



**THIS WEEKS POSTINGS TO THE CANADIAN FIREARMS DIGEST
National and International Gun Control News for the week ending March 6, 2020**

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

POSTS FROM CANADA

WINNIEPG: SOME GUNS SEIZED IN CITY HAVE INTERNATIONAL ORIGINS

Last year, 788 guns were seized by Winnipeg police in the course of criminal investigations. In 2018, 778 guns were confiscated, up from 724 the year prior. A police spokesman said he could not provide statistics on the geographic origins of guns seized last year, or even how many entered the country from abroad, citing potential impacts to ongoing prosecutions. “We’re seeing guns coming all over from the west and the east, interestingly enough, right around the Connecticut area on the eastern seaboard, quite a number of guns have found their way up into our country from that area, and we don’t know why that is.” — Winnipeg Police Chief Danny Smyth

By Danielle Da Silva, Winnipeg Free Press - Posted: 03/6/2020 <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/some-guns-seized-in-city-have-international-origins-568572822.html>

MANITOBA REJECTS HANDGUN BAN: ‘WON’T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE WHATSOEVER’

Manitoba officially refuses to ban handguns, joining Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Alberta in the refusal. According to Manitoba’s Attorney General, as well as their Minister of Justice, the proposition of a handgun ban will be completely rejected, as the province prioritizes “law-abiding licensed firearms owners” over the “small number of gun-related crimes

By Roberto Wakerell-Cruz, The Post Millennial - March 7, 2020 <https://www.thepostmillennial.com/manitoba-rejects-handgun-ban-wont-make-any-difference-whatsoever/>

BUSINESS IS BOOMING AS CANADA'S LARGEST ARMS FAIR COMES TO OTTAWA

The business of war is coming to Ottawa on May 27-28. CANSEC, North America's largest arms fair, will bring together arms manufacturers, cabinet ministers, government officials, soldiers and delegates from 55 countries. The 300 exhibitors include transnational corporations that manufacture warships, combat vehicles, fighter jets, bombs, bullets and guided missiles.

By Brent Patterson - March 6, 2020 <https://rabble.ca/blogs/bloggers/brent-patterson/2020/03/business-booming-canadas-largest-arms-fair-comes-ottawa>

LETTER TO THE EDITOR, RE: GUN CONTROL

This topic should be high on the priority list for the new Federal Government to deal with in a rational meaningful and substantive manner. Stiffer gun regulations won’t help cur gun violence, substantially more time in prison will.

By Barry Combs, MBA DBA PI Ret’d RBC - Souris Plaindealer - March 6, 2020

<https://www.sourisplaindealer.ca/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-re-gun-control-1.24091379>

MANITOBA WON’T WORK WITH FEDS ON HANDGUN BAN

The Manitoba government says they want nothing to do with Liberal efforts to allow cities to control firearms. In a letter dated February 28, Cliff Cullen, Manitoba’s attorney general and justice minister, wrote: “...we will be informing the Federal government that allowing municipalities to regulate or to ban firearms is not appropriate. By Dave Naylor,

Western Standard - March 6, 2020 <https://www.westernstandardonline.com/2020/03/manitoba-wont-work-with-feds-on-handgun-ban/>

DO MUNICIPALITIES ACTUALLY WANT THE POWER TO BAN HANDGUNS?

Since the turn of the new year, iPolitics has touched base with dozens of mayors — the leaders of major cities across the country, and a wide swath of Ontario municipalities with populations of at least 50,000 — to discuss the federal Liberals' flagship campaign pledge. Their responses reveal a level of distrust in the plan's effectiveness, as well as frustration and concerns with the gun control file being passed down to the most local level. Though some mayors who spoke to iPolitics enthusiastically backed Trudeau's plan, some are still pushing for a national or provincial ban instead. And many say they either haven't discussed the issue at all or firmly believe that bans aren't the answer. Overall, iPolitics found full-throated support for the Liberals' marquee campaign promise was scarce. By Victoria Gibson, iPolitics - Published on Mar 5, 2020 <https://ipolitics.ca/2020/03/05/do-municipalities-actually-want-the-power-to-ban-handguns/>

GROOM, GROOMSMEN FIGHT OFF SHOOTER AT HUDSONS CANADA'S PUB IN SASKATOON

Neudorf rushed the shooter, grappling to gain control of the gun. He didn't know whether the attacker still had his finger on the trigger. His groomsman, Jesse Heit, recalls Neuford pinning the gunman against the door of the women's washroom. "Their actions were commendable and their actions may have prevented something seriously worse," Insp. Cam McBride said. Police call the choices of the Neudorf and his groomsman "quick and heroic," though Neudorf insists it was a team effort. By Ryan Kessler Global News - Updated March 5, 2020

<https://globalnews.ca/news/6632561/shooter-hudsons-bar-saskatoon/>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/multiple-firearms-charges-hudsons-1.5486808>

ST-LAURENT BOROUGH CALLS FOR HANDGUN BAN, BUY-BACK PROGRAM AFTER RECENT

SHOOTINGS - A resolution to that effect was passed at the borough council meeting on Tuesday, and also stressed its desire to maintain this jurisdiction at the federal level "since cities do not have the power to control people entering or leaving borough territory with weapons." In the resolution, the borough also called on the City of Montreal and the Montreal Metropolitan Community to establish a voluntary firearms buy-back program on their territory, pointing to a similar program adopted in Toronto in 2019 that has recovered some 3,100 firearms at a cost of \$750,000.

By Amy Luft, Digital reporter, CTV NEWS - Published Thursday, March 5, 2020 <https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/st-laurent-borough-calls-for-handgun-ban-buy-back-program-after-recent-shootings-1.4839843>

PETER KHILL'S SELF-DEFENCE ACQUITTAL REVERSED – NEW TRIAL ORDERED

"How interesting it always is to cover a criminal trial and to actually be there and thus get the feel of the thing, only to be sternly corrected after the verdict is in by those who never set foot in the courtroom. "So it is now, in the aftermath of the not guilty verdict in the Peter Khill trial in Hamilton, Ont." Christie Blatchford, Race was not a factor in the Peter Khill verdict. On February 26, 2020, the Court of Appeal for Ontario reversed Peter Khill's acquittal in the death of Jonathan Styres. Peter Khill must now face the ordeal of another lengthy courtroom trial. This is both sad and distressing. It's probably also unavoidable in a time where those who don't know any of the facts stridently insist all court decisions must be rendered based on the race of the victim, not the victim's actions that directly resulted in their untimely death.

Published March 5, 2020 by Christopher di Armani <https://christopherdiarmani.com/14309/human-rights/self-defense-liberty/peter-khills-self-defence-acquittal-reversed-new-trial-ordered/>

PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA HAS NO RECORDS TO SUPPORT MINISTER BLAIR'S STATEMENT ON GUN

BUY-BACK PLAN - Department unable to provide the places the Minister visited and the number of gun owners he talked to. Public Safety Canada's response to Access to Information Act request File: A-2019-00322 dated March 2, 2020 - By Dennis R. Young – March 4, 2020 <https://dennisryoung.ca/2020/03/04/no-records-to-support-minister-blairs-statement-on-gun-buy-back-plan/>

OTTAWA POLICE OPPOSES MASS GUN CONFISCATIONS SOUGHT BY LIBERALS

TheGunBlog.ca — The Ottawa Police Service opposes the mass gun confiscations planned by Canada's governing Liberal Party against federally licensed firearm owners, joining a growing national police movement against the crackdown. THEGUNBLOG.CA - MARCH 4, 2020 <https://thegunblog.ca/2020/03/04/ottawa-police-opposes-mass-gun-confiscations-sought-by-liberals/>

CBC - 'THIS GUN'S NOT GETTING POINTED AT ANYONE'S FACE': BYSTANDERS HELP DISARM SUSPECT AT SASKATOON PUB

- Jesse Heit and friends confront man who walked into downtown watering hole with rifle. By Dan Zakreski · CBC News · Posted: Mar 04, 2020 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/saskatoon-man-fires-gun-business-1.5484889>

TAKE HEED: DOES GUN REGULATION END VIOLENCE?

Ever since the first national gun control was passed in 1934, gun control is still a law unknown to many and hard to understand. In this article, we will explain gun banning and its fundamental understanding as to why there is ban on guns, and how we know if this is beneficial to Montreal. Is it better to regulate guns and impose more restrictions? Or is it better to ban them ultimately? MTL TIMES On March 4, 2020 / In Opinion <https://mtltimes.ca/Montreal/social-life/opinion/take-heed-does-gun-regulation-end-violence/>

LIBERAL'S SUICIDE PREVENTION PLAN SHOULDN'T FOCUS ONLY ON GUNS

If saving lives is the government's objective, they can't ignore the leading methods victims use to commit suicide. Hanging=53% Poisoning=18% Shooting=14% Other=15% - By Dennis R. Young – March 3, 2020 <https://dennisryoung.ca/2020/03/03/liberals-suicide-prevention-plan-shouldnt-focus-only-on-guns/>

LILLEY: FEDS CAN'T CONTROL THEIR OWN GUNS, BUT WANT TO CONTROL YOURS

An audit of firearms under the control of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, which includes the Coast Guard, found record keeping and safe storage were lax at times. By Brian Lilley, Toronto Sun - March 3, 2020 <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/lilley-feds-cant-control-their-own-guns-but-want-to-control-yours>

EXCERPT: So 60 guns were supposedly disposed of but no records exist of when or how? Again, that would not be acceptable for civilians — it can't be acceptable for a government department. The simple fact is, these 60 government guns could have been diverted into the black market and be on our streets now — something the audit alludes to.

NEW MANITOBA-MADE WEAPON A POSSIBLE TARGET FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BAN

By: Julia-Simone Rutgers, Winnipeg Free Press - Posted: 03/4/2020 <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/manitoba-company-selling-semi-automatic-rifle-568472902.html>

EDITORIAL: BUSINESS BOOMS AS GUN PLEDGE LANGUISHES

All parties would do well to heed the advice of Canada's police chiefs, who are well acquainted with crime and guns. Since 1977, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police has been urging politicians to classify semi-automatic assault rifles as restricted weapons. A resolution from the police chiefs says, "Semi-automatic firearms have no sporting use either in the cultural or recreational sense" and are "basically designed as an instrument of war." There are countries on Earth so dangerous that citizens feel the need to arm themselves with instruments of war. Canada is not one of those countries. Winnipeg Free Press Editorial | Posted: 03/3/2020 Comments: 19 <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/opinion/editorials/business-booms-as-gun-pledge-languishes-568456842.html>

FEDERAL POLITICIAN TAKES THE GUN LICENCE COURSE

MP for Langley-Aldergrove in British Columbia, Tako Van Popta was challenged by constituents to learn the facts of gun ownership in Canada. Van Popta says he had never held a firearm before taking the required course (and other processes) to obtain a “possession and acquisition licence” (PAL) for firearms. This also includes paying fees of course, along with written spousal approval and other references, police background check, and daily scrutiny. Interestingly, legal gun owners are the only segment of society subject to daily police checks. By Marc Montgomery, Radio Canada International - Tuesday, March 3, 2020 <https://www.rcinet.ca/en/2020/03/03/federal-politician-takes-the-gun-licence-course/>

CSSA COMMENTARY: "THE HUNT" - HOLLYWOOD'S IDEA OF SATIRE?

The Hunt’s 2019 release date was cancelled two days after mass shootings in Dayton, Ohio and another in El Paso, Texas, in early August. It’s bad form to release a movie about hunting humans so soon after a couple of whack jobs did so in real life. The only people who appear upset about The Hunt are the so-called ‘deplorables’ Hollywood elites believe should be killed. TEAM CSSA E-NEWS | MARCH 3, 2020 <https://t.co/vSBHDHnFpE>

ALBERTA LEADS RESISTANCE TO FEDERAL FIREARM PLANS

The Alberta government further complicated things with a recent motion that read, “Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly recognize and support the ability of Albertans to lawfully and in a responsible manner own and possess firearms and to engage in permitted activities involving the use of firearms, including but not limited to hunting and sport shooting.” Although not an actual law, the motion accomplishes several things. First, it adds to the province’s growing list of grievances with the federal government, while letting Albertans know they have a gun-friendly government. The motion also puts local governments on notice that the province will not help them enforce local gun bans (there’s also now some question as to whether local bans will require provincial blessing to take effect). By T.J. Schwanky, Outdoor Canada - March 3, 2020. <https://www.outdoorcanada.ca/alberta-leads-resistance-to-federal-firearm-plans/>

MINISTER BYRNE RESPONDS TO ALLEGATIONS OVER 2017 HUNTING FIREARM VIOLATION

The Minister of Fisheries and Land Resources is responding to allegations he ran afoul of his own department in connection with a firearms incident two years ago. Gerry Byrne says regulations require a plug to be used to prevent what is usually a five-round shotgun from firing any more than three rounds. Byrne says during a standard hunter check while he was out in the woods, it was found that the pin was not in place on his firearm and he was ticketed VOCM - March 03, 2020 <https://vocm.com/2020/03/03/byrne-hunting-firearm-ticket/>

REMEMBERING MAYERTHORPE RCMP’S FALLEN FOUR

On March 3, 2005, a violent man with a long criminal history and a lifetime firearms prohibition order against him used an illegal gun to murder four RCMP constables in Mayerthorpe, Alberta. Anthony Fitzgerald Orion Gordon, Lionide Nicholas Johnston, Brock Warren Myrol, Peter Christopher Schiemann. Published March 2, 2020 by Christopher di Armani <https://christopherdiarmani.com/13571/police/officer-down/remembering-mayerthorpe-rcmps-fallen-four/>

EXCERPT: FIREARM PROHIBITION ORDER FAILURE

The Mayerthorpe Fallen Four aren’t dead because they ignored RCMP policy or procedure. They’re dead because our government refuses to track dangerous violent offenders with Firearm Prohibition Orders. Roszko maintained a large marijuana grow-op inside the Quonset and the trailer. He also ran a “chop shop” for stolen vehicles in it. These were both long-running criminal enterprises police were totally unaware of. Had legislation existed at the time allowing police to check on dangerous offender like James Roszko, these four RCMP members would probably still be alive today. We cannot continue to ignore the most violent offenders in our nation. This is a public safety threat no political party or government is willing to address.

PROACTIVE POLICING, NOT GUN BUYBACKS OR CCTV CAMERAS: OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE

The Ottawa Police Service would rather invest in proactive policing and work with communities than fund a gun buyback or CCTV cameras, according to its response to a gun ban motion from city council. By Shaamini Yogaretnam, Ottawa Citizen - Updated: March 2, 2020 <https://ottawacitizen.com/news/local-news/proactive-policing-not-gun-buybacks-or-cctv-cameras-ops>

DESMOND INQUIRY IN NOVA SCOTIA HEARING MORE DETAILS ABOUT FIREARMS LICENSING

The inquiry has heard that just over a year earlier, Desmond was forced to hand over all of his firearms to police after he indicated to his wife he was preparing to kill himself in New Brunswick in November 2015. However, the former corporal — diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder in 2011 — managed to have his firearms returned and his licence reinstated in May 2016 after a doctor in New Brunswick filled out a brief medical assessment that confirmed Desmond was not a threat to himself or others. By The Canadian Press - Mon., March 2, 2020 <https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2020/03/02/desmond-inquiry-in-nova-scotia-hearing-more-details-about-firearms-licensing.html> <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/desmond-day-17-1.5482045>

U.S. SUPREME COURT REJECTS CHALLENGE TO TRUMP’S BAN ON GUN ‘BUMP STOCKS’

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday rebuffed a bid by gun rights advocates to overturn President Donald Trump’s ban on “bump stocks” – devices that enable semi-automatic weapons to fire rapidly like a machine gun – implemented after the 2017 Las Vegas mass shooting. The justices left in place a lower court’s decision that upheld the Trump administration’s action to define bump stocks as prohibited machine guns under U.S. law even as litigation over the policy continues. By Andrew Chung, WASHINGTON Reuters - Published March 2, 2020 in the Globe and Mail <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/world/article-us-supreme-court-rejects-challenge-to-trumps-ban-on-gun-bump/>

KEY PLAYER IN CORNWALL HANDGUN SHIPMENT PLEADS GUILTY

Harris Poyser, 59, of Scarborough pled last week to six charges, including instructing the commission of an offence for the benefit of a criminal organization, importing firearms and possession of firearms for the purpose of trafficking, according to the Toronto Star. Police seized 60 handguns from the trunk of a car during a traffic stop on McConnell Avenue on May 23, 2018. Fifty-nine of the guns were 9 mm semi-automatics and the other one was a .40-caliber semi-automatic. March 2, 2020 Editor Cornwall Newswatch <https://www.cornwallnewswatch.com/2020/03/02/key-player-in-cornwall-handgun-shipment-pleads-guilty/> <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>

AS OTTAWA IRONS OUT DETAILS OF ITS PROPOSED ASSAULT-RIFLE BAN, NEW WEAPONS ARE COMING TO MARKET

Wolverine Supplies, one of Canada’s largest independent gun retailers, celebrated Valentine’s Day with a risky product announcement. After a year of research and development, the Manitoba-based gun shop sent an e-mail to customers unveiling its latest innovation, the WS-MCR, a semi-automatic rifle with a pistol grip, AR-15-type magazine and free-floating hand guard. It is virtually identical to another rifle developed by Wolverine’s founder and in-house designer, John Hipwell, that became one of the best-selling guns in the country. The WS-MCR should be destined for similar fortunes, but for one Howitzer-sized caveat: It is precisely the kind of gun that the Liberal government promised to ban during last fall’s election campaign. Mr. Hipwell is undeterred. By Patrick White, Globe and Mail - March 2, 2020 <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-as-ottawa-irons-out-details-of-its-proposed-assault-rifle-ban-new/>

LUMSDEN MAN HOPES RULE CHANGES CAN IMPROVE HUNTING ACCESSIBILITY IN

SASKATCHEWAN - He recently noticed some American friends posting on social media about hunting with rugged, all-terrain tracked wheelchairs and was immediately struck by the new level of freedom the chairs could grant him. There's only one problem, however. Tracked motorized wheelchairs are considered ATVs in Saskatchewan. Wildlife regulations state that one cannot carry firearms on an ATV in southern wildlife management zones during big game open season. By Connor O'Donovan Global News - Posted March 2, 2020

<https://globalnews.ca/news/6618553/lumsden-rule-changes-hunting-accessibility-saskatchewan-bobbie-cherepuschak/>

MAN, 33, FACES SMUGGLING CHARGES AFTER BORDER OFFICIALS SEIZE GUN SILENCERS

An Ilderton man is facing weapons and smuggling charges after an investigation that began in a Toronto mail sorting centre earlier in February. A look inside a package at the centre revealed two firearm suppressors, or silencers, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) said. The prohibited devices were seized, and on Feb. 20, police searched an Ilderton home, the CBSA said. Officers seized six long guns, four hand guns, three silencers, a full auto selector switch – which turns a weapon fully automatic – and ammunition, the CBSA said. Free Press staff Updated: February 29, 2020

<https://fpress.com/news/local-news/man-33-faces-smuggling-charges-after-border-officials-seize-gun-silencers>

LETTER TO THE EDITOR - GUN CONTROL

By Barry Combs, MBA DBA PI Ret'd RBC - Deloraine Times and Star - February 28, 2020

<https://www.delorainetimes.ca/news/letter-to-the-editor-gun-control-1.24086844>

EXCERPT: This topic should be high on the priority list for the new Federal Government to deal with in a rational meaningful and substantive manner. Stiffer gun regulations won't help cur gun violence, substantially more time in prison will. The topic is probably misnamed as it should read: People Control. There is an old saying: "Guns don't kill, people do." Prohibition didn't stop alcohol, gun control won't stop guns. Target shooting, collecting, hunting and self defence are all legitimate purposes fore owning a firearm. There's still murder in countries where handguns are banned. For example – The United Kingdom.

LIBERAL END GAME: ELIMINATION OF CANADIAN GUN OWNERS

Liberals want to ban "assault-style weapons." They want to ban "weapons designed to kill the most people in the shortest amount of time possible." Neither of these terms can be defined. What distinguishes these firearms from any other firearm available to Canadians today? It seems silly, right? The only difference I can tell is they look sporty. We will still have access to guns that are capable of firing the same ammunition at the same rate of fire as the ones that have been banned for now. The be all end all is not banning just a few guns determined to be "assault-style." Trust me. The ultimate aim is to create a legal apparatus that can be easily expanded upon, turning law-abiding Canadians into criminals at the swipe of a pen. A "Trojan Horse" that gives the government the power to disarm Canadians gradually. Written By Rob Boutilier, The National Telegraph - February 26, 2020 <https://thenationaltelegraph.com/the-patriotic-corner/liberal-end-game-elimination-of-canadian-gun-owners>

TYSON MALLET: JUDGE DELIVERS SECOND CHANCE ON GUN CHARGES

After police caught Tyson Mallett with an illegal rifle and no firearm licence, he escaped jail time entirely and must only pay a \$500 fine. Tyson Mallett is one lucky man. Published February 25, 2020 by Christopher di Armani

https://christopherdiarmani.com/14267/guns/tyson-mallett-judge-delivers-second-chance-on-gun-charges/?utm_campaign=twitter&utm_medium=twitter&utm_source=twitter

UPDATE 2020-02-26 11am: New information about retaining possession of gun added to end of column.

SHELDON CLARE INTERVIEWED ON THE CBC SHOW AS IT HAPPENS

Canada's National Firearms Association - YouTube - March 17, 2015

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

POSTS FROM THE UNITED STATES & OTHER COUNTRIES

WITH DEMOCRATS IN CHARGE AND PUSHING GUN CONTROL IN VIRGINIA, FIREARM PURCHASES SOAR BY 63% - “Nearly 66,000 background checks were performed in Virginia in February as the state’s Democratic-controlled legislature weighs a number of strict background checks — a steep increase from the 40,381 checks performed in February 2019,” The Washington Free Beacon reported. “Virginia experienced one of the most dramatic upticks in background checks — a strong indicator of total sales — in the nation, according to data released by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF).” By Carlos Christian - March 6, 2020

<https://theunionjournal.com/with-democrats-in-charge-and-pushing-gun-control-in-virginia-firearm-purchases-soar-by-63/>

GUN-OWNING FEMINIST SLAMS 2020 DEMOCRATS: THE SECOND AMENDMENT 'EMPOWERS'

WOMEN - Gun rights activist Antonia Okafor Cover said Friday on "Fox & Friends" that Democrats have the wrong idea about the meaning of feminism, arguing for why gun ownership is empowering and not something to be restricted or criticized. She said that feminist icon Susan B. Anthony called for women to practice self-defense, noting that the feminist movement's "origin" is actually about rights such as those enshrined in the Second Amendment. By Charles Creitz, Fox News March 6, 2020 <https://www.foxnews.com/media/self-described-gun-owning-feminist-slams-2020-democrats-the-second-amendment-empowers-women>

THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION MOVES TOWARD GUN CONTROL

The ABA’s mission is, “To serve equally our members, our profession and the public by defending liberty and delivering justice as the national representative of the legal profession.” Despite that, the association passed resolutions on so-called “ghost guns,” firearm permits and mandatory firearm storage requirements. Take another read of that mission statement, especially the part about defending liberty. It’s curious that there’s no mention of publicly advocating for the erosion of Constitutional rights. Yet, this is exactly what they’re doing. By Larry Keane, Daily Caller - March 6, 2020

Larry Keane is Senior Vice President of Government and Public Affairs and General Counsel for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the firearms industry trade association. <https://dailycaller.com/2020/03/06/the-american-bar-association-moves-towards-gun-control/>

NZ GUN REFORMS: GOVERNMENT SPLIT OVER SECOND PHASE OF LEGISLATION

The government remains divided over the second tranche of gun reforms and New Zealand First leader Winston Peters cannot say when an agreement might be reached. That means any hope Labour had of passing legislation in time for the 15 March anniversary of the Christchurch mosque shootings is now lost. By Jo Moir, Political Reporter, RNZ - March 6, 2020 <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/political/411063/gun-reforms-government-split-over-second-phase-of-legislation>

GUN THEFT IN THE UNITED STATES: A STATE-BY-STATE ANALYSIS

According to the FBI, during the six-year period from 2012 to 2017, more than \$829 million worth of guns were reported stolen from individuals nationwide, amounting to an estimated 1.8 million guns.* While every state experiences high levels of gun theft, the scope of the problem varies widely from state to state—as demonstrated in Table 1. For many states, these numbers are likely an undercount, as gun owners in most states are not required by law to report gun thefts and police agencies from state to state have inconsistent reporting practices. By Chelsea Parsons and Eugenio Weigend Vargas, Center for American Progress - Posted on March 4, 2020 <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/guns-crime/news/2020/03/04/481029/gun-theft-united-states-state-state-analysis/>

BLACK CONSERVATIVE MARK ROBINSON SHOCKS THE WORLD...

RALEIGH, N.C. — A man who gave a fiery speech for gun rights two years ago in Greensboro won the Republican primary in North Carolina’s lieutenant governor’s race Tuesday night. Here’s the video from 2018 that made Mark Robinson famous. Posted by Kane on March 5, 2020 <https://www.citizenfreepress.com/breaking/black-conservative-mark-robinson-pulls-off-stunning-victory-in-north-carolina/>
<https://www.foxnews.com/media/gun-owner-who-went-viral-wins-north-carolina-lieutenant-governor-primary>

BIDEN, BETO, AND GUN CONTROL

They want to take your firearms away and make no bones about it. By John R. Lott Jr., National Review - March 4, 2020 <https://www.nationalreview.com/2020/03/gun-control-joe-biden-beto-orourke-want-to-take-your-firearms/>

ADDYSTON POLICE CHIEF’S PURCHASE OF 64 MACHINE GUNS DREW FEDS ATTENTION IN 2018

ADDYSTON, Ohio (FOX19) - More than 2,000 pages of an internal investigation released Monday are shedding new light on what led up to the suspension and ultimately the resignation of Addyston’s police chief. Mayor Lisa Mear wrote in a letter to the chief when he was suspended last month that the investigation found he bought and sold guns and armor-piercing bullets without village approval or knowledge and created phony purchase orders, inflating the number of officers working in the department to do it. By Jennifer Edwards Baker - Updated March 4, 2020 <https://www.fox19.com/2020/03/03/addyston-police-chiefs-purchase-machine-guns-drew-feds-attention/>

NZ - CONTINUED DELAYS TO FIREARMS LAW AS NZ FIRST STICKS TO ITS GUNS

The Labour party is struggling to get support to pass a new gun law as NZ First continues to dig its heels in. The Arms Legislation Bill passed its second reading last month but NZ First MP Ron Mark signalled the party was moving away from supporting core aspects of the Bill, saying the caucus had some reservations.

By Collette Devlin - Mar 04 2020 <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/119997926/continued-delays-to-firearm-law-as-nz-first-sticks-to-its-guns>

SECOND AMENDMENT UNDER FIRE IN CALIFORNIA: SANTA CLARA FORMS GUN CONFISCATION TEAM - Santa Clara County is forming what they call a “county gun team” – a unit of lawyers, analysts, and prosecutors authorized to seek out and confiscate firearms from those the state feels shouldn’t have them. The list of people targeted by the Santa Clara County Gun Team could include disarming anyone with a record of mental illness, drug or alcohol abuse, who might be suspected of some crime – violent or otherwise – or even parents who simply didn’t lock up their guns while the kids were home. March 3, 2020 ZeroHedge <https://needtoknow.news/2020/03/second-amendment-under-fire-in-california-santa-clara-forms-gun-confiscation-team/>

HOW MICHAEL BLOOMBERG BOUGHT THE GUN CONTROL MOVEMENT

To understand how Bloomberg could come to wield such influence, it’s important to remember what the gun control movement looked like 14 years ago, before he became one of its top players. In short: It didn’t look like much.

By Kara Voght - March 3, 2020 <https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2020/03/how-michael-bloomberg-bought-the-gun-control-movement/>

JOE BIDEN TAPS BETO O’ROURKE TO LEAD GUN CONTROL EFFORT

During a Monday evening campaign stop in Dallas, Texas, Democrat presidential hopeful Joe Biden said Robert “Beto” O’Rourke will “be the one who leads” Biden’s gun control push. O’Rourke, for his part, endorsed Biden for president.

By AWR HAWKINS - MARCH 2, 2020 <https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2020/03/02/joe-biden-taps-beto-orourke-to-lead-gun-control-effort/>

GUN RIGHTS ‘SANCTUARY’ MOVEMENT GROWS IN NEW JERSEY

Second Amendment advocates lobby for township and county ordinances that support gun rights and aspire to overturn several recent state gun-safety laws. By Ximena Conde, WHYY - March 3, 2020

<https://www.njspotlight.com/2020/03/gun-rights-sanctuary-movement-grows-in-new-jersey/>

WOMEN OF GUNS.COM: ABBEY CLARY, SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

March is Women’s History Month and to celebrate I wanted to take some time to get to know a handful of ladies working at Guns.com. By Jacki Billings, GUNS.COM - March 2, 2020

<https://www.guns.com/news/2020/03/02/women-guns-com-abbey-clary>

THE OUTDOOR WIRE - MARCH 2, 2020: NRA FIRES BACK AT NY

On Friday, the NRA fired back at the New York Department of Financial Services and their plans to conduct enforcement proceedings against the NRA over the organization’s alleged violations of New York State insurance law. In the filing, the NRA claims that “startling new evidence and documents” detail backroom pressure placed on insurance companies to blacklist the NRA, hurriedly amended hearing rules, and contrived conclusions designed to “divert important issues to a private, DFS-controlled forum” rather than a New York jury. According to the NRA’s out-of-house counsel William A. Brewer III, there is a single, underlying allegation: “the NRA has been treated more harshly and differently by DFS than other regulated entities- singled out to weaken gun-rights advocacy in New York.”

<https://www.theoutdoorwire.com/features/87e4b9d6-4eba-4641-ae81-547f7b5333e5>

THE DILEMMA THAT LIBERAL GUN OWNERS FACE IN 2020

Like many liberals, Lara Smith considers herself a feminist, favours abortion rights and believes the nation's immigration policies under the Trump administration have just been "vile." But when it comes to guns, Smith sounds more like a conservative: She opposes reviving the nation's assault weapons ban, enacting red-flag laws or creating a registry of firearms. The 48-year-old California lawyer owns a cache of firearms. Smith and liberal gun owners like her face a quandary as voting in the Democratic primary intensifies with Super Tuesday next week. They are nervous about some of the gun control measures the Democratic candidates are pushing and are unsure who to trust on this issue. Denver Post - 29 Feb, 2020

<https://www.denverpost.com/2020/02/29/liberal-gun-owners-face-dilemma-in-2020-field/>

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c_id=2&objectid=12312790

NBC NEWS - CAN MEXICO'S WEAPONS BUYBACK PROGRAM STEM RISING GUN VIOLENCE?

"Even one weapon could prevent problems or a fatal accident," an official says, but a security expert doesn't believe it tackles the real sources of violent crime.

By Alice Driver - Feb. 25, 2020 <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/can-mexico-s-weapons-buyback-program-stem-rising-gun-violence-n1139891>

UK HUNTING GROUPS CALL FOR END TO USE OF LEAD AMMUNITION BY 2025

Call from nine pro-shooting groups comes amid calls for ban to be enshrined in law

By Mattha Busby, The Guardian - Mon 24 Feb 2020 <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/feb/24/uk-hunting-groups-call-for-end-to-use-of-lead-ammunition-by-2025>

LEAD SHOT: BEHIND THE BAN

Who's telling the truth? Britain's leading shotgun cartridge manufacturers condemned the decision to phase out lead shot – and added that they weren't consulted. A raft of shooting organisations, including British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC), the Countryside Alliance, GWCT and the National Gamekeepers Organisation, said on Monday they want lead dead. Fieldsports News - February 26, 2020 <https://www.fieldsportschannel.tv/leadban/>

"ASSAULT WEAPONS LAWS RESEMBLE HATE SPEECH LAWS. Hate speech laws usually begin by targeting a few words that almost no one approves. Once the system for controlling and punishing "hate speech" is put into place, there is little or nothing to stop it from expanding to punish more and more types of everyday speech. Similarly, once an assault weapons law is on the books, there is little to prevent politicians from vastly increasing the number of weapons banned under the law. The main effect of banning assault weapons is to give government an excuse to arrest and imprison millions of Americans while doing little or nothing to reduce crime. America has a limited number of police, and politicians must decide who the real public enemies are." -- James Bovard (1956-) American author, lecturer <http://libertytree.ca/quotes/James.Bovard.Quote.D409>

OTHER ARTICLES ON ISSUES THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST

97% SCIENTIFIC CONSENSUS: NOT JUST A LIE, BUT CALCULATED DECEPTION

The statement is a lie on its face because there is no existing survey of scientists anywhere that establishes as fact that alleged consensus of 97 percent of the world's scientists on the truth of anthropogenic (man-made) global warming. This falsehood is made graver by the fact that individuals and organizations, including the United Nations, deliberately manufactured the claim of a 97-percent consensus to mislead governments and the international community into adopting policies and reforms that they espouse. The problem isn't just that we don't know what percentage of scientists agrees with this or that statement about global warming. It's something much worse. All this talk of a 97-percent consensus amounts to a dishonest bullying campaign to stifle scientific debate just when we need it most because the question looms so large in public policy. By Yen Makabenta, The Manila Times - March 7, 2020

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/07/opinion/columnists/topanalysis/97-scientific-consensus-not-just-a-lie-but-calculated-deception/700771/>

JOHN ROBSON: CANADA'S STARK NEW REALITY BARGES IN AFTER WARREN BUFFETT PULLS OUT

Oh look. It's reality. Warren Buffett just pulled Berkshire Hathaway's \$4 billion stake from a \$9 billion Quebec LNG project because of "political uncertainty" in Canada, a.k.a. lawless blockades and a regulatory process that's all maze and no cheese. Suddenly our larky mishandling of public policy has real consequences. We lose money, energy, jobs and hope. By John Robson, National Post - March 6, 2020

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/john-robson-canadas-stark-new-reality-barges-in-after-warren-buffett-pulls-out>

DIANE FRANCIS: CANADA IS A GIANT CARBON SINK. WHY ARE WE NOT GETTING CREDIT FOR IT?

The United Nations Paris Agreement and its predecessors are a complete failure and they discriminate against Canada, which is why Canadians should demand changes immediately, or withdraw. There are two main reasons why. First of all, **the agreements exempt the world's biggest polluters.** They do not require all the countries that signed on to reduce emissions. So, of course, they haven't: to date, of the 192 countries **that signed on to the Kyoto Protocol in 1997, only 37 developed countries have reduced CO2 emissions by seven per cent and the rest — led by China and India — increased emissions by 130 per cent.** This is not an accord, it's a joke. By Diane Francis, Financial Post - March 5, 2020

<https://business.financialpost.com/diane-francis/diane-francis-canada-is-a-giant-carbon-sink-why-are-we-not-getting-credit-for-it>

ROSS MCKITRICK: 'BELIEVING THE SCIENCE' ON CLIMATE CHANGE DOESN'T MEAN ANY POLICY GOES - Mainstream science and economics do not support much of the current climate policy agenda and certainly not the radical extremes demanded by activist groups.

Special to Financial Post by Ross McKittrick - March 4, 2020 <https://business.financialpost.com/opinion/ross-mckittrick-believing-the-science-on-climate-change-doesnt-mean-any-policy-goes>

VIDEO: CHALLENGING WET'SUWET'EN 'HEREDITARY' CHIEF WOOS: WHY DID YOU STEAL YOUR TITLE? Frank Alec of the Wet'suwet'en First Nations is currently sitting across the table from Minister Carolyn Bennett, negotiating the specifics of the \$6.6 billion #CoastalGasLink pipeline. You may have heard about this “deal”. But who is Frank Alec? Well, he claims to be #ChiefWoos, a title traditionally held by revered matriarchs of the #Wetsuweten.

REBEL MEDIA - 21,006 views•Mar 3, 2020 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IRGcCN7mBQ&feature=youtu.be>
<https://nationalpost.com/news/who-is-chief-woos-wetsuweten-hereditary-chief-was-suddenly-thrust-onto-the-national-stage>

JOHN ROBSON: THE CPC HAS SOCIAL LIBERALS. IT'S FISCAL CONSERVATIVES THEY NEED

Iverson's plan is to 'propose a truce in the damaging domestic feuds over climate policy.' But a truce is where both sides stop fighting. When only one does, it's called 'a surrender.' - By John Robson, National Post - March 3, 2020

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/john-robson-the-cpc-has-social-liberals-its-fiscal-conservatives-they-need>

EXCERPT: What's missing in action is fiscally conservative Conservatives. Unless by “fiscally conservative” you mean favouring big deficits, huge spending increases, Soviet-style health care, supply management etc. Harper even bombarded me with daily press releases about handouts to companies. (And lost.) And Peter MacKay was right there, or left, pushing for more more more and more. If he's a fiscal conservative, I'm Batman. (Also, polls say people want fiscally conservative big spenders. Tricky.)

BAMFORD: AN ANTI-RESOURCE AGENDA PLAYED OUT BEFORE OUR EYES

Let's play a little game: What if you had a prime minister who was intent on shutting down the resource sector?

By JOCELYN BAMFORD, President of the Coalition of Concerned Manufacturers and Businesses of Canada. - Special to Toronto Sun - March 3, 2020 <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/bamford-an-anti-resource-agenda-played-out-before-our-eyes>

EXCERPT: Not getting our resources to market will damage the environment, as developing countries buy their resources from less environmentally-friendly countries. It will mean we do not get our liquified natural gas to China so that they can reduce their dependence on coal. It will mean you destroy the middle-class because highly-skilled jobs in the resource sector and the manufacturing sector that support the middle-class will be phased out. All of this will be bad for the country, but as long as you get a seat on the UN Security Council that's all that might matter to you.

DIANE FRANCIS: HOW MANY MORE RESOURCE 'WAKE-UP CALLS' WILL OUR PRIME MINISTER SNOOZE THROUGH? Since Trudeau took over, \$150 billion in capital and 200,000 jobs have left Canada because Liberals have made it impossible to build anything. By Diane Francis, Financial Post - March 2, 2020

<https://business.financialpost.com/diane-francis/diane-francis-how-many-more-resource-wake-up-calls-will-our-prime-minister-snooze-through>

TRUDEAU'S PLAN TO CONTROL FREE PRESS SCARES THE 'HELL OUT OF ME': CONSERVATIVE POLITICIAN - Conservative MP Martin Shields said that words in the report like 'trusted, accurate, reliable' are subjective and have no place in Canadian law. LIFESITE NEWS - Mon Mar 2, 2020

LIFESITE NEWS - Mon Mar 2, 2020

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/trudeaus-plan-to-control-free-press-scares-the-hell-out-of-me-conservative-politician>

HYPOCRISY: ALBERTA COUPLE GIVEN TICKETS FOR WALKING ON CN LAND WHILE

BLOCKADERS GET FREE PASS - An Alberta couple's Facebook post highlighting law enforcement's hypocrisy with enforcing the rule of law is gaining traction. The post, published just before midnight, explains that in September 2019, her and her fiancée hopped a CN railway fence in Calgary to sit by a river bend. The couple says they "didn't litter, didn't light fires," and that they simply skipped rocks on the water and walked with nature. The couple claims that they were fined \$280 each for their escapade. "So lighting fires and blocking trains in protest is ok. Roberto Wakerell-Cruz - March 2, 2020 <https://www.thepostmillennial.com/hypocrisy-alberta-couple-given-tickets-for-walking-on-cn-land-while-blockaders-get-free-pass/>

CANADA REFUSES TO COMPLY WITH ITS OWN TERROR LAW

B'nai Brith Canada is suing the Canadian government for failing to comply with a motion passed by its own parliament to designate Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), in its entirety, as a terrorist organization. The motion was passed unanimously in the House of Commons in June 2018. At a news conference in January, leaders of B'nai Brith, the Council of Iranian Canadians and the Justice 88 Campaign put the government on notice that they expected the motion to be implemented within 30 days. In the meantime, the IRGC was responsible for downing a commercial airliner flying out of Iran last month, killing all passengers including 57 Canadians who were on board. Lies and deceit followed the crash. Still no movement from the Canadian government, save the embarrassing bow and handshake Prime Minister Justin Trudeau bestowed upon Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif at a recent conference in Europe. By Raheel Raza, Clarion Project - Published March 1, 2020 <https://clarionproject.org/canada-refuses-to-comply-with-its-own-terror-law/>

IN THE WAKE OF TECK'S WITHDRAWAL, TRUDEAU NEEDS TO ARTICULATE AN ENERGY POLICY

VISION - Should the next company with aims on a project similar to Frontier simply not even bother? Teck's Frontier project faced challenges separate from whatever political controversy and uncertainty was swirling around it. Given that there are a number of approved but stalled oilsands projects on the books in Alberta, it's clear that the economics of such mega-projects are not ideal at the moment. But still, we should be wary about further scaring away investment, especially from companies that take seriously the issues we expect them to take seriously. By Rob Breakenridge, GlobalNews.ca - February 29, 2020 <https://q107.com/news/6603532/teck-frontier-mine/>
<https://www.todayville.com/the-letter-teck-sent-a-scathing-rebuke-of-government/>
<https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/canada-risks-going-backwards-on-reconciliation-capp-president>

BBC - FIVE REASONS WHY CANADA'S 'SHUTDOWN' IS A BIG DEAL - FEBRUARY 28, 2020

And Canadians are feeling frustrated - a poll published this week by the National Post newspaper suggested that almost 60% of Canadians don't think the country is headed in the right direction, while 63% of respondents said Mr Trudeau was "not governing well". <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-51636831>

- 1 - It's bad news for Justin Trudeau
- 2 - Businesses are hit by crippled rail troubles - and farms are getting cold
- 3 - Companies are spooked by the uncertainty
- 4 - It adds to the sense of 'western alienation'
- 5 - It highlights the challenges facing indigenous reconciliation and rights

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CHRISTOPHER DI ARMANI
christopher@diarmani.com

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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>

CLIMATE DISCUSSION NEXUS

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/>