of the Center for American Progress, was commenting on a New York Times story about firearms marketing. "That's right," Volsky continued. "Gun makers are increasingly advertising to WOMEN, CHILDREN & MINORITY COMMUNITIES. Firearm industry realizes that to survive into the future it must ‘broaden its reach beyond the aging white men who have been its core customers’—and so they're now trying to sell their products to other demographics. This is incredibly dangerous." The comments caused a backlash among female and minority gun-rights advocates who said Volsky's rhetoric harks back to the racist history of gun control in America. Maj Toure, head of the Black Guns Matter Tour that provides firearms training to African Americans in urban areas, told the Washington Free Beacon Volsky was "uninformed" about past attempts to deny black Americans their Second Amendment rights. Stephen Gutowski - February 25, 2020 <https://freebeacon.com/issues/gun-control-exec-says-attempts-to-sell-guns-to-minorities-women-incredibly-dangerous/>

RED FLAG LAW COULD HAVE SOCIAL WORKERS, COUNSELORS GUNNING FOR ALASKANS’ GUNS

Under HB 62, professionals in the helping fields would be required to report to a central state registry all credible gun threats made by Alaskans, even if that information is not corroborated. It’s called a “red flag” law and it gives select professions remarkable power over citizens’ right to own firearms because, although the registry is supposed to be confidential, these professionals will be developing lists of people they think pose a danger and who own guns. By Suzanne Downing - February 25, 2020 <https://mustreadalaska.com/red-flag-law-could-have-social-workers-counselors-gunning-for-alaskans-guns/>

SEVEN FALLACIES FROM THE LEFT ABOUT GUN CONTROL & GUN OWNERSHIP

Ammoland Inc. Posted on February 24, 2020 by Don McDougall

<https://www.ammoland.com/2020/02/seven-fallacies-from-the-left-about-gun-control-gun-ownership/#axzz6FNAleVVw>

Lie Number 1: The whole Nation is calling for gun control.

Lie Number 2: We need gun control to keep children safe.

Lie Number 3: The U.S. is the leader in mass shootings.

Lie Number 4: Having a gun around increases your chance of being shot.

Lie Number 5: The NRA buys politicians to oppose gun safety laws.

Lie Number 6: There are not that many gun owners in the U.S.

Lie Number 7: We only want “weapons of war” off the streets.

WHAT IF? What if one of the anti-gun politicians now hoping to be president wins and gets their way? We don't have to wonder what they want, as they've been publishing their wish lists of restrictions and bans on your Second Amendment freedoms. All we have to do is take them at their word as we step forward with a Dickensian gaze at our horrifyingly possible gun-control future. What these politicians are basically targeting are virtually all popular semi-automatic rifles, and many semi-automatic shotguns and pistols. By Frank Minitier, Editor in Chief, America's First Freedom - Monday, February 24, 2020 <https://www.americas1stfreedom.org/articles/2020/2/24/what-if/>
<https://www.nraila.org/articles/20200224/attention-virginians-the-fight-against-bloomberg-backed-gun-control-isn-t-over>

THE 10 BEST HANDGUN HUNTING CARTRIDGES AND LOADS

How to pick the right load for hunting just about everything with a handgun

By Richard Mann - February 24, 2020 <https://www.fieldandstream.com/story/guns/best-handgun-hunting-cartridges-ever/>

UTAH LAWMAKERS SHOOT DOWN SLEW OF GUN BILLS

All three bills — one to enact universal background checks, one to criminalize irresponsible storage of guns, and one to create liability for people who give or sell their firearms to someone who later uses it to harm someone — were either rejected or held in two separate House committees on Monday. By Katie McKellar - Feb 24, 2020

<https://www.deseret.com/utah/2020/2/24/21151661/gun-laws-utah-new-laws-legislature-red-flag-suicide>

'PRIMITIVE BIATHLON' TESTS MUZZLE-LOADING AND SNOWSHOEING SKILLS

Contestants trekked a 1.5-mile forested trail on traditional wood-framed snowshoes, many donning the traditional garb of French explorers — and instead of using modern rifles, they fired black powder muskets or rifles known for their loud booms and clouds of smoke. Held at the Pemi Valley Fish & Game Club, the course included four shooting stations. At the first three stations, competitors took two shots at hanging steel targets 6 inches square at a distance of between 40 and 45 feet. At the last station, they were allowed to take three shots. By Bea Lewis Union Leader Correspondent Feb 22, 2020 https://www.unionleader.com/news/human_interest/primitive-biathlon-tests-muzzle-loading-and-snowshoeing-skills/article_92210494-0527-5b41-a9a2-04ef490103e2.html

NZ - THERE'S NO JUSTIFICATION FOR POLICE HAVING GUNS AFTER MARCH 15, 2020

In this letter to Canterbury District Commander John Price, I recalled the prevalence of guns in my American childhood and argued that, despite the low-level shootout that had triggered the temporary arming of Christchurch cops, we should be wary of the small steps that normalise the use of firearms. Then the March 15th massacre happened. Guns were instantly everywhere. Armed cops from all over the country came to Christchurch in the police's remarkable response. Guns were visible outside of shopping malls, throughout the central city and hospital area, and Al-Noor and Linwood mosques. By Lana Hart - Feb 24 2020 <https://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/opinion/119712342/no-justification-for-police-guns-after-march-15th>

CAN SENSELESS GUN REGULATIONS BE CONSTITUTIONAL?

Under New York's rules, licensed pistol and revolver owners were not allowed to leave home with their handguns unless they were traveling to or from a shooting range. By Jacob Sullum, REASON - From the March 2020 issue - <https://reason.com/2020/02/22/can-senseless-gun-regulations-be-constitutional-2/>

BERNIE SANDERS' COMPLICATED RECORD ON GUNS

- In 1993, Sanders voted against the Brady Bill, a law that imposed a five-day waiting period.
- In 2004, he voted for an assault weapon ban, and in 2005, for a bill that protected gun makers from lawsuits.
- Since at least 2013, Sanders has consistently voted for stricter gun control laws.

By Jon Greenberg was published by PolitiFact on Feb. 10.

<https://www.politifact.com/article/2020/feb/10/bernie-sanders-complicated-record-guns/>

VTD Editor - Feb 23 2020 <https://vtdigger.org/2020/02/23/bernie-sanders-complicated-record-on-guns/>

OTHER ARTICLES ON ISSUES THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST

CORONAVIRUS FATALITY RATES VARY WILDLY DEPENDING ON AGE, GENDER AND MEDICAL HISTORY — SOME PATIENTS FARE MUCH WORSE THAN OTHERS

A new paper published in JAMA reviews a China-based sample of 72,000 COVID-19 cases, which suggests dramatic variations in the death rate of the illness. The sample's overall case-fatality rate was 2.3%, higher than World Health Organization official 0.7% rate. No deaths occurred in those aged 9 years and younger, but cases in those aged 70 to 79 years had an 8% fatality rate and those aged 80 years and older had a fatality rate of 14.8%. By QUENTIN FOTTRELL, PERSONAL FINANCE EDITOR, MARKET WATCH Published: Feb 27, 2020

<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/coronavirus-fatality-rates-vary-wildly-depending-on-age-gender-and-medical-history-some-patients-fare-much-worse-than-others-2020-02-26>

KNIGHT: POLICE PLAY WHACK-A-MOLE WITH RADICAL PROTESTERS

No group has any right to ignore the law or to take it into their own hands especially for their own political purposes.

By Leo Knight, TRUE NORTH - February 26, 2020 <https://tnc.news/2020/02/26/knight-police-play-whack-a-mole-with-radical-protesters/>

WATCH: THE ANDREW LAWTON SHOW: CANADA IS CLOSED FOR BUSINESS

Teck's abandonment of its Frontier mining project reveals how a lack of leadership has made Canada so difficult to invest in. By Andrew Lawton, TRUE NORTH - February 25, 2020 <https://tnc.news/2020/02/25/the-andrew-lawton-show-canada-is-closed-for-business/>

PROTECTING PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

Cheryl Gallant, M.P. for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke tables a Private Members Bill to protect your property rights. By setting out exceptions in the Expropriation Act, Bill C-222 seeks to remove some uncertainty from the existing legislation as to whether owners must be compensated for certain types of de facto takings. By Cheryl Gallant - Feb 25, 2020

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agFSV6yb_al

Support Bill C-222 to Protect Private Property Rights <https://cheryl.gallant.cmail20.com/t/t-l-ndjldiy-ydtulhal-d/>

JONATHAN KAY: CANADA'S CULTURAL ELITES HAVE SEEN THE ENEMY — AND IT IS CANADIANS

The idea that Indigenous political agitation would lead to Canada's break-up is not new. The shocking thing now is that the main threat doesn't actually come from Indigenous peoples. By Jonathan Kay, National Post - February 25, 2020

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/jonathan-kay-canadas-cultural-elites-have-seen-the-enemy-and-it-is-canadians>

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Cheryl Gallant, M.P. for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke tables a Private Members Bill to protect your property rights. By setting out exceptions in the Expropriation Act, Bill C-222 seeks to remove some uncertainty from the existing legislation as to whether owners must be compensated for certain types of de facto takings. By Cheryl Gallant - Feb 25, 2020

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TERENCE CORCORAN: THE BLOCKADES ARE A CLASH OVER SOCIALISM, NOT INDIGENOUS RIGHTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE - Barricades are a tool that appear to be succeeding in Canada, used to promote a radical remake of Canadian society. By Terence Corcoran, Financial Post - February 25, 2020
<https://business.financialpost.com/opinion/terence-corcoran-the-blockades-are-a-clash-over-socialism-not-indigenous-rights-and-climate-change>

GUNTER: TECK FRONTIER CANCELLATION ENTIRELY TRUDEAU'S FAULT

If you want to know Canada's energy and environmental policy, go ask the eco-radicals funded by U.S. billionaires because they're the ones making the decisions now. Don't ask a federal Liberal MP or cabinet minister what Canada's First Nations policies are. Don't even ask the majority of Indigenous Canadians who want to improve their communities by participating in projects such as Teck Frontier and Coastal GasLink. Go ask the unelected, unaccountable radicals at the blockades, because they're in charge now. By Lorne Gunter, Edmonton Sun - February 24, 2020
<https://edmontonsun.com/news/national/gunter-teck-frontier-cancellation-entirely-trudeaus-fault>

CAN WE BUILD ANYTHING IN CANADA?

Justin Trudeau is convinced that if only he can speak to these protesters and have a dialogue then everything will be fine. Here is news for you Justin, they don't want a dialogue. Their mission is in their hashtag. They want to shut Canada down. Unfortunately, he is letting them win and now another Canadian company is walking away. By Brian Lilley - February 24, 2020 <http://brianlilley.com/can-we-build-anything-in-canada/>

DEMAND PROTEST - WE ASSEMBLE MOVEMENTS

From grassroots organizations to advocacy groups, we seed the narratives and gather the audience you desire. When your strategy demands paid protest, we organize and bring it to life. We are strategists mobilizing millennials across the globe with seeded audiences and desirable messages. With absolute discretion a top priority, our operatives create convincing scenes that become the building blocks of massive movements. When you need the appearance of outrage, we are able to deliver it at scale while keeping your reputation intact. <https://www.demandprotest.com/>

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FOUL PLAY SUSPECTED AS THIRD TRAIN DERAILS IN A MONTH AFTER FAR-LEFT CALL FOR SABOTAGE - The incident occurred in Sainte-Marie-Salomé in Canada's French-speaking province of Quebec earlier this week and saw two train cars derailed, with an unnamed source claiming that something had purposely been put on the tracks to derail the train, CTV reports. CN, Canada's largest rail company, refused to confirm or deny whether they suspected the derailment may have been an intentional act of sabotage but CN senior manager of public affairs Olivier Quenneville did confirm no one had been injured in the incident and no hazardous materials were involved. BY Chris Tomlinson - 21 Feb 2020 <https://www.breitbart.com/europe/2020/02/21/foul-play-suspected-third-train-derails-month-far-left-call-sabotage/>

AUSTRALIA SAYS CLIMATE CHANGE TARGETS CAN'T RISK ECONOMY, JOBS

(Bloomberg) — Australia's government will work to set new long-term plans on reducing greenhouse gas emissions ahead of a key global summit this year, though signaled it won't pursue policies that pose risks to jobs or growth.

Bloomberg News by David Stringer February 22, 2020 <https://business.financialpost.com/pmn/business-pmn/australia-says-climate-change-targets-cant-risk-economy-jobs>

DIANE FRANCIS: A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DERELICT IN ITS DUTIES

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau still appears to have no grasp of what's happened, much less how it should be resolved.

By Diane Francis, Financial Post - February 22, 2020 <https://business.financialpost.com/opinion/diane-francis-a-federal-government-derelict-in-its-duties>

SNC LAVALIN – THE FORGOTTEN SCANDAL

The SNC Lavalin saga finally came to an end on December 18, 2019 with the company pleading guilty to a fraud charge and receiving a whopping \$280,000,000 fine. The guilty plea brought to a conclusion charges filed against the company by the RCMP and the Public Prosecution of Canada in 2015. Interestingly, the result the company obtained was basically the same as the deferred prosecution agreement would have yielded – the now infamous deferred prosecution agreement (DPA) that the company lobbied so hard to obtain. However, the finalization of the SNC Lavalin charges does not absolve the Prime Minister or his senior colleagues of responsibility in the matter. RCMP spokespeople promised last September to relaunch their investigation into the Prime Minister's role in the Wilson-Raybould/SNC Lavalin affair after the October 2019 election. There is no word yet that they have done so.

By Brian Giesbrecht, Frontier Centre for Public Policy - February 20, 2020 <https://fcpp.org/2020/02/20/snc-lavalin-the-forgotten-scandal/>

RUSSIA'S NEW ARCTIC PROJECT WILL BE BIGGEST IN GLOBAL OIL – ROSNEFT

The project will require over \$150 billion in investments and will create 100,000 new jobs, Sechin told Putin.

By The Barents Observer - Feb. 14, 2020 <https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/02/14/russias-new-arctic-project-will-be-biggest-in-global-oil-rosneft-a69294>

RUSSIA PLANNING BIGGEST OIL PROJECT IN HISTORY OF WORLD - \$155 BILLION INVESTMENT, 15 NEW TOWNS, AIRPORTS, PORTS, 100K JOBS - The development of Vostok Oil is to include 100,000 new jobs, 15 new industry towns, 800 km of pipeline and total investments of more than €144 billion.

By Atle Staalesen Fri, Feb 14, 2020 <https://russia-insider.com/en/russia-planning-biggest-oil-project-history-world-155-billion-investment-15-new-towns-airports-ports>

WSJ - IF YOU WANT 'RENEWABLE ENERGY,' GET READY TO DIG

Building one wind turbine requires 900 tons of steel, 2,500 tons of concrete and 45 tons of plastic.

By Mark P. Mills, The Wall Street Journal August 6, 2019. Mark P. Mills is a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, a faculty fellow at Northwestern University's McCormick School of Engineering, and author of the recent report, "The 'New Energy Economy': An Exercise in Magical Thinking."

<https://www.manhattan-institute.org/if-you-want-renewable-energy-get-ready-to-dig>

This piece originally appeared at The Wall Street Journal (paywall) <https://www.wsj.com/articles/if-you-want-renewable-energy-get-ready-to-dig-11565045328>

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Issues related to organized violence and instability.

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TRUE NORTH

The True North Initiative is an independent, non-profit research and educational organization dedicated to advancing sound immigration and security policies. True North is a platform for a robust discussion on immigration, security and Canada's role in the world. <https://www.truenorthinitiative.com/home>

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The Climate Discussion Nexus is a group of concerned Canadians who believe more information about climate science and policy debates will lead to better decisions. <https://climatediscussionnexus.com/>