



**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.**

**By Dennis R. Young – March 4, 2020**

**GUN OWNERS WANTED BUY BACK PLAN FOR PROHIBITED RIFLES, SAYS BLAIR**

Public Safety Minister Bill Blair says gun owners who possess military-style rifles that will eventually be prohibited under a new gun-control regime told him they preferred a buyback compensation system rather than a prohibition that would let them keep their guns — without taking them out of their homes. The former Toronto police chief disclosed the views of rifle owners as he responded to questions about his intention not to release the makes and models of semi-automatic rifles that will fall under the prohibition orders until the makes and models of all the guns are ready to be published. Blair told reporters last week he wanted to avoid a run of rifle sales before the regime is in place.

By Tim Naumetz., iPolitics - Dec 10, 2019

<https://ipolitics.ca/2019/12/10/gun-owners-wanted-buy-back-plan-for-prohibited-rifles-says-blair/>

**EXCERPT:** "I went across the country, I spoke to people who own these weapons that could be included on this list and many of them said to me 'rather than prohibit them and grandfather them, because we cannot use them, we can't bequeath them, we cannot sell them', rather than do that, they thought it would be fairer if we had some system of allowing them to surrender the weapon and be compensated for that, that was fairer to them," he told iPolitics.

**WORDING OF MY ATIP REQUEST TO PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA – JANUARY 26, 2020:** Please provide copies of records (records as defined broadly under the Act) showing the places in Canada where he spoke to these 'people' including the actual number of 'people who own these weapons that could be included on this list' he spoke to that said to the Minister that *'rather than prohibit them and grandfather them...they thought it would be fairer if we had some system of allowing them to surrender the weapon and be compensated for that, that was fairer to them.'*

**PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA ATIP E-MAIL RESPONSE – FEBRUARY 10, 2020:** "Program officials are searching for the records and the only document they hold which would be relevant to the request is a list of stakeholders which was prepared for the purpose of consulting on firearms. In order for us to process your request further clarification is required." **Note:** A copy of the e-mail exchange is attached.

**CLARIFICATION PROVIDED BY E-MAIL TO PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA – FEBRUARY 10, 2020:** *But for the Minister to make such a huge decision between grandfathering and a buy-back, that will cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars, he must have overwhelming feedback from the firearms owners including the number of places in Canada he travelled to and the number of people he spoke to who own these weapons. If the Minister has no records of the places he visited and the number of gun owners who provided him with this information and informed his opinion, then please send me a reply to that effect. A list of stakeholders would also be helpful including the dates and places where the Minister spoke to these stakeholders.*

**FINAL ATIP RESPONSE FROM PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA – MARCH 2, 2020:** *Public Safety Canada has completed the processing of your request. After review, it has been determined that some of the information can be released and a copy is herewith enclosed. Please note that some information has been withheld pursuant to sections 19(1)*

of the Act. **Link to PDF copy of Public Safety Canada ATIP response and 31 page List of Stakeholders:**  
<https://dennisryoung.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Public-Safety-ATIP-Grandfather-v-Buy-Back-A-2019-00322-Mar-2-2020.pdf>

**E-MAIL EXCHANGE WITH PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA – FEBRUARY 10, 2020**

**From:** dennisryoung@telus.net <dennisryoung@telus.net>  
**Sent:** February 10, 2020 8:56 AM  
**To:** 'Brown4, Nicole (PS/SP)' <nicole.brown4@canada.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: A-2019-00322 – Public Safety Canada / Sécurité publique Canada  
**Importance:** High

Thanks Nicole: But for the Minister to make such a huge decision between grandfathering and a buy-back, that will cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars, he must have overwhelming feedback from the firearms owners including the number of places in Canada he travelled to and the number of people he spoke to who own these weapons. **If the Minister has no records of the places he visited and the number of gun owners who provided him with this information and informed his opinion, then please send me a reply to that effect. A list of stakeholders would also be helpful including the dates and places where the Minister spoke to these stakeholders.**

Thanks for your help, Dennis

**From:** Brown4, Nicole (PS/SP) <[nicole.brown4@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.brown4@canada.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 10, 2020 7:58 AM  
**To:** [dennisryoung@telus.net](mailto:dennisryoung@telus.net)  
**Subject:** A-2019-00322 – Public Safety Canada / Sécurité publique Canada

Dear Dennis R. Young,

FILE NUMBER: A-2019-00322

Public Safety Canada has received your request under the Access to Information on January 30, 2020. The request is for: **“Please provide copies of records (records as defined broadly under the Act) showing the places in Canada where he spoke to these 'people' including the actual number of 'people who own these weapons that could be included on this list' he spoke to that said to the Minister that 'rather than prohibit them and grandfather them...they thought it would be fairer if we had some system of allowing them to surrender the weapon and be compensated for that, that was fairer to them.”**

In order for us to process your request, further clarification is required. **Program officials are searching for records and the only document that they hold which would be relevant to the request is a list of stakeholders which was prepared for the purpose of consulting on firearms.** **Is** the type of record that you are looking for when you made the request? I am writing to give you an opportunity to provide more detail which would help to identify additional information.

Please contact me to discuss your request using the file number above. Your request will be considered abandoned and the file will be closed should the required clarifications not be received by March 11, 2020.

Sincerely,

Nicole Brown  
Team Lead, ATIP Operations / Team Lead, ATIP Operations  
Access to Information and Privacy / Accès à l'information et la protection des renseignements personnels  
Public Safety Canada / Sécurité publique Canada

[nicole.brown4@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.brown4@canada.ca)

Tel / tél 613-991-3376