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**THIS WEEKS POSTINGS TO THE CANADIAN FIREARMS DIGEST**  
**National and International Gun Control News for the week ending May 15, 2020**

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**POSTS FROM CANADA**

**EVIDENCE MOUNTS THAT CANADA'S WORST-EVER MASS SHOOTER WAS A WOMAN-HATER AND MISOGYNY FUELLED HIS KILLING SPREE THAT LEFT 22 DEAD**

By Sophia Ankel, The Business Insider - May 16, 2020 <https://www.businessinsider.com/ex-neighbor-nova-scotia-gunman-said-she-reported-domestic-violence-2020-5>

- Misogyny could be investigated as a key aspect in the Nova Scotia mass shooting after a former neighbor revealed the gunman's history of domestic violence and weapon possession.
- Brenda Forbes said that shooter Gabriel Wortman — who committed the worst mass shooting in Canada's history — had a reputation in the rural town of Portapique for being violent and intimidating.
- Wortman had been seen on numerous occasions assaulting and beating his partner, who was too afraid to come forward to police as she feared repercussions.
- But when Forbes went to police to report the domestic violence and Wortman's possession of illegal weapons, no firm action was taken.
- A month after the mass shooting, activists are saying that police ignored "red flags" that could have prevented the killings and that they were fuelled by misogyny.
- Research has shown that many male perpetrators of mass shootings have a history of hating women and domestic violence.

**J.R. COX RAISES \$60,000 IN 4 DAYS TO FIGHT LIBERAL GUN-BAN ORDER**

TheGunBlog.ca — J.R. Cox, the owner of two Canadian gun stores and ranges, raised almost \$60,000 in four days for a lawsuit to stop the government's mass firearm confiscations against hunters, sport shooters and stores. More than 850 people, including the owner of TheGunBlog.ca, donated \$57,418 as of 2:15 p.m. in Toronto today through GoFundMe.com. (Click the image at top to go to Cox's page.) "It's not only the money, it's also the number of supporters," Cox told TheGunBlog.ca in a telephone interview from Calgary yesterday.

**"We aren't talking gun rights. We're talking rights." —J.R. Cox** - THEGUNBLOG.CA - 16 May 2020

<https://thegunblog.ca/2020/05/16/j-r-cox-raises-60000-in-4-days-to-fight-liberal-gun-ban-order/>

**DALHOUSIE LAW PROFESSORS ASK N.S. PREMIER TO LAUNCH PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO MASS**

**SHOOTING** - However, 33 of the roughly 40 faculty members of the Halifax university's Schulich School of Law signed a letter on Friday urging McNeil to initiate a public inquiry with broad terms of reference. "An internal investigation will not suffice. Independence, impartiality and transparency are essential components of maintaining public confidence in the administration of justice. Only a public inquiry can satisfy these requirements," they say in the letter. By Michael Tutton, The Canadian Press - Last Updated Friday, May 15, 2020 <https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/dalhousie-law-professors-ask-n-s-premier-to-launch-public-inquiry-into-mass-shooting-1.4940970>

**EXCERPT:** Earlier this week, a former neighbour of Wortman said she reported an account of a 2013 incident of domestic violence by Wortman to the RCMP in Truro. Brenda Forbes said she reported witnesses telling her that Wortman had strangled and beaten his common law partner, and she said she told police there were guns in the house. The RCMP said in an email Friday they can't find a record of the complaint at this point.

### **'IT'S NOT RIGHT:' YK GUN OWNERS SAY FEDERAL FIREARMS BAN MISSES MARK**

Gun owners in Yellowknife say a sweeping firearms ban introduced by the federal government earlier this month unfairly targets law abiding citizens while failing to address the root causes of gun violence in Canada.

"They're turning us into criminals overnight. It's not right," said Robert Anderson, a Nova Scotia-born sport shooter who owns firearms now prohibited under the recent ban. By Brendan Burke, NNSL MEDIA - May 15, 2020

<https://nns1.com/yellowknifer/its-not-right-yk-gun-owners-say-federal-firearms-ban-misses-mark/>

### **CBC - WHY CANADA SHOULD BAN THE SALE, OWNERSHIP OF HANDGUNS**

There is no conceivable reason why an ordinary person needs a handgun, writes Tony Keene.

By Tony Keene · for CBC News Opinion · Posted: May 15, 2020

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/opinion/opinion-gun-control-handguns-1.5532173>

Tony Keene was a reservist in the Canadian Armed Forces for 40 years and completed multiple overseas tours of duty. He has worked as a journalist in newspapers and broadcasting.

### **BILL BLAIR LIED: RCMP IS PROHIBITING SHOTGUNS VIA ORDER IN COUNCIL**

Public Safety Minister Bill Blair lied when he told Canadians his gun ban via Order in Council would not prohibit shotguns. The list of shotguns reclassified by the RCMP Canadian Firearms Program as Prohibited Firearms in the past 24 hours are: CSSA SPECIAL REPORTS - MAY 15, 2020 <https://cssa-cila.org/billblairlied/>

**EXCERPT:** Any way you cut it Bill Blair lied to Canadians. Repeatedly, both inside and outside of Parliament. We expect politicians to play fast and loose with the truth during press conferences. We expect politicians to play fast and loose with the truth on social media. The one thing we do not expect and will not tolerate is government Ministers lying to the Canadian people in the House of Commons. Minister Blair, you've lied enough. Resign. Salvage the only shred of dignity and honour still available to you – while you still can. Resign immediately.

PS: As of the writing, they are currently adding rifles and more shotguns to the lists. More to come so stay tuned.

### **THE GAPS IN TRUDEAU'S GUN POLICY**

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's recent gun ban does not adequately address Canadian safety

By Kyler Emerson, THE RUNNER - May 15, 2020 <https://runnermag.ca/2020/05/the-gaps-in-trudeaus-gun-policy/>

**EXCERPT:** A possible option is to improve the gun registry that already exists, but register all firearms regardless of their restriction. Presently, only restricted and prohibited guns are required to be registered in Canada, contributing to the challenge of buying back the now 1,500 banned models of semi-automatic guns.

### **NEIGHBOUR SAYS SHE ALERTED N.S. RCMP OF GUNMAN'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, ILLEGAL**

**FIREARMS** - At a news conference on April 20, RCMP Commissioner Brenda Lucki said that the gunman was "not well known to police" and wasn't on their radar. By Nicole Munro, The Chronicle Herald - May 15, 2020

<https://www.saltwire.com/news/canada/neighbour-says-she-alerted-ns-rcmp-of-gunmans-domestic-violence-illegal-firearms-450132/>

### **FORMER FOOTBALL PHENOM JAILED AFTER GUN SMUGGLING ATTEMPT AT NIAGARA FALLS**

**BORDER** - The Niagara Falls, N.Y. resident was referred to secondary inspection and CBSA agents searched the man's car but were unable to locate anything suspicious. When a CBSA detector dog was brought in, however, the animal gave "indicators" that something was in the trunk. Upon further inspection, agents discovered a sealed compartment filled with 20 handguns — 19 prohibited and one restricted — including two Glocks 9 mm semi-automatic handguns and a Smith and Wesson .45-calibre semi-automatic handgun. Watkins originally denied knowledge of the weapons May 15, 2020

By Alison Langley The Niagara Falls Review & St. Catharines Standard <https://www.stcatharinesstandard.ca/news-story/9989406-former-football-phenom-jailed-after-gun-smuggling-attempt-at-niagara-falls-border/>

### **THE FRASER INSTITUTE BLOG: FEDERAL FIREARMS BAN MISSES MARK—BADLY**

Police report that between 70 and 90 per cent of guns used in violent crimes in Canada are smuggled, mainly from the U.S. Gang violence is a growing threat to public safety. According to StatsCan, one quarter (24 per cent) of all homicides were gang-related in 2018, up from 16 per cent in 2015, and licensed firearms owners are much less likely to commit murder than other Canadians. The evidence strongly suggests this gun ban won't make us safer. If the prime minister wants to stop gun violence, he should encourage the provinces and municipalities to hire more police officers or improve screening at the border to prevent gun smuggling. But this ban targets the law-abiding, not the criminal. Author: Gary Mauser, THE FRASER FORUM - May 14, 2020 <https://www.fraserinstitute.org/blogs/federal-firearms-ban-misses-mark-badly>

### **GUNS, BUREAUCRACY AND THE NEED TO KEEP AMERICAN GUN CULTURE OUT**

Peter MacKay, a leading candidate in the Conservative leadership race, said that “whatever they do, we will undo.” This is a failure in political opposition. A proper reflection would have led them to the points being made by more thoughtful critics — that the Liberal plan is full of holes (despite 1,500 banned variations of semi-automatics, a rash more are not included), arguably doesn't address the central issues (smuggled U.S. guns, handguns), and is being rushed out without debate as a political hit while the population, which is overwhelmingly in favour of more gun control, is still in mourning over the Nova Scotia shootings, all of which in turn is a deficiency in governance. By Ralph Surette, The Chronicle Herald - May 14, 2020 <https://www.thechronicleherald.ca/opinion/ralph-surette-guns-bureaucracy-and-the-need-to-keep-american-gun-culture-out-449906/>

**EXCERPT:** Commissions of inquiry are not my favourite things, given their history of cost overruns and going round and round, but getting this issue out of the political arena and engaging all the voices in play seems to me the only way towards any kind of stable solution. Otherwise, the effort is apt to end up like the last — in a great bureaucratic hairball that will put off the public and ultimately play to the gun lobby.

### **LIBERAL GUN BAN: A COLLABORATIVE RESPONSE TO A COMPREHENSIVE ATTACK**

In a rare show of unity, over 50 Canadian organizations, representing millions of members, from every province across the country, have joined forces in opposing the arbitrary and punitive “gun ban” by a government who fails to address crime. This is just the first step in a collaborative reaction, to a very comprehensive attack. By Tracey Wilson, Canadian Coalition for Firearms Rights - May 14, 2020. **EXCERPT: On behalf of our combined memberships.** On May 1, 2020 the Government of Canada, by OIC, did prohibit a large number of firearms previously legally owned in Canada by licensed firearms owners, with the impending threat of additional bans. As a result, we have collaborated on this effort to condemn the actions of this government and demand a credible plan to focus on crime. Among our many objections, here are our three main concerns: READ THE REST: <https://firearmrights.ca/en/a-collaborative-response-to-a-comprehensive-attack/>

### **JUSTICE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS ON COMING INTO FORCE OF BAN ORDER**

Exclusive: The government considers its May 1 gun-confiscation order took effect before it was even signed or public. Canada's Department of Justice comments on when the governing Liberal Party's gun-confiscation order took effect on May 1. Source: Department of Justice, Response to TheGunBlog.ca, 14 May 2020 <https://thegunblog.ca/2020/05/14/justice-department-comments-on-coming-into-force-of-ban-order/>

### **WHY IT MATTERS**

- Legal analysts say the prohibition order violated fundamental principles of justice and the rule of law, such as:

- non-retroactivity
- fairness
- certainty, stability and predictability
- procedural transparency
- parliamentary scrutiny and oversight
- allowing that which is neither immoral nor harmful

#### **TIMELINE ON 01 MAY 2020**

- Orders come into force at 00:00 on 01 May 2020, start of day
- Orders signed by Governor General later that morning
- Orders published in Canada Gazette at 11:15 Ottawa time

#### **FIREARMS BAN SLAMMED AS UNDEMOCRATIC**

“This is not the way government is supposed to operate,” Davison said. The new legislation was passed through an Order in Council, which means it did not get debated by MPs. “There's absolutely zero foundation to justify the size and scope of the effort,” Michael Davison, managing partner at Bartons Big Country in Grande Prairie, said. By Jennifer Henderson, Local Journalism Initiative reporter - May 14, 2020 <https://www.stalberttoday.ca/local-news/firearms-ban-slammed-as-undemocratic-2340818>

#### **TRUDEAU'S LATEST FIREARMS BAN PROHIBITS HISTORIC CANNONS TOO, MP CLAIMS**

Vancouver's historic Nine O'Clock Gun is now an illegal weapon under the new federal ban on high-powered firearms, a Conservative politician has claimed. Blaine Calkins, an MP from Alberta, told the House of Commons on Wednesday that the heritage cannon would be subject to a buy-back program under the recently announced military-style assault weapon ban by the Liberal government, according to Blacklock's Reporter. “Any cannon that can be fired can be loaded with a projectile and it meets the definition of a firearm, which means that every cannon in Canada, every heritage piece that might be in a museum, every heritage piece that might be in a collection is now a prohibited firearm,” Calkins said. TORONTO SUN - May 14, 2020 <https://torontosun.com/news/national/trudeaus-latest-firearms-ban-prohibits-historic-cannons-too-mp-claims>

#### **LILLEY: RCMP AND FEDS ATONE FOR SINS BY USING LEGAL GUN OWNERS AS SCAPEGOATS**

Brenda Forbes — a former neighbour of Wortman in Portapique, NS, where the massacre began — told the Canadian Press in an interview that Wortman not only beat his live-in partner but he also had an illegal gun collection that she reported to the RCMP. In 2013, Forbes said she witnessed Wortman being violent with his common-law partner and not for the first time. She claimed she witnessed him on top of her behind one of his properties beating and strangling her. “On that incident, I called the RCMP and I told them what happened, and I said he has a bunch of illegal weapons, and I know because he showed them to us,” Forbes told CP. Despite reports of domestic violence and illegal guns, nothing happened to Wortman. Hindsight can be 20/20 but, in this case, the RCMP was warned there were problems and they did not act. By Brian Lilley, TORONTO SUN - May 13, 2020 <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/lilley-rcmp-and-feds-atone-for-sins-by-using-legal-gun-owners-as-scapegoats>

#### **GUNTER: NEW FACTS PROVE THE UTTER USELESSNESS OF TRUDEAU'S GUN BAN**

(Legal gun owners have to register their addresses with the RCMP, while people banned from owning guns because of previous convictions for violent crimes, do not.) Measures to target criminals using guns, while more likely to be effective, would be hard. And dangerous. Much easier to seize the private property (guns) of hundreds of thousands of Canadians who are not involved in crime. Think about it. Everything a criminal does to become a criminal involves disregarding the law. Meanwhile, everything a law-abiding gun owner does to acquire firearms demonstrates a respect for

the law – including completing the lengthy and arduous application process and buying an expensive gun safe. Yet whenever there is a high-profile shooting, who become the first targets when the Liberals want to demonstrate they are getting tough on crime? By Lorne Gunter, TORONTO SUN - May 12, 2020

<https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/gunter-new-facts-prove-the-utter-uselessness-of-trudeaus-gun-ban>

### **CSSA COMMENTARY: VIRTUE-SIGNALLING OVER WORKPLACE PROTECTION: PUBLIC SAFETY MINISTER ENDANGERS LIVES OF ROAD CREWS WITH OIC FIREARM PROHIBITIONS TEAM CSSA E-NEWS | MAY 12, 2020**

[https://myemail.constantcontact.com/IN-TODAY-S-ISSUE--Public-Safety-Minister-Endangers-Lives-of-Road-Crews-With-OIC-Firearm-Prohibitions.html?soid=1124731702303&aid=d71f7gW7z\\_c](https://myemail.constantcontact.com/IN-TODAY-S-ISSUE--Public-Safety-Minister-Endangers-Lives-of-Road-Crews-With-OIC-Firearm-Prohibitions.html?soid=1124731702303&aid=d71f7gW7z_c)

EXCERPT: The Minister of Public Safety is supposed to keep Canadians safe, not put their lives in danger, yet Bill Blair's fatally flawed Order in Council immediately puts the lives of road construction crews and workers in other industries at risk. Minister Blair's OIC reclassifies all 8-gauge industrial guns as Prohibited firearms. The bore of an 8-gauge industrial gun is 0.835 inches or 21.2 mm – outside the government's 20mm maximum allowed.[i] These guns are specifically designed for use in the cement, lime, and ferro alloy industries, as well as for road construction crews to take down dangerous rocks and other hazards after blasting operations take place. Winchester Industrial, a division of Winchester Firearms, manufactures two models of 8-gauge industrial shotguns to meet the needs of these industries:[ii] Winchester Industrial Equipment was used in Canada for: • cleaning rotary kilns, waste incinerators, silo interiors, and • dropping dangerous outcroppings left behind by blasting during road construction and maintenance. Not any more.

### **CANADIAN MILITARY TO GET NEW SNIPER RIFLES**

Canadian military sniper teams will be getting new rifles with the first expected to be delivered in the fall. The Liberal government is spending \$8.5 million on purchasing the 272 rifles and spare parts. The C20 will replace the C8 as the personal defence weapon for Canadian Forces sniper teams, confirmed Department of National Defence spokeswoman Andrée-Anne Poulin. By David Pugliese, Ottawa Citizen - May 12, 2020 <https://nationalpost.com/news/national/defence-watch/canadian-military-to-get-new-sniper-rifles/wcm/9bdfb833-11ea-4d02-905f-fdb78e9984d5>

**CBC - GUN SHOP OWNERS LEFT 'HOLDING THE BAG' BY THE UNEXPECTED SCOPE OF OTTAWA FIREARMS BAN** - Phil Harnois has about 30 firearms in his Edmonton shop that are now illegal. He estimates that restricted guns account for up to 40 per cent of his annual sales. Many customers are calling him asking to return their banned guns. The ownership of restricted firearms was already strictly regulated, he said. The ban only targets licensed owners and sellers. Harnois said if Ottawa had given the industry clear warning on the extent of the ban, it would have prevented a lot of confusion and waste. "They can't even be transferred, they can't even be driven down the street," he said. "We've been advised, take the firearm to your home and that's where it has to remain locked up until further notice." CBC News · Posted: May 12, 2020 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/ottawa-firearms-ban-gun-control-alberta-edmonton-1.5565731>

### **PETITION TO STOP LIBERAL GUN CONFISCATIONS SURGES TO NO. 1**

TheGunBlog.ca — A petition to restore Canadian democracy and stop a Liberal Party attack against honest citizens surged to become the No. 1 online petition in House of Commons history after just eight days. Soaring numbers show a grassroots movement to restore democracy and justice. Petition e-2574 showed 176,985 signatures as of 5:15 p.m. in Toronto, the highest among the 1,041 e-petitions on record. It opened May 5 and closes Sept. 2. See below for signing instructions. THEGUNBLOG.CA - MAY 12, 2020 <https://thegunblog.ca/2020/05/12/petition-to-stop-liberal-gun-confiscations-surges-to-no-1/>



**TRUDEAU'S GUN BAN APPEARED TO PROHIBIT SOME COFFEE, A WEBSITE AND A TOY. HERE'S WHY** - One firearm banned by the Liberal government is a highly obscure AR rifle built by Blackwater, a U.S. private military company that featured heavily in the Iraq war. By Jesse Snyder, NATIONAL POST - May 12, 2020  
<https://nationalpost.com/news/trudeaus-gun-ban-appeared-to-ban-some-coffee-a-website-and-a-toy-heres-why>

### **LIBERALS AND CONSERVATIVES ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF GUN BAN**

Portage-Lisgar Conservative MP Candice Bergen says the gun ban is useless since Canada has banned military-style assault rifles since the early 1970s. She says the ban is a waste of money and is going to target the wrong people. “The Liberals are not banning anything new. Again, we see the Liberals going after the easy targets, Canadians who follow the law and have a license to own a firearm. They are banning guns used for legal purposes...it will do nothing to stop crime because criminals don't care about a ban. Secondly, this is going to cost Canadians billions of dollars. We saw how much the long gun registry cost Canadians and it did absolutely nothing to reduce crime.” Bergen adds the Trudeau government should instead focus its efforts and resources on keeping guns from being smuggled into Canada from the U.S. that are then being used in very violent crimes in this country. She says it infuriating to see Liberal governments continue to go after Canadian gun owners. “Conservatives are going to fight against this. We have always stood up for law-abiding gun owners and we really want to see criminals prosecuted and not let loose. We’re going to keep fighting against this ban because my phone is ringing off the hook.” Portage-Lisgar Liberal Riding Association spokesperson Ken Werbiski sees things differently. Werbiski is a licensed gun owner and feels strongly that Canadians don't need access to high-capacity firearms, which is what the new gun ban goes after. “I understand that people are upset. They've had access to these types of firearms and they are fun to shoot, but as a hunter and a gun owner myself, this is not going to affect me at all.” Pembina Valley Online - Tuesday, 12 May 2020 <https://pembinavalleyonline.com/local/assault-rifle-ban-all-about-safety-says-liberal-conservative-mp-says-it-will-target-wrong-people>

### **N.S. KILLER'S SEMI-AUTOMATIC GUNS BELIEVED TO COME FROM U.S., BUT DETAILS WITHHELD**

HALIFAX — The RCMP says that three of the four semi-automatic weapons used by a gunman during last month's mass shooting in Nova Scotia are believed to have come from the United States, but the agency continues to withhold some key details. A news release issued Monday doesn't give the model or calibre of two rifles and two handguns that the gunman had when he started the rampage. Observers of the gun control issue in Canada say details on what firearms are used are key to informed discussion, as debate continues over the Liberals' recent announcement of a ban on 1,500 military-style assault firearms would prevent similar incidents. Public Safety Minister Bill Blair confirmed in an email sent by his staff that the two semi-automatic rifles used in the mass shooting are now on the prohibited list. He has left it to the RCMP to indicate the model and calibre. But the RCMP said Monday it needs to keep those details confidential as its investigation is ongoing. The Mounties also said the matter of who brought the weapons used into Canada is still being jointly investigated with the Canada Border Services Agency. The Canadian Press - May 11, 2020  
<https://www.timescolonist.com/n-s-killer-s-semi-automatic-guns-believed-to-come-from-u-s-but-details-withheld-1.24133031>

### **BRIAN SAUVÉ, HEAD OF POLICE UNION, OPPOSES PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO NOVA SCOTIA MURDERS**

While I've called for patience and giving the RCMP the benefit of the doubt (and still do), I have zero patience for Brian Sauvé's self-serving stupidity. Let's stop playing silly bugger, Mr. Sauvé. Every firearms control law passed in the last 100 years failed to stop the Nova Scotia mass murderer. No law passed in the next 100 years could stop him and we all know it. Blaming the justice system, the probation system and the mental health care system won't get you off the hook for your gross stupidity either. None of those systems have a thing to do with the RCMP's actions during the 12 hours you're so desperate to cover up. People from the lowliest beat cop to the highest ranking RCMP member in Nova Scotia must rightfully explain themselves and their actions. You can't gloss this over or blame anyone else for what happened

that day – not if you expect the mere citizens of Canada to retain an ounce of respect for the RCMP and its front-line members. Grow a pair already, Mr. Sauvé, because right now you are the one dishonoring the very RCMP members you claim to represent. Published May 12, 2020 by Christopher di Armani

<https://christopherdiarmani.com/15178/police/rcmp-accountability-2/brian-sauve-head-of-police-union-opposes-public-inquiry-into-nova-scotia-murders/>

### **LILLEY: POLICE DON'T CALL THEM ASSAULT WEAPONS; WHY SHOULD YOU?**

That was the advice from an article published in November 2016 in Blue Line, Canada's national independent police magazine. At the time, police across Canada were adopting what they call "patrol carbines" but what most people would call an AR-15, the rifle Prime Minister Justin Trudeau wants you to be deathly afraid of as he bans it from civilian use. "These are not 'assault rifles' or military weapons. They have no full-auto capability," writer and firearms instructor Dave Brown wrote in the police magazine. Brown noted that some people were becoming concerned with the increased use of such firearms by police services across the country. That meant police forces had to get the terminology right. "If you don't do a good job of stating your case, you risk distancing yourself from the vast majority of supportive citizens; the ones who have always quietly paid the bills and supported law enforcement but don't understand why you need a 'military' weapon," Brown wrote. "Stop pushing buttons: Avoid words on which an untrained public will focus. Patrol carbines are not a military weapon," Brown stated, hammering the point home multiple times. "They are not an assault rifle, military rifle or machine gun." By Brian Lilley, TORONTO SUN - May 11, 2020

<https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/lilley-police-dont-call-them-assault-weapons-why-should-you>

### **ANALYSIS OF CPC LEADERSHIP CANDIDATE'S FIREARM POLICY STATEMENTS**

**This is a lengthy and detailed evaluation of the firearm policy statements made by each candidate in the Conservative Party's leadership race.** Published May 11, 2020 by Christopher di Armani

<https://christopherdiarmani.com/15119/guns/gun-politics/analysis-of-cpc-leadership-candidates-firearm-policy-statements/>

#### **KEY POINTS**

- Both Leslyn Lewis and Derek Sloan call for a full review of Canada's existing firearm control legislation.
- (Erin O'Toole promises to "update Canada's firearms legislation.")
- Only Peter MacKay published a detailed firearms policy online.
- (Erin O'Toole's campaign provided me a detailed policy document via email.)
- Derek Sloan's firearm policy is the most likely to offend urban voters – the very electorate the Conservative Party must win over if they want to form government.
- Only Erin O'Toole addresses suicides and firearms.

#### **DETAILED ANALYSIS**

- Dr. Leslyn Lewis <https://s3.amazonaws.com/ChristopherDiArmani.com/PDF/Leslyn-Lewis-March-21-2020-Firearms-Policy.pdf>
- Derek Sloan <https://www.dereksloan.ca/policies>
- Erin O'Toole <https://erinotoole.ca/firearms/>  
<https://s3.amazonaws.com/ChristopherDiArmani.com/PDF/Erin-OToole-Firearms-Policy.pdf>
- Peter MacKay [https://www.petermackay.ca/canadian\\_firearms\\_laws](https://www.petermackay.ca/canadian_firearms_laws)

**CBC - REGINA POLICE CHARGE TWO MEN WITH MANUFACTURING GUNS AND GUN PARTS VIA COMPUTER** - Two men in Regina are charged with trafficking and manufacturing prohibited weapons in a case police described as having "alarming implications for public safety." Gregg Joshua Meyer of Fillmore, Sask., and Jonathan Joseph Yurkoski of Regina, both aged 37, were expected in court on a long list of firearms charges Monday. CBC News · Posted: May 11, 2020 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/regina-police-charge-two-men-with-manufacturing-guns-and-gun-parts-via-computer-1.5564680>

### **CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S GUN BAN LIMITS OPTIONS FOR P.E.I. SHOOTERS**

Nelline Cronje, a member of the Women Shooters of P.E.I. who has been hunting and competing in firearms sports for decades, called cabinet's decision to ban the guns "emotional". "The problem is, it doesn't address firearms violence in Canada. The majority of firearms used in violent crimes are obtained illegally," said Cronje. The ban directly impacts her recreation activities and her wallet. Dave Hansen agrees. He has been president of the P.E.I. Rifle Association for the last four years. The 100-member group shoots at two ranges on P.E.I., as well as at events across Canada and internationally. He says rifles are no different than golf clubs. "In golf, you're trying to get a hole in one. In target sports you're trying to get a v-bull (bullseye)," said Hansen. Gun ownership in Canada is highly regulated, and Hansen worries the new ban will only affect law-abiding gun owners. By Alison Jenkins/Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, The Telegram - May 11, 2020 <https://www.thetelegram.com/news/canada/canadian-governments-gun-ban-limits-options-for-pe-shooters-448398/>

### **THE HILL TIMES EDITORIAL: LIBERALS FUMBLING GUN CONTROL AGENDA, UNFORTUNATELY**

The Liberal government has yet to introduce its promised gun control legislation in this Parliament, but it's already managed to make a mess of what was supposed to be one of its signature files under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. By Editorial - May. 11, 2020 <https://www.hilltimes.com/2020/05/11/liberals-fumbling-gun-control-agenda/247459>

### **NEW GUN BAN WON'T MAKE CANADIANS SAFER**

The ban only targets legitimate owners. No guns will be taken from criminals. Under the rubric of "assault weapons," the ban ensnares a large number of guns that are rarely used in homicides. Statistics Canada reports that in the past 10 years, just 7 percent of murders involved long guns of any type and virtually no "military-style" firearms. Nor will this ban protect women. According to Statistics Canada, firearms of any kind are rarely involved in spousal violence. As Ontario Premier Doug Ford said, Ottawa should target gun smugglers and gang bangers instead. Gang violence is the most prominent threat to public safety in Canada. According to Statistics Canada data, half of firearm homicides in 2018 were gang-related. Police report that between 70 percent and 90 percent of guns used in violent crimes are smuggled. It makes no sense to focus on licensed firearms owners. Hunters and sport shooters are rarely involved in criminal violence. According to Statistics Canada, just 2 percent of accused murderers had a valid firearms licence. By Gary Mauser, The Epoch Times - May 11, 2020 [https://www.theepochtimes.com/new-gun-ban-wont-make-canadians-safer\\_3347102.html](https://www.theepochtimes.com/new-gun-ban-wont-make-canadians-safer_3347102.html) Gary Mauser is a professor emeritus at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia. His report, "Do Fingers Pull Triggers? A look at criminal misuse of guns in Canada," was recently published by the Mackenzie Institute.

### **CBSA HAS NEW SNIFFER DOGS, X-RAY MACHINES DEPLOYED TO CATCH GUN SMUGGLERS**

Two years into the 'gun and gang' initiative, however, the CBSA has not yet been able to seize significantly more guns than before. By Peter Mazereeuw, The Hill Times - May. 11, 2020 <https://www.hilltimes.com/2020/05/11/border-agency-has-new-sniffer-dogs-x-ray-machines-deployed-to-catch-gun-smugglers/247287>

### **PETITION: LEAVE LEGAL FIREARMS OWNERS ALONE AND STOP TREATING US LIKE CRIMINALS** **228,331 supporters have signed as of May 10, 2020 at 7:00 AM**

Matt Larose started this petition to Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada on May 1, 2020



<https://www.change.org/p/justin-trudeau-leave-legal-firearms-owners-alone-and-stop-treating-us-like-criminals>

**EXCERPT:** Trudeau not only went around the democratic process to achieve this. He also made exceptions to who it applies which is wrong. Take a few minutes educate yourself in the process in which one must go to obtain a pal or rpal. Just because this petition may not directly affect you today. Does not mean the process by which this legislation was achieved will not affect you tomorrow.

**CBC - LATEST GUN CONTROL EFFORT ISN'T MERELY A FAILURE. IT CORRODES TRUST AMONG CANADIANS** - Liberal government gun ban is craven wedge politics that does nothing to advance public safety. Canadians who have followed a rigorous process to obtain a licence to purchase a firearm accept that the privilege of ownership can be revoked if it poses an unreasonable danger. It is a far different thing to render their property unlawful for use simply so that the government can be seen to be doing something. By Jay Nathwani is a lawyer who lives in Toronto for CBC News Opinion · May 09, 2020 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/opinion/opinion-gun-control-politics-1.5556541>

### **RCMP OFFICER: BANNED GUNS ARE “NOT ASSAULT RIFLES OR MILITARY WEAPONS”**

As Prime Minister Justin Trudeau makes the case that police want carbine rifles like the AR-15 banned because it is a “military-style assault rifle”, he is being contradicted by a recently surfaced article by an RCMP officer. Writing in Blue Line – which describes itself as “Canada’s national law enforcement magazine” - RCMP officer Dave Brown writes that that carbine rifles “are not ‘assault rifles’ or military weapons. They have no full-auto capability.” By Western Standard - May 9, 2020 <https://www.westernstandardonline.com/2020/05/rcmp-officer-banned-guns-are-not-assault-rifles-or-military-weapons/>

### **SASKATCHEWAN WILDLIFE FEDERATION AGAINST FEDERAL GUN BAN**

"There are a lot of reasons we oppose the ban. We believe as a result there are numerous errors within the legislation," said Gil White, the SWF recreational firearm community chairperson. One of the main issues the SWF has is the timing of the ban. To ban firearms that are essential to hunters during the COVID-19 Pandemic when parliament isn't in session is viewed as negative by the SWF. Firearms such as 12 and 10 gauge shotguns and the .460 Weatherby, that are used for hunting, can fall under the federal ban. "It is the law. If the judge reads that then he has to act on that, no matter what anyone else says. The ban may also impact businesses and nonprofit organizations such as the SWF. According to White, Gun Shops employ around 80,000 people across Canada. Sports shooting events also could be impacted by the ban. "At our club, we've hosted international events with people coming from all over. Those types of events bring in revenue for not only the organizations but also the community that it's being held in." Discover Estevan - Published: Saturday, 09 May 2020 <https://discoverestevan.com/local/saskatchewan-wildlife-federation-against-federal-gun-ban>

### **RCMP DELETES ‘GRANDFATHERING’ OPTION FROM WEB PAGE ON RIFLE BANS**

TheGunBlog.ca — The RCMP deleted the option for so-called “grandfathering” this week from its web page on the government’s mass rifle confiscations, igniting concern owners will face jail unless they surrender their guns within two years. The surprise May 1 ban order sparked anxiety over the ethics of a government that threatens honest citizens with jail unless they turn in their property to the police. “I don’t intend to surrender any guns or any freedoms, so it’s a tad alarming when the federal police updates its website to delete my option to stay out of jail,” said Nicolas Johnson, the editor of TheGunBlog.ca.

“This looks like an early signal that the Liberals will backtrack on their promise of confiscation-at-death ‘grandfathering,’ and force fast confiscation,” he said. THEGUNBLOG.CA - MAY 9, 2020 <https://thegunblog.ca/2020/05/09/rcmp-deletes-grandfathering-option-from-web-page-on-rifle-bans/>

## **RCMP AND CBSA CONTRADICT PUBLIC SAFETY MINISTER BILL BLAIR, RCMP RELENTS**

Late Friday night the RCMP declared all 12-gauge and 10-gauge shotguns are legal “because we say so.”

Published May 9, 2020 by Christopher di Armani <https://christopherdiarmani.com/15098/guns/gun-politics/rcmp-and-cbsa-contradict-public-safety-minister-bill-blair-rcmp-releents/>

**EXCERPT:** Friday was not a good day for Public Safety Minister Bill Blair. The Canadian Shooting Sports Association (CSSA) published another news release slamming the minister for his May 1, 2020, Order in Council banning over 1,500 specific makes and models of semi-automatic rifles. On Friday morning, RCMP Technical Unit Supervisor Tim Hobbs confirmed an old Iver Johnson single-shot, fixed-choke 12-gauge shotgun with a 2 3/4” chamber would be reclassified as a Prohibited firearm. This information was obtained via an unnamed firearm dealer who recorded a video while measuring the bore of the old shotgun before speaking to Mr. Hobbs. Adding CBSA insult to the RCMP’s injury of the Public Safety Minister’s credibility, a 2019 Canadian Border Services Agency Memorandum (D19-13-2) defines “bore” as “the inside of the barrel of a firearm, from the throat to the muzzle, through which the projectile travels.”

By the CBSA’s definition,” said the CSSA news release, “it may be all 12-gauge and 10-gauge shotguns – not just those with removable chokes – that are now Prohibited firearms because they [Bill Blair’s office] do not consider the forcing cone, the ‘throat’ of the barrel, which exceeds the 20 mm maximum bore diameter specified in SOR/2020-96.” But that wasn’t even the worst part of Bill Blair’s Friday daylight nightmare.

## **POLICE WARN GUN OWNERS: DO NOT BRING US YOUR WEAPONS**

“I can’t stress this enough. Do not show up at the detachment with a AR-15 (or any other gun),” said Sgt. Rob Hughes, commander of Princeton RCMP, shortly after the ban was announced. ‘All we’ll see is a person we don’t know, walking up to the front doors...carrying a rifle’. Those thoughts were echoed in a May 8 press release from North Vancouver RCMP. “If you plan to relinquish a firearm, please do not bring it to us,” said Sgt. Peter DeVries. By Andrea DeMeer - May 9, 2020 <https://www.vernonmorningstar.com/news/police-warn-gun-owners-do-not-bring-us-your-weapons/>

## **THE LIBERALS ARE CAUGHT IN A CATCH-22 ON GUN CONTROL**

If Mr. Trudeau is serious about his pledge “to remove these weapons from our streets,” however, he will need to go much farther than the voluntary gun-buyback program his government appears to be contemplating. He has given no indication that he intends to do so. As the leader of a minority government, Mr. Trudeau knows that his path to a majority in the next election lies in retaking non-urban ridings he lost in 2019. Conservative leadership frontrunners Peter MacKay and Erin O’Toole have both signed the petition, which has so far gathered more than 120,000 signatures, and sent out fundraising emails denouncing the assault-weapons ban. “Instead of taking steps to crack down on criminal activity, Justin Trudeau is using this tragedy in Nova Scotia to advance his ideological goals,” Mr. MacKay charged in an e-mail sent out within hours of the government’s May 1 announcement.

By Konrad Yakabuski, The Globe and Mail - May 8, 2020 <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-the-liberals-are-caught-in-a-catch-22-on-gun-control/>

## **LETTER: SIDESTEPPING PARLIAMENT**

**First is process. Second is timing. Third is misrepresentation. Lastly is efficacy.**

By Kate MacQuarrie, Women Shooters of P.E.I. - The Guardian - Updated: May 08, 2020  
<https://www.theguardian.pe.ca/opinion/local-perspectives/letter-sidestepping-parliament-447176/>

## **CBC - MAN USED A SEMI-AUTOMATIC, TACTICAL-STYLE SHOTGUN IN CONFRONTATION WITH RCMP, ASIRT SAYS - Incident on Wednesday resulted in death of 27-year-old man. CBC News · Posted: May 08,**

2020 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/man-used-a-semi-automatic-tactical-style-shotgun-in-confrontation-with-rcmp-asirt-says-1.5562701>

## **GUN OWNERS SAY FEDERAL ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN FILLED WITH HOLES, LEGAL CHALLENGES COMING**

Jason Smith, who ranches near Eckville, says until last week's ban he carried a semi-automatic rifle in his tractor or his truck every day to keep coyotes and other predators from eating his bison calves and deer fawns. He says it was simply the best tool for the job. "Well it feeds your kids," explained Smith of his livelihood. "You know there isn't enough money in farming that you can lose ten per cent of your calf crop to coyotes and predators. Every calf matters." Each bison calf is worth about \$2,000 dollars and every year he has close calls with losing them to coyotes and cougars. He says the firearm ban is too broad. "I'm all for stopping gun violence, but my guns are not used in gun violence," said Smith. "It's stolen weapons, it's weapons coming across the border. We need to concentrate on the criminals, not the law-abiding citizens." By Bill Macfarlane, Video Journalist, CTV Published Friday, May 8, 2020 <https://calgary.ctvnews.ca/gun-owners-say-federal-assault-weapons-ban-filled-with-holes-legal-challenges-coming-1.4930922>  
<https://www.reddeeradvocate.com/news/liberals-rifle-ban-a-piece-of-nonsense/>  
<https://www.westernstandardonline.com/2020/05/gun-group-set-for-constitutional-challenge-to-blairs-gun-ban/>

## **TWO RCMP MEMBERS SHOOT AT INNOCENT PERSON, FLEE SCENE IMMEDIATELY**

Nova Scotia's Serious Incident Response Team is investigating after two RCMP members fired an unknown number of bullets at someone outside the Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade Hall on the morning of April 19, 2020. CBC reports the two unidentified RCMP constables thought they were shooting at the Nova Scotia killer who, by that time, was known to be wearing an RCMP uniform and driving a replica RCMP cruiser. Their hail of gunfire left the wall of the fire hall riddled with bullet holes. Pat Curran, Interim Director of SIRT, says an investigation into the gunfire is underway, but offers no additional details. Approximately 9 minutes later, two RCMP constables arrived at the Onslow Belmont Fire Brigade Hall, located roughly 25 kms east of Portapique, and opened fire on someone wearing a safety vest. RCMP bullets flew for about ten seconds, then the two police officers hid behind a garbage bin, according to one witness. Then the two RCMP members jumped back into their police cruiser and sped away. They didn't bother to check and see if they injured or killed anyone before fleeing the scene. Published May 8, 2020 by Christopher di Armani  
<https://christopherdiarmani.com/15080/police/rcmp-hall-of-shame/two-rcmp-members-shoot-at-innocent-person-flee-scene/>

## **THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT 'GUN GRAB', THE CHARTER AND YOUR RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS**

Editor's Note: In this video interview with the RAIR Foundation, Major Russ Cooper (Ret'd) discusses the assault on the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms through government overreach. The latest instance is Prime Minister Trudeau's "gun grab" – the passing by an Order-in-Council directive with no parliamentary debate of a restrictive gun law that would deprive thousands of Canadians of legally acquired weapons. In 2013, Trudeau was asked which country he admired most. He responded that he admired the "basic dictatorship" of China. It's becoming ever more obvious that he wasn't kidding and is pushing for more authoritarian government control of the lives of Canadian citizens. By Major Russ Cooper, President and CEO, Canadian Citizens for Charter Rights and Freedoms (C3RF) - MAY 7, 2020  
<https://www.canadiancitizens.org/single-post/2020/05/07/The-Liberal-Government-Gun-Grab-the-Charter-and-Your-Rights-and-Freedoms>

## **LIBERAL GUN BAN - OIC ERRORS CONTINUE**

And those are merely technical issues we spotted. Given the lazy wording of both the 20mm bore diameter restriction and the joule limit, undoubtedly other issues will crop up, but suffice to say these technical and obvious issues speak to the hasty and poorly-planned nature of this particular OIC.

Just in case you wanted another reason to hate it. By Daniel Fritter, CALIBRE MAGAZINE - May 7, 2020  
<https://calibremag.ca/oic-errors-continue/>

## **CANADA'S NEW GUN BAN VALIDATES FEARS OF ARBITRARY AND AUTHORITARIAN**

**GOVERNMENT** - The obvious lesson to take away from the crackdown in Canada is that the government you live under can turn against you at any time. And bringing yourself to the attention of that government—say, by registering property that some officials want to further restrict or completely prohibit—is just asking for trouble. That lesson should be taken to heart not just in Canada, but any place that those who would inflict restrictions and prohibitions on the rest of us seek power. By J.D. Tuccille, REASON - 5.6.2020 <https://reason.com/2020/05/06/canadas-new-gun-ban-validates-fears-of-arbitrary-and-authoritarian-government/>

## **(EXCLUSIVE) DECORATED CANADIAN RET. MAJOR SLAMS TRUDEAU'S GUN BAN: 'WE ARE EDGING TOWARDS TYRANNY'**

- Posted by Amy Mek, RAIR Foundation USA - On May 5, 2020 - 2,401 views <https://rairfoundation.com/exclusive-interview-decorated-canadian-ret-major-slams-trudeaus-gun-ban-we-are-edging-towards-tyranny/> MAJOR RUSS COOPER BIO: Major Russ Cooper (Ret'd) has retired from several aviation careers. These include Royal Canadian Air Force service as a decorated combat CF18 fighter pilot, civil aviation operations as an international airliner pilot and engineering test pilot responsibilities that required the certification of avionics equipment sets on behalf of the Government of Canada. He is published internationally in the field of civil aviation security and now writes on matters related to the preservation and projection of individual rights and freedoms. He is a founding member of Canadian Citizens for Charter Rights and Freedoms (C3RF) <https://www.canadiancitizens.org/> and now operates as its President and CEO.

## **HOW DID WE COME TO THIS? BY ROB SCIUK**

**We are our own worst enemy. (Courtesy Canadian Access to Firearms) Published May 4, 2020**

<https://t.co/5y8yjMRuUB>

**EXCERPT:** The Canadian Firearms Act of 1995 (C68) introduced a number of draconian, expensive, unconstitutional and ultimately useless measures aimed at responsible firearm owners which were not then, and never have been about public safety. Alan Rock's bastard child was only ever about the eventual confiscation of all civilian firearms, and it totally excluded criminal activities by definition. One of those draconian measures in particular went under the radar in the responsible firearms community (RFC), so focused were we upon the red herring of the registration measures. That single measure that I refer to, made Trudeau's announcement on May 1st 2020 a certainty, and forever sealed the fate of ALL responsible firearm ownership in Canada, and we basically missed it; C68 was enabling legislation in that it allowed the (then) Justice Minister the power to proscribe (ban) any device through regulation by Orders in Council should he view it (in his opinion) to be pertinent to the public safety. Had the RFC recognized the danger ahead, we might have made stronger efforts to unite and create an effective political umbrella to have the entirety of C68 repealed, but our allies in the Conservative party were too focused upon gaining popular support in their bid to power, and failed to make good on their promises to repeal the act in its entirety.

## **TRUDEAU PLANNING LEGISLATION ON MUNICIPAL HANDGUN BANS**

Trudeau refused to apologize for the ban after Ontario Premier Doug Ford on Saturday said it targeted legal gun owners. He suggested Ottawa should instead focus on smuggling of illegal weapons at the border and strengthening jail sentences for gun crimes. "We've seen far too many mass shootings in which military-style-assault weapons were used to kill innocent Canadians. In Sainte-Foy. Recently in Nova Scotia. Back at l'Ecole Polytechnique 30 years ago," Trudeau said. "We've seen far too many cases in which these guns have caused devastation to families and communities. That's why it was time to ban them. This is something that we were able to do through regulations so it didn't require legislation." By Lee Berthiaume, National Observer - May 4th 2020 <https://www.nationalobserver.com/2020/05/04/news/trudeau-planning-legislation-municipal-handgun-bans>

## **MAY 1, 2020 - CACP STATEMENT: BAN ON ASSAULT-STYLE FIREARMS**

On May 1, 2020 the federal government of Canada announced a ban on assault-style weapons in Canada. The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police supports improving safety for front-line police officers and the public. We appreciate the federal government's commitment to this issue. The CACP's Special Purpose Committee on Firearms will review the Order in Council that enables the prohibition. While the CACP has advocated for this type of initiative in the past, it will be important for the committee to review the proposed legislation in the coming weeks to determine the impact on public safety as well as the implications for, and expectations of, police services in Canada.

[https://www.cacp.ca/index.html?asst\\_id=2144](https://www.cacp.ca/index.html?asst_id=2144)

## **POSTS FROM THE UNITED STATES & OTHER COUNTRIES**

### **MAINE TROOPER SAYS HE WAS RETALIATED AGAINST FOR REPORTING ILLEGAL POLICE SURVEILLANCE OF CITIZENS**

George Loder's federal whistleblower lawsuit says he suffered retaliation for calling out illegal practices by a secretive intelligence-gathering center run by the state police. . Loder's lawsuit also says the state police, who conduct background checks on people seeking to buy guns through federally licensed gun dealers, illegally retained their personal information, creating a de-facto gun ownership registry, in violation of federal law. By Matt Byrne, Staff Writer - May 14, 2020

<https://www.pressherald.com/2020/05/14/maine-trooper-says-he-was-retaliated-against-for-reporting-illegal-police-surveillance-of-citizens/>

### **HOW EFFECTIVE COULD THE NEW CANADIAN WEAPON CONTROL POLICY BE?**

The article by CBC in 2018 suggests that firearms do not only impact lives through crime and homicide in Canada; every year numbers of people are injured or even killed in accidental shootings. Not only that, but suicides account for 75% of deaths that are caused by firearms as well. Research by Harvard School of Public Health showed that the usage of firearms made suicide attempts more likely to lead to death. While many gun owners are lawful and reliable, the possibilities where firearms were obtained by unstable individuals around them and causing harm can't be ruled out. From this point of view, gun control is not only a measurement to reduce the crime rate but can also improve public safety through other methods. By Helen Jingshu Yao, The Organization for World Peace - May 13, 2020

<https://theowp.org/how-effective-could-the-new-canadian-weapon-control-policy-be/>

### **CANADIAN 'MILITARY GRADE ASSAULT WEAPONS' BAN INCLUDES AIRSOFT RIFLES, SHOTGUNS**

Ottawa, CANADA – Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's recent ban of "military grade assault weapons" in Canada also prohibited most weapons traditionally used for subsistence hunting and competitive shooting, as well as airsoft rifles and a gun enthusiast website. The expansive and seemingly random list of banned weapons also included airsoft rifles that look like "military style" rifles, the Blackwater BW-15 Carbine BB gun, and an AR-15 gun owner's website, according to the list published by the National Post. The Canadian Sporting Arms and Ammunition Association (CSAAA) and the Canadian Shooting Sports Association (CSSA) put out a joint press release on May 5 that said Blair "is either too inept to comprehend the scope of his regulations...or he lied to the Government and Canadians." By Sandy Malone, Blue Lives Matter - May 12, 2020

<https://defensemaven.io/bluelivesmatter/news/canadian-military-grade-assault-weapons-ban-includes-airsoft-rifles-shotguns-glQnXmWV0yHeO5y5jHNow>

### **CANADA: TRUDEAU'S LIBERAL GOVERNMENT IMPOSES IMMEDIATE BAN ON "ASSAULT WEAPONS"**

- All this –lost taxpayer dollars, property loss, and loss of liberty –from a government that promises that it respects these self-same gun owners and that "nothing that we are doing today or will do in the future is intended to interfere with [the] lawful, responsible and legal activity" of Canada's gun community.



Speaking against the Liberal government's previous gun control law, Bill C-71, Senator David Richards (New Brunswick) described the bill as "one more way to target those who don't need to be targeted, [because] some have come to believe that guns are bad even in the hands of good and decent people." In comments that are just as apt today, he added. NRA/ILA - Monday, May 11, 2020 <https://www.nraila.org/articles/20200511/canada-trudeau-s-liberal-government-imposes-immediate-ban-on-assault-weapons>

## **MEXICO DEMANDS INFO ON 'FAST AND FURIOUS' GUN SMUGGLING**

MEXICO CITY — Mexico sent a diplomatic note to the U.S. government on Monday demanding information on whether Mexican government officials knew about the failed 2009-2010 "Fast and Furious" gun-tracking operation. The investigation's failures were later examined in U.S. congressional hearings. Many of Mexico's drug gang killings are carried out with weapons smuggled in from the United States; the operation had been meant to stem that flow. The diplomatic note said: "The Mexican government asks to be given all the available information on the "Fast and Furious" Operation, in the framework of co-operation and mutual trust that characterizes the close relations between our two countries." By The Associated Press - Posted May 11, 2020 <https://www.570news.com/2020/05/11/mexico-demands-info-on-fast-and-furious-gun-smuggling/>  
<https://www.bizpacreview.com/2020/05/11/mexican-president-calls-for-apology-investigation-of-obama-era-fast-furious-gun-running-operation-919618>  
<https://www.ammoland.com/2020/05/ccrkba-says-mexico-deserves-answers-about-obama-biden-admin-scandal/#axzz6MQ8cg2s1>

## **HERE ARE SOME OF THE HISTORIC HEAVY WEAPONS CANADA JUST BANNED**

You may have recently heard that Canada has chosen to ban a selection of so-called 'assault weapons'. Earlier this week Luke gave us a great run through some of the unusual things that made it onto the banned list including AR15.com and Stinger MANPADs. Well if you examine the list closely enough you also start to notice just how many historic weapons have been included. By any stretch of the imagination you have to admit that it would be difficult to describe a World War Two Soviet crew-served anti-tank gun as an 'assault weapon' in the same vein as some of the other small arms that made it onto the list. So let's take a brief look at what Prime Minister Trudeau's list considers to be 'assault weapons': By Matthew Moss, THEFIREARMBLOG.COM - May 8, 2020 <https://www.thefirearmblog.com/blog/2020/05/08/heres-some-of-the-historic-heavy-weapons-canada-just-banned/>

## **U.K. MORE GUNS IN THE HANDS OF UK CRIMINALS THAN EVER BEFORE.**

Sam, a drug smuggler, boasts to Sky News how "easy" it is to get weapons into Britain from Europe. And this is a claim backed up by fact - according to the National Crime Agency (NCA) there are more guns in the hands of UK criminals than ever before. Figures obtained by Sky News show the number of firearms seized by the police agency have quadrupled in the last three years. By Jason Farrell, Home editor - Thursday 13 February 2020 <https://news.sky.com/story/ive-used-this-gun-10-times-more-firearms-seized-than-ever-before-11932318>

## **OTHER ARTICLES ON ISSUES THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST**

### **WHY IS PETER MACKAY AFRAID OF INDEPENDENT MEDIA?**

MacKay is the only Conservative leadership candidate to not sit down with True North. In fact, his team has ignored our interview requests. While the invitations still stand, MacKay is, at this point, not among his opponents who have participated in my series of candid, cordial and wide-ranging conversations about their campaigns to lead the Conservative party and the country. If the implicit goal of the series is to tell the audience who the candidates really are, perhaps MacKay's non-response is more revealing than the interview would have been.

y Andrew Lawton, TRUE NORTH - May 12, 2020 <https://tnc.news/2020/05/12/why-is-peter-mackay-afraid-of-independent-media/>

### **'DO NOT IMPOSE A STOP PAY': FEDERAL WORKERS ORDERED TO IGNORE CHEATING IN CERB AND EI CLAIMS**

A memo told employees not to halt payment or trigger investigations for potential abuse, while department has suspended 'compliance and enforcement' of EI program. Federal employees vetting the millions of applications for emergency and employment-insurance (EI) benefits during the pandemic have been told to ignore most potential cases of cheating, despite reports of widespread fraud. It's one thing to push the payments out rapidly with few questions asked, another to brush aside actual evidence of abuse, said Aaron Wudrick, federal director of the Taxpayers Federation of Canada. "Governments should be assuming that everyone is honest, but that doesn't mean they should suspend any and all attempts to follow up potential cases of fraud," said Wudrick. "Even a small percentage (of fraud) can mean hundreds of millions of dollars wasted." By Tom Blackwell, National Post - May 11, 2020

<https://nationalpost.com/news/do-not-impose-a-stop-pay-federal-workers-ordered-to-ignore-cheating-in-cerb-and-ei-claims>

### **JOHN IVISON: LIBERALS COULDN'T RESIST ANTI-OIL PANDERING WITH THEIR BADLY NEEDED BUSINESS BACKSTOP**

The focus should be on providing capital to put people back to work, not about airing grievances over the energy sector in an effort to win the next election.

By John Ivison - National Post - May 11, 2020 [https://nationalpost.com/opinion/john-ivison-liberals-couldnt-resist-anti-oil-pandering-with-their-badly-needed-business-backstop?video\\_autoplay=true](https://nationalpost.com/opinion/john-ivison-liberals-couldnt-resist-anti-oil-pandering-with-their-badly-needed-business-backstop?video_autoplay=true)

### **GUNTER: THERE IS NO MAGICAL ENERGY TRANSFORMATION FOR CANADA**

Yet somehow the True Believers of the Ecocult – the Greta-nistas – have convinced themselves Canada stands on the verge of a magical energy transformation. We can pivot out of this pandemic into a world without fossil fuels. Of course this week, such realities did not stop Bloc Quebecois Leader Yves-Francois Blanchet from declaring "oil is dead," and warning the federal government "oil is never coming back," so "putting any more money in that business is a very bad idea." Blanchet did not mention that Quebec consumes around 180,000 bbls/day of Western Canadian oil – plus hundreds of thousands more from the U.S. and Saudi Arabia. If oil died tomorrow, so would the Quebec economy. Blanchet's intellectual flatulence was duplicated by outgoing Green Party Leader Elizabeth May, who gleefully added the pandemic gave Canada a magnificent opportunity to "transition away from oil." To what? Consider that Europe has enough wind turbines installed to meet about one-quarter of the continent's energy needs. Yet because the wind doesn't always blow and even the best turbines are inefficient in converting breezes to kilowatts, wind never supplies more than about 4% – on a gusty day. By Lorne Gunter, TORONTO SUN - May 9, 2020 <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/gunter-there-is-no-magical-energy-transformation-for-canada>

### **MALCOLM: TRUDEAU'S BRIEFINGS HIGHLIGHT A PROBLEM WITH JOURNALISM IN CANADA**

True North, the think tank and online media organization I run, looked at the questions being asked of Trudeau and found that the CBC dominated these press conferences, being allowed to ask twice as many questions as any other outlet. CBC journalists were granted 21% of the questions asked between March 13 and April 30. Meanwhile, independent online outlets like True North, Rebel News and Blacklock's Reporter were blocked from asking a single question. In a similar study, Blacklock's found that of the 708 questions put to the Prime Minister, CBC asked 167 of them. CTV asked 90 questions, Global News asked 75, the Toronto Star asked 29, the National Post had 14 and the Sun papers only got 4 questions. These press conferences are organized by the non-partisan Privy Council Office, so any news outlet can dial into the calls and attempt to ask a question. The individual questions, however, are controlled by partisan political aides.

These Liberal staffers apparently chose to call on friendly reporters from left-leaning news outlets — those owned by the government, heavily regulated by the government or bailed out by the government. Independent outlets are shut out. By Candice Malcolm, TORONTO SUN - May 9, 2020 <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/malcolm-trudeaus-briefings-highlight-a-problem-with-journalism-in-canada>

**EXCERPT:** In an open letter to Canadians published in the Sun papers, Scheer quoted former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker in saying, “Parliament is more than procedure — it is the custodian of the nation’s freedom.” <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/scheer-the-conservative-plan-for-oversight-and-accountability-in-parliament>  
Trudeau gets away with these assaults on parliamentary tradition and press freedom because there is a long line-up of loyal journalists willing to defend his every action — no matter how regressive or thuggish. The fact that many of these journalists are on the government payroll is a serious threat to our nation’s freedom.

**REX MURPHY: ONLY THE GREENS AND SEPARATISTS COULD FIND 'OPPORTUNITY' IN A PANDEMIC** - During a crisis that's seen hundreds of thousands of deaths, it is really difficult to craft a sentence in which COVID-19 swims in the same lexical waters as 'opportunity.' But May has done it  
By Rex Murphy, National Post - May 8, 2020 <https://nationalpost.com/opinion/rex-murphy-only-the-greens-and-separatists-could-find-opportunity-in-a-pandemic>

**GLOBE - ERIN O'TOOLE COULD WIN THE CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP RACE**  
With a federal election expected next spring, the Conservatives have set Aug. 21 as the deadline to receive mailed-in ballots that will decide the next leader. For the first time in the race, Durham MP Erin O'Toole has as good a chance of winning as former MP Peter MacKay. On the question of election timing: While there has been some speculation about an early call, the spring of 2021 is the most likely time for the 44th general election, though Prime Minister Justin Trudeau might delay until the fall of 2021, so that Liberal MPs elected in 2015 will be eligible for pensions. A year-and-a-half to two years is a reasonable life span for a minority Parliament. And the Liberals will want to go to the people while they are still spending money to fight the pandemic, and before they have to start cutting. By John Ibbitson, The Globe and Mail - May 8, 2020 <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-erin-otoole-could-win-the-conservative-leadership-race/>

**THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF LIFE LEFT IN THE OILPATCH, EVEN AS SOME SAY IT'S DEAD**  
It's far from clear the current crisis will usher in a new era of renewables — some analysts say low prices could pave the way for an oil demand boom By Gabriel Friedman, Financial Post - May 8, 2020  
<https://business.financialpost.com/commodities/energy/theres-still-plenty-of-life-left-in-the-oilpatch-even-as-some-say-its-dead>

**CANADA NEEDS ITS OIL AND NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY MORE THAN EVER**  
You don't see news media reporting that Germany has declared Audi and BMW to be obsolete companies from yesteryear. Nor that Switzerland has come to regard its banking sector and watchmakers as sunset industries. There's been no announcement that South Korea is shuttering Samsung. Nor that the Greeks are tearing over hill and dale torching their olive and orange groves. Everywhere you look, countries are leaning on their proven economic strengths to power their post-Covid comeback. So why is Canada's federal government, seemingly alone in the world, intent on euthanizing this nation's number-one source of export earnings and inter-regional tax transfers – the oil and natural gas sector? Gwyn Morgan moves briskly through the recent madness and declares that this is one instance of ideological folly the country simply can't afford.. In the 2009 Ontario auto industry crisis, the federal government injected \$20 billion, without repayment requirements, to save just 22,000 jobs. By Gwyn Morgan, C2C - May 7, 2020  
<https://c2cjournals.ca/2020/05/canada-needs-its-oil-and-natural-gas-industry-more-than-ever/>

## **REX MURPHY: COVID-19 AND OUR NEW GOVERNMENT AT THE BOTTOM OF THE COTTAGE**

**DOORSTEPS** - It's been something like 40 days now that we've had this new-style Canadian government — coincidentally the number of Ali Baba's thieves. So far, over the 40 days we have had this innovation, a lowball estimate puts the total amount dispensed at an immense \$200 billion. In the old system, to get that amount approved and out the door would have taken months. It would have necessitated the presentation of a budget and would have been subjected to the harassment of question period, House finance committees, and the oversight of the Parliamentary Budget Officer.

By Rex Murphy, National Post - May 6, 2020 <https://nationalpost.com/opinion/rex-murphy-covid-19-and-our-new-government-at-the-bottom-of-the-cottage-doorsteps>

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