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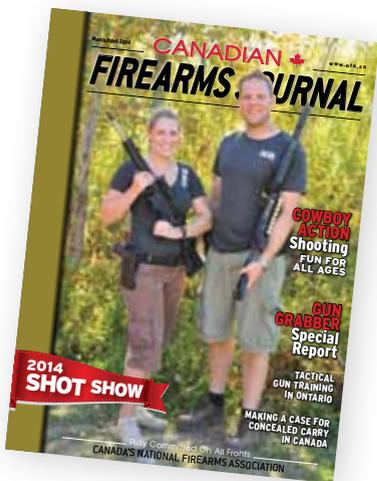
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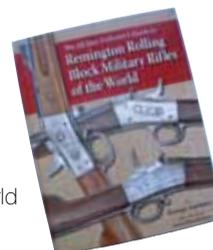
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MISSION STATEMENT

Canada's National Firearms Association exists to promote, support and protect all safe firearms activities, including the right of self defense, firearms education for all Canadians, freedom and justice for Canada's firearms community and to advocate for legislative change to ensure the right of all Canadians to own and use firearms is protected.

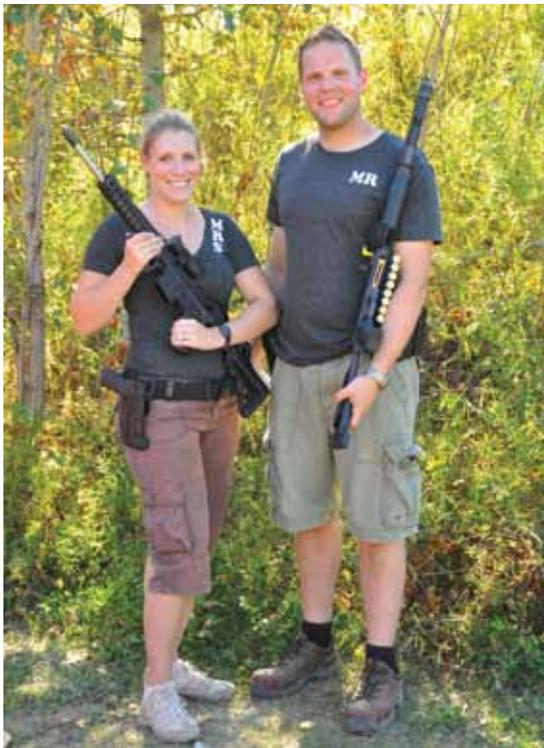
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On the Cover

Photo by Al Voth

The Happy Couple

Young couple Ashleigh and Mark shoot together in the Edmonton, Alta., area. They had Mr. and Mrs. t-shirts made up for their recent wedding and decided to wear them to their next 3-Gun match, as well.



CHANGES TO THE Canadian Firearms Journal

Please note that the production of the CFJ has moved in-house, and all article/column ideas, pictures, questions and letters for the Letter To The Editor section need to be sent to news@nfa.ca.

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GUN GRAB

Special Report

Dennis R. Young

Pray The RCMP Don't Look After Your Town In A State Of Emergency

RCMP committed crimes against High River residents

How would you feel if the RCMP kicked in your front door, searched your home, spreading mud from one end to the other and seized your private property, all without a warrant? The following story is from just one home of more than 1,900 homes that had their doors kicked in by the RCMP in High River, Alta., during eight days last summer.

On June 20, 2013, floodwaters started lapping at the door of Jane and Don White's home in High River. A town employee informed them of that the town was being evacuated at 9 p.m. The floodwaters hit their home at 11:30 p.m. They didn't have much time to prepare their home and belongings for the deluge to come before they moved to higher ground. Don was able to safely relocate his 11 trigger-locked long guns from the basement to his upstairs bedroom and hid his handgun collection to a safe spot where no one could find them - not even the police. They left their home and everything they owned so fast, they even forgot to take Jane's heart monitor, her lifeline to the Foothills Hospital in Calgary. The Whites then went to stay with family members in Okotoks.

They registered with the 1-800 number provided to all High River residents and reported to the RCMP that they were safely out of their High River home. Don even informed RCMP Constable Trevor Currie about the firearms in his home two days before the RCMP kicked in the White's front door. He even asked Constable Currie to inform his colleagues manning the

High River Detachment office.

Despite all the White's precautions and notifications to officials, including the RCMP, on June 24 the RCMP went directly from the High River Detachment to the White's home, kicked in the front door, searched the home, seized his 11 trigger-locked long-guns (safely stored in accordance with federal firearms regulations) and were back in the detachment with Don's guns in 51 minutes. This was documented in a copy of handwritten notes made by RCMP Constable J.C. (Jason) Decoste of the Lloydminster Detachment.

The timeline in the RCMP constable's notes state: "18:50 Back in the water. 19:00 Door-Locked, Entry-Hard, Res.-Searched, 11 firearms located (the notes list eleven long-guns complete with makes, models and serial numbers) 19:17 All firearms seized placed in boat, 19:35 secured into 3B155 to be transported to detachment, 19:41 Secured High River Detachment secure bay."

This document alone proves the RCMP's action was clearly not a door-to-door search for survivors; this was a very direct and targeted search for guns. Despite a thorough search of the White's home, which got mud on the White's bed and bedside table, the RCMP were unable to locate Don's handgun collection.

When the Whites learned that the water around their home was only a few inches deep, they asked the RCMP if they could go back in



Residents wanted to know when they would be able to return to their homes, to begin clean up.

their home to retrieve Jane's heart monitor. The RCMP refused. When Jane went to go through the barricades, an unnamed RCMP officer grabbed her, twisted her arm and told her she was under arrest. The RCMP even refused Jane's request for the officer to enter their home and get her heart monitor for her. The RCMP didn't follow through with Jane's arrest.

On July 16, the Whites were allowed to return to their home for just 15 minutes. A few days later, their house was declared unfit for human habitation and they were once again forced to stay out of their home until Alberta Health removed the declaration.

In September, the Whites were able to permanently return to their home to start the clean up, replacing the destroyed front door with a piece of plywood. Having secured their home again, Don went to the RCMP detachment in High River to pick up his long guns, where the RCMP officer informed him that that two of his long guns weren't registered. Don responded, "That's right, the two new shotguns we just bought!"

The only possible way the RCMP constable knew that two of his long guns weren't registered is if he had access to a copy of the old long gun registry listing of their guns - a listing that was supposed to be completely destroyed in accordance with an Act of Parliament, Bill C-19, Ending of the Long Gun Registry Act, proclaimed into law on April 12, 2012.

The smashed front door was replaced by plywood for several months and Don and Jane finally received compensation for their door in December. As if money can ever make up for this gross violation of their human rights by the very people we all trust to uphold our rights. Some of Don's seized firearms were damaged when the RCMP threw them into a National



High River was declared as a state of emergency, which brought in the forces of the Canadian military for assistance.

Defense dinghy and he still hasn't been compensated for these damages. While the RCMP were searching the White's home for guns, they left a trail of dirty, oily, feces-laden mud throughout the house. The Whites have yet to be compensated for the clean up.

The RCMP claim they were searching for survivors, but when they kicked in Don and Jane's front door, the High River RCMP Detachment had already been informed that the Whites were safe and sound. The RCMP committed the criminal offence of break and enter and searched the White's home for guns - not survivors. They need to be held fully to account for their actions.

As we write this, everyone is waiting for the investigation underway by the Commission for Public Complaints Against the RCMP. More than 1,900 High River homes had their doors kicked in (many doors that weren't even locked), houses ransacked and soiled, hundreds of firearms seized and hundreds of thousands of rounds of ammunition destroyed.

Everyone wants to know why the RCMP were ordered to take this action just in High River and not in any of the other 30 communities where states of emergency were declared during the flood. Everyone wants to know why the RCMP lied to the media and the public about why they were seizing guns in High River. The 1,900-plus break ins, searches and seizures occurred over an eight-day period, and everyone wants to know why the RCMP didn't have a warrant for their actions - they certainly had enough time to ask a judge for a warrant.

RCMP responses to Access to Information Act requests state that there were 273 RCMP officers and 330 National Defense personnel deployed in High River during the evacuation. That's a lot of witnesses who actually saw what happened, know why it happened and helped make it happen.

Pray that your community never has to declare a state of emergency and you are forced to evacuate, leaving your home in the care of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. You could be the next Jane and Don White.

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President's Message

Sheldon Clare

Who Are The Gun-Grabbers After?

Hunters and firearms enthusiasts need to stick together

It is certainly the case that the firearms debate over the past several years has been centered upon hunting. Statements by Prime Minister Harper on the end of the long gun registry consistently mention "duck hunters" as the group that has been needlessly targeted by this unnecessary law. Much of the popular media brings up hunting in the first instance as the reason that people own firearms.

Well that isn't necessarily so. While it is likely that most firearms owners in Canada are or have been hunters, it is not the case that all firearms owners hunt. In fact, not all hunters are firearms owners, nor would even some who are hunters necessarily consider themselves as part of Canada's rich and expansive firearms culture. As I had to explain to one Member of Parliament who is a strong proponent of hunting, hunting is a provincial issue, and firearms law is a federal one. In my experience, as both a hunter and hunter safety instructor and examiner, most people who hunt are at least interested in firearms, but an interest in firearms does not necessarily translate to an interest in hunting. Unfortunately, there are some folks who think that hunting is the only reason to own guns. That point of view does more damage to the cause than the gun grabbers themselves.

There is a substantial number of Canadians who own firearms and

don't use them to hunt. There are even a large number of us who, if forced to choose between either giving up our guns or giving up our hunting, would give up hunting before giving up guns. There are certainly those who would go the other way on the matter. There is even some tension between those two distinct aspects of Canada's firearms culture. Many hunters are uncomfortable with the very firearms that the gun aficionados cherish the most - handguns and the so-called black or military style rifles and shotguns. Often the next comment is that these firearms are somehow inherently more dangerous and powerful than ordinary hunting firearms. Actually, neither these firearms nor hunting firearms are dangerous at all. If there is any danger present with any firearm, the source is the person handling the firearm and not the firearm itself. You see, the gun-grabbers know that they can neither predict nor prevent or even control bad behaviour. They have decided that the only way to control firearms users is to limit civil access to firearms and ammunition. Their philosophy on the matter is quite clear. They have tried to go after this goal by isolating and targeting specific types of firearms as "not suitable for hunting," or by calling into question the cultural morals, values and even intellect of anyone who has more than a few firearms, more than a single box of ammunition, and especially any firearms that are deemed unsuitable for hunting purposes. Rather, they own firearms for a variety of reasons, of which hunting may or may not be one. These reasons may include defense of person or property, historical interest and attachment or even just because they want them, or otherwise like them for whatever personal and private reasons that they may hold. Many of these Canadians have been the most direly affected by successive waves of laws intended to change how they think and what they own. Governments have frequently identified certain firearms as not being appropriate for civilian

While it is likely that
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firearms owners hunt.

use and ownership. There is an underlying suspicion of those of us who like and use firearms that are, for various reasons, are not permitted to be used for hunting. The suspicion is ill founded.

In many places, firearms classed in Canada as restricted are perfectly legal in other countries to use in hunting, as well as in other activities such as target shooting and defense. Handguns are both popular and effective tools for hunting, as are rifles like the popular, modern sporting rifle called the AR-15, which despite its high velocity and low mass projectile is entirely suitable for varmints and small to medium game-sized animals, as well as for target shooting and plinking. Personal and property defense are also logical uses for this and other firearms.

Une des grandes forces de la communauté des propriétaires d'armes à feu est le fait qu'elle se compose d'un large éventail d'individus avec une concentration d'intérêts restreints. Malgré qu'il y ait des divergences quant aux éléments principaux de ces intérêts, ils demeurent quand même restreints. Ceci fait que nos objectifs sont toujours atteignables tant et aussi longtemps que nous continuons à nous fier sur les recherches basées sur des faits, et que nous nous assurons de garder nos enjeux prioritaires auprès de nos députés Fédéraux locaux.

Ce large inventaire d'individus est composé de gens de tous les milieux, d'origines ethniques et culturelles variées et de convictions politiques multiples. Ceci veut dire qu'en tant que bloc d'électeurs basé sur le même enjeu nous avons le pouvoir d'influencer le résultat d'une élection. Le Gouvernement actuel est majoritaire grâce à une très faible marge, seulement 6000 électeurs à travers le Canada. Le Parti Conservateur du Canada serait complètement démoli si les propriétaires d'armes à feu plutôt conservateurs de pensée, décidèrent de ne plus les appuyer ou bien qu'ils n'aillent pas voter du tout. C'est déjà arrivé d'ailleurs lorsque Kim Campbell avait adopté des lois ignobles qui ont limité arbitrairement les capacités des chargeurs et qu'elle avait utilisé des images de la revue Gun Digest pour prohiber et restreindre certaines armes qui avaient une apparence menaçante. À cette époque, j'avais participé à un débat contre Kim Campbell, juste avant qu'elle perde son emploi d'été de Première Ministre du Canada. J'ai eu le plaisir de lui dire qu'elle perdrait aux prochaines élections grâce à sa loi sur les armes à feu inutile et ridicule qu'était le projet de loi C-17. J'ai encouragé les électeurs de voter contre elle et ses candidats, et fût très heureux de constater qu'elle ait perdu.

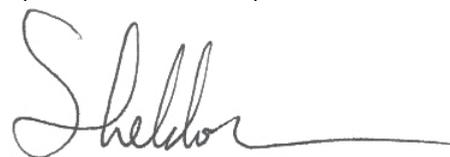
La question est simple pour tous les propriétaires d'armes à feu en prévision des élections de 2015. Nous devons demander à M. Harper qu'est-ce qu'il a fait pour nous récemment. Il est vrai qu'il s'est occupé de nos intérêts en détruisant partiellement le registre des armes à feu. Que son Gouvernement n'ait pas ratifié le Traité sur les Armes de l'ONU. Mais les corrections durables des énormes problèmes générés par nos lois sur les armes à feu onéreuses et lourdes de bureaucratie n'ont pas été faites. Si ces changements importants ne sont pas effectués bientôt, la base d'électeurs Conservateurs pour qui les droits et libertés reliés à la possession d'armes sont un enjeu majeur, ce groupe s'éloignera du Parti.

Les armes à feu ne sont pas une menace de mort dans les mains de gens ordinaires qui n'ont aucune intention criminelle. Les recherches scientifiques sont unanimes: Le système idéologique de contrôle des armes est conçu uniquement pour limiter l'accès à la possession légitime des armes à feu. La sécurité publique n'a jamais été un objectif de ce système. Les Projets de Lois C-51 en 1978, C-17 en 1992 et C-68 en 1995 n'ont pas été adoptés pour réduire les accidents ou régler des problèmes. Les cours de sécurité de maniement d'armes tels que ceux offerts par les provinces pour les chasseurs ont eu l'effet de prévenir des accidents. Mais le Cours

Now make no mistake, as part of the divide and conquer strategy that the grabbers engage in, they have treaded somewhat lightly on hunters at various times, as there is a perception that hunting is popular. As well, they recognize that the best way to defeat an opponent is to divide that opponent from other with similar goals and interests. Don't let that happen to you.

Canadien de Sécurité en Maniement des Armes à Feu (CCSMAF) qui fait parti des exigences pour l'obtention d'un permis d'armes à feu, n'est rien d'autre qu'un obstacle pour en limiter l'accès.

La position dominante présentement, de nos "amis" au Gouvernement est que le système d'émission de permis est toujours important. Plusieurs d'entre eux ne comprennent pas que de posséder une arme à feu au Canada est devenu une infraction criminelle et que l'obtention du permis y est intimement lié. Pour augmenter les revenus des Provinces, l'émission de permis est normalement de juridiction provinciale selon l'Acte de l'Amérique du Nord Britannique (Art 92 Loi Constitutionnelle de 1867). Le Gouvernement Fédéral a forcé les gens qui possèdent des armes à feu de se procurer un permis en créant une infraction criminelle pour laquelle l'obtention du dit permis est la défense contre cette même infraction. Si vous vous inquiétez autant que moi de savoir qui au Parlement, sera prêt à défendre vos droits à la propriété et vos libertés en matière d'armes à feu, je vous suggère fortement de vous impliquer dans votre association de circonscription électorale pour un des partis politiques de votre communauté. Devenez membre du parti, impliquez vos amis et faites parti des gens qui choisiront le candidat pour mieux vous représenter.





Vice-President's Message

Blair Hagen

The Evolution Of The Firearms Issue

Dark-ages policy from 1990s needs to change

As we enter the New Year, 2014, it's interesting to watch how the firearms issue continues to evolve, devolve and change. But special focus must be paid to how the issue has evolved, or rather has not evolved, in the Liberal Party of Canada.

As we all know, the Liberal Party, as government in the 1990s, was responsible for the worst piece of anti-firearms legislation ever to be passed upon Canadians. The most public controversy and failure of the Liberal C-68 legislation of 1995 may have been the universal registration, the long gun registration component, but Liberal Justice Minister Allan Rock criminalized the ownership and possession of every firearm in the country by adding firearms licensing to the Criminal Code of Canada under Sections 91 and 92.

In case anybody needs to be reminded, possession of a firearm in Canada today is a criminal code offense. Canadians who apply for and are in possession of a firearms license are granted temporary immunity from prosecution, but if you let that license expire while you hold a registration for a restricted or prohibited firearm, or are in possession of any firearm, you commit a criminal offense. If you lend, gift, sell or will a firearm to your dad, grandad, sister or nephew and he/she does not have a valid firearms license, you commit a criminal offense.

If you were in possession of firearms and did not apply for and re-

ceive a firearms license by Dec. 31, 1998, the deadline for complying with the licensing component of Bill C-68, you committed a criminal offense, regardless that you may have owned that firearm lawfully and peacefully for the previous 50 years. Millions of Canadians became criminals overnight.

The long gun registration may have ended under Bill C-19, but the offense against our citizenship in terms of firearms licensing, as contained in Chapter 39/Bill C-68, remains unaltered.

Has the Liberal Party reformed itself on firearms? Has it done any soul searching in regards to the massive legislative mistake they made with Bill C-68 and the great harm they did to Canadians? All indications are that they have not.

In the 2006 federal election, Prime Minister Paul Martin re-committed the Liberals to mandatory licensing and universal registration and promised to ban handguns if elected. He lost.

In the 2008 federal election, Liberal Party leader Stephane Dion mused about "fixing" the long gun registry and banning semi-automatic firearms if elected. He lost.

In the 2011 federal election, Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff made vague references to "fixing" the now clearly failed firearms program. He lost.

When Ignatieff preached about finding a "third way" with stakeholders, after the uncomfortably close second reading vote on private members Bill C-391 back in 2009, I personally called the leader of the opposition's office to take him up on his offer. No one ever got back to me. The issue faded from the national media and the Liberals lost their moment of interest in any firearms law reform.

The firearms issue has helped shut the Liberal Party out of western Canada and rural Canada, but when it was winning massive majorities, through lack of an effective conservative opposition, and with the majority of seats in Ontario and Quebec, that didn't matter.

Now, it does. The Liberals lost in their worst election defeat in history in 2011, largely because they were not competitive in these places, and the firearms issue, among many others, was responsible for that. The Liberals have appealed to those they believe to be reasonable Canadians who support gun control, and who are willing to accept the mantle of criminalization and the risk of having their rights and property confiscated for the "good of public safety."

But the Liberals have lost sight of the fact, or perhaps they have never even considered, that their 1995 Bill C-68 Firearms Act has so negatively affected so many Canadians.

As it stands now, there is no official Liberal policy on firearms. Different

Liberal MPs have made vague statements on long gun registration towards “not bringing it back,” but essentially these mean nothing. No Liberal will commit to meaningful reforms.

The Liberal Party view on firearms seems to be, “a couple of people had problems getting gun licenses or registrations; it was a divisive issue and the Conservatives used this to sink the program.”

How crude. How patronizing.

Justin Trudeau stated that the gun registry was a “mistake” and a failed policy, but that he would vote for it if it were introduced today. Liberal MP and one-time leadership hopeful Marc Garneau admitted that although he personally believed in the failed long gun registry program, he would not re-introduce it and would instead ban semi-automatic rifles.

But the most detailed policy analysis comes from Liberal MP Francis Scarpaleggia. In a recent letter to a concerned firearms owner, Scarpaleggia outlined his view on the current Liberal Party thought on firearms ownership in Canada. While stating the Liberal Party’s intent to maintain all of the remaining parts of the C-68 Firearms Act, Scarpaleggia expressed

confidence in and approval of the present licensing system, which targets the rights and property of Canadians, and suggested a renewed agenda of banning semi-automatic firearms and increasing regulations on all firearms.

It’s clear that the Liberal Party wants gun ownership in Canada to be rare, heavily regulated and actively discouraged, rather than the Canadian right and cultural tradition that generations have enjoyed. They see it as a privilege, and the property of Canadians as something to license, register and eventually confiscate in the name of public safety.

As it stands today, Liberal firearms policy is all over the map, incoherent and intent on maintaining as much of C-68 as possible while downplaying the political controversy and national backlash created by the long gun registration debacle of the 1990s.

As long as someone can be charged for simply owning property without filling out a government form, that a bureaucrat can decide whether you can or cannot own your property, or that the danger exists that a government body or the RCMP can ban your property and confiscate it from you on a whim, the firearms issue is going to continue to be a national political issue far into the future. It is apparent that the Liberal Party of Canada feels that it must continue to pay tribute to the civil disarmament lobby in its firearms policy. It is their loss. Many Canadians stopped supporting and voting for the Liberals after Bill C-68 and those votes went to the Conservatives with their platform of firearms law reform. That is not going to change until Liberal firearms policy evolves out of the dark ages of the 1990s.




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CLASSIC FIREARMS

The Steyr Model 1911 And The Transition To Large Frame Pistols

Charles Schafer



The components of the handgun, and you can see the other identifying stamps such as the crest.

Although a late arrival into the family of early large frame pistol designs, the Model 1911 Steyr 9mm was introduced near the end of two decades that witnessed the transition to what handgun shooting sports enthusiasts have come to know as the modern large frame self-loading pistol.

The story of the transition to the modern large frame pistol begins with several designs produced during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Perhaps the most well known of these are the various models of Mauser pistols that appeared between 1896 and 1912. This particular Mauser design featured a baseball bat-shaped grip or butt, and a magazine that was located ahead of the trigger and loaded from the top using a stripper clip that held 10 rounds of 7.63-millimetre ammo. The 1896, 1898 and 1912 models were relatively heavy (39 ounces unloaded) compared to most modern large frame pistols. Although many were later re-worked for the 9mm Luger cartridge, the 7.63-millimetre round that was used in early production runs had a muzzle velocity of about 1,400 feet per second, which is considerably higher than the typical muzzle velocity of modern 9mm large frame pistol designs - about 1,100 feet per second.

Other early 20th century large frame pistol designs, such as the 1903 Manlicher and the Bergmann-Bayard 9mm, still featured magazines that were also located forward of the trigger. Unlike the Mauser, these five to six-round capacity magazines were of the drop down variety, as is seen in virtually all of the large frame pistols introduced after about 1920.

An early version of the removable drop down magazine was featured in the 1897 Bergmann Model No. 5 (7.63 millimetre) pistol. However, this pistol's magazine could also be loaded from the top using a stripper clip. As such, the Steyr Model 1911 and a few early 20th century designs, including the Roth-Steyr 1907 pistol, were among the last of the top-loading magazine types.

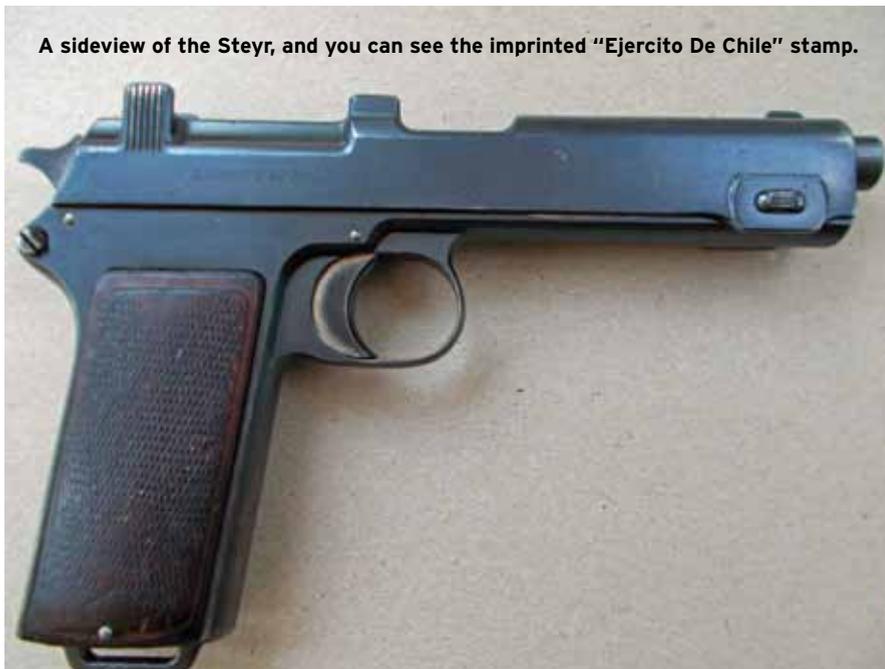
In contrast to many of their pre-

decessors, the magazine of the Steyr 1911 and the Roth-Steyr was located in the grip of the handgun, a configuration that is also seen in a few other early 20th century designs, such as the Manlicher Model 1901 (7.63 millimetre) pistol.

By 1911, Colt produced the 1905 and M1911 models in 45 calibre, based on a 1898 prototype using

the most part, prohibited in Canada. The Colt 1911 design also formed the basis for the Fabrique Nationale/Browning Model GP 35 9mm, or what has come to be known as the Browning High Power. This pistol was first introduced around 1935 and later in Canada (1942) where the John Inglis factory was responsible for producing it for the allies.

A sideview of the Steyr, and you can see the imprinted "Ejercito De Chile" stamp.



some of John Browning's designs. Production of the M1911 lasted throughout the First World War and its post-Second World War improved versions were used by the US military until about the mid-1980s. Due to its popularity, several other US gun manufacturers, as well as some foreign companies in Norway and Argentina, licensed it for production. Small-run manufacturing of this pistol in .455 Webley was also carried out in Canada for the Canadian army. It featured the classic drop-down magazine that set the stage for the easy conversion to high capacity types that are, for

The Model 1911 Steyr 9mm pistol shown in the accompanying photographs was produced for the Chilean army at a factory in Austria-Hungary. Its barrel is 5.1 inches long and its unloaded weight is 35 ounces. Its top-loading magazine holds eight Steyr 9mm rounds, which differ slightly from the 9mm Largo (9mm Bayard Long) cartridge, but that are not interchangeable. When the pistol's slide is in the forward position, two lugs on the top of the barrel engage two corresponding slots that are milled into the underside of the slide. When the slide is drawn back to load the first car-

Specifications	9mm Largo	9mm Steyr
Bullet diameter	9.01 millimetres	9.01 millimetres
Neck diameter	9.62 millimetres	9.65 millimetres
Base diameter	9.90 millimetres	9.65 millimetres
Rim diameter	9.95 millimetres	9.67 millimetres
Case length	23.1 millimetres	22.8 millimetres
Cartridge length	33.5 millimetres	33.0 millimetres



A top view of the handgun.



A view of the slide and barrel of the Steyr Model 1911.

tridge, the barrel moves back with it for a short distance and is rotated by a high angle lug/slot arrangement on the underside of the barrel that disengages the barrel from the slide. As the slide continues its rearward movement, it cocks the hammer. Then, as it moves forward, it picks up the uppermost cartridge from the magazine and chambers it. After the last round is fired, the slide remains in the rearward position, ready for reloading.

In total, about 300,000 units were manufactured at the Austria-Hungary factory and used in various European countries during and after the First World War. Chile adopted the Model 1911 in 1912 and placed an order with Steyr for 5,000 pistols (serial numbers 1570A to 1955A). Chilean inspectors were sent to the factory to apply their country's own inspection and proof marks. The

pistol in the photographs shows the Chilean crest on the left side of the slide and the words "Mod. 1911 and Steyr 1912." There are several small proof marks near the hammer-end of the slide that are probably the work of Steyr gunsmiths. The words "Ejercito de Chile" (Army of Chile) are stamped on the right side of the slide, along with a small star-shaped inspection mark that looks similar to the star that appears in the centre of the Chilean crest. The star mark is also stamped into the rear of the frame near the hammer.

Pistol shooting competitors that have used both large frame and smaller frame pistols have probably noticed a few important differences in the behaviour of both types of guns when used with the same cartridge. In general, large frame pistols, such as the Steyr and its successors, have longer lines of

sight (distance between the front and back sights) that usually yields more accurate shots and higher total scores. However, when lines of sight are of equal length, such as in the case of the Steyr 9mm versus the Glock 17 (9mm), there are distinctly different movements associated with each handgun when a shot is fired. The Steyr 9mm and other similar large frame 9mm pistols, such as the Browning High Power and the CZ Phantom, tend to kick more to the rear, which seems to give the shooter a bit more of an edge in re-acquiring the target for the next shot. The lighter Glock 17, although easier to activate, tends to have more of an upward kick that moves the front sight away from the target. That characteristic requires paying more attention to exactly how the gun is gripped. However, if your profession (such as law enforcement and security) or personal preference (for those of us that live in legal concealed carry jurisdictions from time to time) calls for something lighter, then perhaps a large frame pistol with a lighter, non-metallic frame, such as the Glock or a smaller frame design, may be more appropriate. The upward kick generated by these smaller and/or lighter models can be offset to some degree by fitting them with various kinds of compensators, ported barrels and special grips, or by adding weights to the frame, as is seen in some expensive target models, to improve the accuracy of rapidly-fired second and subsequent shots. Although I have never fired my Steyr 9mm, I am certain that the heavier weight of the pistol would work to my advantage, as I have found for the large frame and all-metal built High Power and CZ Phantom. At the end of the day, personal preference and comfort level will dictate the best solution for most shooting sports competitors. My pistols of choice are the large frame, all-metal species that appeared on the market during the first half of the 20th century, although I have to admit that I would not enjoy having to tote one around all day.



Preserving Our Firearms Heritage

Gary K. Kangas

Cowboy Action Shooting: A Game For All Ages

Cowboy action shooting brings luster to our firearms heritage. The game is reasonably new, and started in California in 1982. The pastime came to Canada in 1985 and spread nationwide. By the 1990s there were associations and affiliates in nearly every province. The formation of the Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) established rules and protocols, developed to assure that events are uniform, safe, exciting and inviting.

The allure of cowboy action shooting is the combination of history, fantasy and fun. Participants dress in clothing typical of the era, from 1860 to 1910. Participants also shoot the matches with an old west alias. These aliases can be developed from historical characters, family names, silver screen heroes or pure fantasy. The alias is registered with the Single Action Shooting Society and is unique to that individual. The equipment employed is a firearm of the same time period. The competitors practice the frontier arts of shooting with single

action revolvers, period style shotguns and pistol-calibre lever action rifles. To heighten the allure of the sport, it is not age or gender specific. Documented current participants range in age from eight to 86 and 30 to 40 per cent are women. It is inclusive, and individuals with physical challenges are able to compete as equals.

A new twist has been added, and has been developed since the late 1990s, called The Wild Bunch, utilizing 1911 Colt pistols, 1897 Winchester pump action shotguns and pistol-calibre rifles with a .40-calibre minimum.

There are competitions nationwide, from the Maritimes to Vancouver Island. Cowboy Action Shooting takes place up to 11 months of the year, depending on the weather at each locale.

There is a multitude of ways individuals have become involved. On Vancouver Island, there is a lady who, in her mid 70s, lost her husband. Rather than disposing of her husband's firearms, she qualified for her firearms license, joined the local fish and game association and became a keen competitor in the senior ladies category, as competitors are matched in age-related divisions. Another female, a 40-something participant, has always been interested in firearms; she acquired her firearms license when her family had grown and were out on their own. She is now one of the top competitors in her local club.

One of the finest accounts of how to become involved is the description shared with the author by Marc Cormier, alias Frenchy Cannuck, from Shediac, NB. Marc begins with: "I am 54 years old and have grown up in New Brunswick. My father loved to hunt and was very good at it. Firearms have been part of my life. These were hunting guns, not handguns.

"I have loved everything that has to do with the old west since I was a boy. In March 2008, my wife and I took a trip to San Angelo, Texas, to visit my wife's sister. We spent some time in Austin then a day in San Antonio so we could visit the Alamo and the River Walk. This was a sort of pilgrim-



**The allure of cowboy action shooting
is the combination of history, fantasy and fun.**

Participants dress in clothing typical of the era,
from 1860 to 1910. Participants also shoot the
matches with an old west alias.



age for me. I bought a non-firing replica of an antique 1873 Peacemaker as a souvenir. After I arrived back home to Shediac, I started searching the Internet to find a belt and holster for my new toy and was amazed to find a great deal of leather makers selling their wares online. I came across a reference to Cowboy Action Shooting on one of the sites and followed the link. Well that was it!

"I began researching and learned about shooting sports in general and eventually found out that there were some people that were involved in Cowboy Action Shooting in the Fredericton area. I told a friend, alias Silverado Jack, about it and we decided to go and see one of their shoots. The following winter we signed up for the restricted firearms course and got our licenses.

"The following spring we had one complete set of cowboy guns between the two of us and we shot our first match in 2010. At the match, some of the participants mentioned to us that there were others from the Moncton area that would occasionally come and shoot at their event and they asked if we knew them. We did not, but a few weeks later, while at the range practicing with our new cowboy guns, a young fellow with the alias of Kid Cameron happened by. He asked if we shot Cowboy Action based on the firearms we were using and the hat I was wearing. We started chatting and he told us about 'Reverend Ben,' his father, and 'N B Lawman, his uncle. We arranged to get together for a day of shooting. They invited 'Marshall Crackshot' and his wife 'Lady Wingshot.' We decided we should get together as we had discovered some others, 'Captain Henry Cutter,' 'Joe Boot' and 'Clancy.'

"We then organized a shoot to see how it would work. We had some steel targets made by a local metal fabricator and away we went. On Aug.

14, 2010, we had our first match and the BeauBassin Range Riders were born. The original five members were 'Frenchy Cannuck,' 'Silverado Jack,' 'Clancy,' 'Captain Henry Cutter' and 'Joe Boot.' We spent the rest of the summer shooting whenever possible and at the same time building our cowboy action shooting club.

"The BeauBassin Range Riders is a SASS-affiliated club that holds monthly matches on the second Saturday of every month, from April to November. We have now grown to 20 members. We also hold a two-day annual shoot in August. Our August 2013 shoot was our third annual. We have attracted 'The Stranger' from Montreal and in 2013 the 'Legendary Lawman' and 'Serenity' came from Hamilton, Ont., to shoot with us. We have cowboys and cowgirls who come and shoot regularly with us from neighboring Nova Scotia. We have four cowgirl shooters in



The BeauBassin Range Riders gathered for a group photo after their 2013 shootout competition.



our midst and have had a few visits from a buckaroo shooter, 14-year-old 'Graveyard,' a very pleasant young man and a great competitor. However, he has discovered girls so we do not see him as often.

"There are other SASS-regulated matches in the area. The Nova Scotia Cowboy Action Shooting Association in Truro holds three or four matches annually and there is also the Great Pumpkin Massacre in Kentville, NS, in October of every year.

"We are committed to continuing what we have started and hopefully see more clubs pop up in the area."

Author's note: This account is typical of how clubs have developed across the nation, with the encouragement

and coverage in the Single Action Shooting Society publication, The Cowboy Chronicle. If anyone wishes to correspond with the Single Action Shooting Society they can call 505-843-1320 or e-mail sasschron@sassnet.com. It is a credit to Marc Cormier, alias Frenchy Cannuck, and his cadre of dedicated cowboy action shooters for pursuing their passion with such vigor.

Preserving our firearms heritage requires effort. With passion comes work, to take the time to develop contacts, sources and resources. The author applauds individuals such as Marc and all the others who have taken the time to establish clubs and associations in their local area. These affiliates are the strength of our shooting sports.



Top: All willing participants are welcome to try Cowboy Action Shooting and many enjoy getting into the full swing of the event.

Middle: Silverado Jack competing in Cowboy Action Shooting.

Bottom: Participants dress in typical clothing from the early 1900s, which adds to the fun of the sport.



Point Blank

Chris McGarry

Natural Rights Can Never Be Legislated Against

In what has become a flagrant desecration of the most fundamental freedoms every individual on this planet can claim as their birthright, over the past 60 years or so governments in most western democracies have seen fit to severely curtail natural rights, such as free speech, parental rights and, most shockingly, a citizen's basic right to self defense.

Of late, Canadians have been bombarded with news story after news story - from poor David Chan protecting his small Toronto business from a career criminal, to Gary Paul Bucci, the Calgary senior who last August found himself facing a charge of careless use of a firearm for having the audacity to defend his home and loved ones from a would-be intruder - exposing the state's fanatical obsession with keeping an iron grip on the monopoly of force.

Yes folks, in a typhoon of leftist lunacy not seen since Stanley Kubrick's *A Clockwork Orange* or George Orwell's timeless novel *1984*, black is white, good is bad, truly dangerous criminals are merely victims of a greedy, capitalist society while hardworking, taxpaying citizens who defend not only their property, but also their very lives, are considered a threat to the all-encompassing (not to mention coercive) nanny state and therefore must be punished and rendered financially bankrupt through the process of malicious prosecution.

Some of you are probably scratching your heads deliberating how a supposedly civilized, forward-looking nation could devolve into such a pitiful state of affairs.

It's no exaggeration to proclaim, but thankfully Canada, for most of its existence, has been a relatively peaceful society in which to live. As Canadians, despite the lies spewed by the gun control crowd, we've always enjoyed the same rights to self-defense as our American cousins and counterparts throughout the British Commonwealth.

A fairly genteel heritage and a feeling of moral superiority over that pow-

er-hungry, gun-crazy country to the south has led many ordinary, friendly Canadians to naively believe that somehow self defense need no longer be considered a vital right in this country.

I hate to spoil anybody's hockey game, but Canada is no longer the innocent, laidback country many of us fondly remember. Like the US, our cities are growing, as is poverty and other social problems, a few of the factors that contribute to higher crime rates. Growing up in rural PEI, I recall many of my neighbors not even feeling the need to lock their doors at night. Sadly, those days are gone.

What is even more disturbing is that so many Canadians have been brainwashed into trusting that somehow the police will magically arrive to protect them and that it's somehow immoral to protect yourself or someone else in distress. Don't believe me? A few years ago in Halifax, NS, an entire crowd stood by idly (known in psychology as the bystander effect) while a group of youths viciously attacked and tried to rob a young woman at a bus terminal. Thankfully, a few good Samaritans intervened and police later apprehended the perpetrators.

In my humble, though informed, opinion, a 180-degree shift in attitudes towards fundamental rights based on freedom and liberty, rather than socialism/collectivism, is what's needed to turn the tide in favour of self-defense once again in this country. Instead of viewing government as an authority that provides for their every need, this shift will mean citizens electing representatives into office for the sole purpose of safeguarding their fundamental, inalienable rights.



Canadians have a natural right to protect themselves and this is something that should not be legislated against.



Rosalie

A Little-Known Lady

By Martin Lampron

A serviceman's cherished comrade

For those who do not know her, Rosalie is the service weapon that was issued to Henry Lecorre, Tex Leccore's father, when he joined the Canadian Army in April 14, 1915. At the time, he joined under the 22nd Battalion, which after several battle honours became the Royal 22nd Regiment (Van Doos). For those who would like to learn more about the statements of Lecorre, his wartime service number was 61835.

The name Rosalie was given to this Lee-Enfield rifle No. 1 MK 111, model 1916, .303 calibre, and came from a French song that was sung by the troops in France. This song was created by the *Marraines de guerres* (soldier's wartime female pen pal). Those were women writing and corresponding with soldiers to lift the troops' spirits in the harsh conditions of the trenches of the Great War.

Lecorre engraved his rifle with the names of the battles he fought in, including Arras, Cens, Lievin, Passchendaele, Courcelette, Vimy and more. The star engraved on the rifle butt is in honour of Stella M. de Cabano, who was his *marraine de guerre*.

The weapon was lost and later found in a metal deposit for destruction and returned to Lecorre. It was then stolen and he found it again in a French tavern while he was on leave. Lecorre later came back imper-

sonating a military officer in order to get it back.

He tried his best to hide Rosalie from his superiors. But his senior officer took it back from him and furiously ordered that the weapon be destroyed. He was required to pay for this rifle and do some jail time because he had damaged a property of its Majesty. This time, members of his unit rescued Rosalie; one of them sacrificed his own rifle and had it quickly engraved and destroyed instead of Rosalie.

Lecorre was then severely injured during a gas attack while he was trying to rescue two wounded comrades and then he found himself alone in a hospital without his cherished Rosalie.

She was seen again after the war, on the battlefield, and brought to a small arms factory at Enfield in England in 1943 where she was presented to General Andrew McNaughton. The engraved name of the 22nd French Canadian Battalion quickly drew his curiosity and so he returned her to the Royal 22nd Regiment where she still remains. Henry Lecorre finally noticed his old rifle at an exhibition in 1956, where he was overcome with emotion. He passed away on Jan. 20, 1963.

Rosalie is currently exhibited in the museum of the Quebec Citadel in Quebec City.



Rosalie

une femme peut connue

Pour ceux qui ne la connaissent pas Rosalie, est l'arme de service qui a été donné à Henri Lecorre, le père de Tex Leccore quand il a joint l'armée Canadienne le 14 avril 1915. Il a joint à l'époque sous le 22 bataillons qui après plusieurs honneurs de batailles est devenu le 22 Royal Régiment. Pour ceux qui voudrait en connaître plus sur les états de Mr Lecorre son numéro de service avant que le matricule ne soit adopté était 61835.

Le nom de cette Lee-Enfield No 1 MK 111, modèle 1916 de calibre 303 provenait d'une chanson française qui était chanté par les soldats en France. Une chanson qui fut créée par les mairaines de guerres qui était un organisme de femmes qui écrivait et devenaient correspondante au soldat pour remonter le morale des troupes dans les difficiles conditions de tranchées de la grande guerre.

Les débuts de la personnalisation de l'arme et de son caractère exceptionnelle débutèrent quand il la reçut. Il débuta donc par gravé Rosalie sur l'arme ce qui lui donna une amende et une peine de prison pour avoir détruit le matériel de sa majesté. L'arme fut plus tard retrouvée dans un dépôt à métal destiné à la destruction, ou elle lui fut retournée. Jusqu'à ce qu'il se la fasse voler et lors d'une permission la voit dans une taverne française, ou il retourne plus tard en se faisant passer pour un policier militaire pour quelle lui soit restitué.

Elle par après suivi d'une bataille a une autre,

chacune des batailles gravé dans la crosse. Y sont entre autre gravé Arras, Cens, Lievin, Passchendaele, Courcellette Vimy et bien d'autres. Par contre, l'étoile gravée sur la crosse est en l'honneur de madame Stella M. de Cabano qui était marraine de guerre.

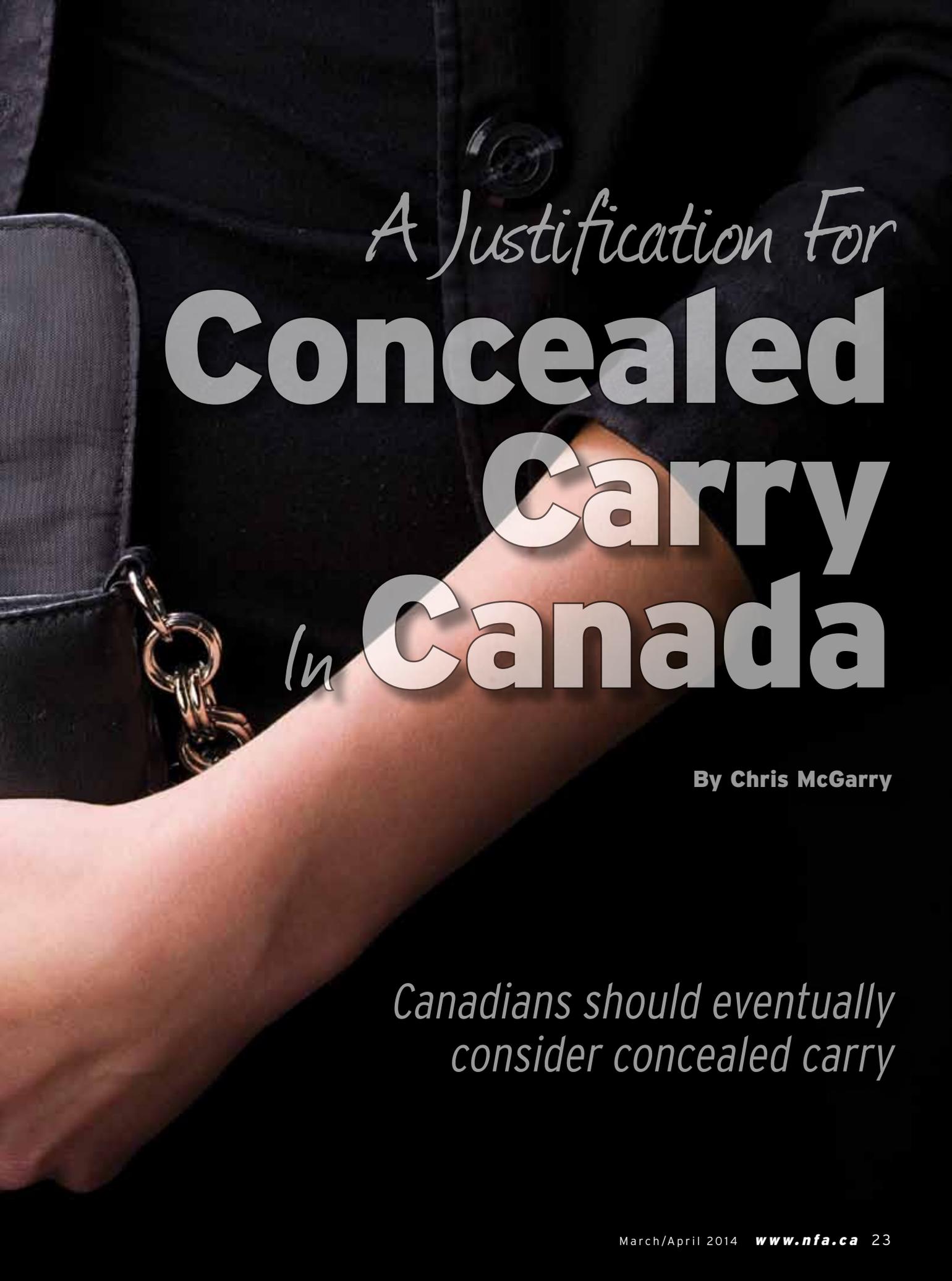
Tout en tentant de son mieux que Rosalie ne soit pas revue encore par ses supérieurs. Mais l'officier supérieur le reprit et furieux ordonna que l'arme soit détruite. Cette fois elle fut sauvée par les membres de son unité un d'entre eux se sacrifia pour que son arme soit gravé rapidement et quelle soit détruite à la place.

Puis durant les combats il fut gravement blessé lors d'une attaque au gaz alors qu'il tentait de sauver 2 confrères blessés et se retrouva seul à l'hôpital sans la Rosalie qu'il avait tant chérie.

Elle fut retrouvée après la guerre sur le champ de bataille ou elle fut apportée à Small arms factory à Enfield en Angleterre en 1943 ou elle fut présentée au Général Andrew McNaughton. L'inscription 22eme Bataillon Canadien Français a rapidement attiré sa curiosité et ainsi il la retourna au Royal 22eme Régiment ou elle demeure encore. Mr Henri Lecorre revit finalement son arme lors d'une exposition en 1956 où il fut submergé par l'émotion avant de s'éteindre le 20 janvier 1963.

Rosalie est présentement exposé au musée de la citadelle à Québec de la citadelle à Québec.

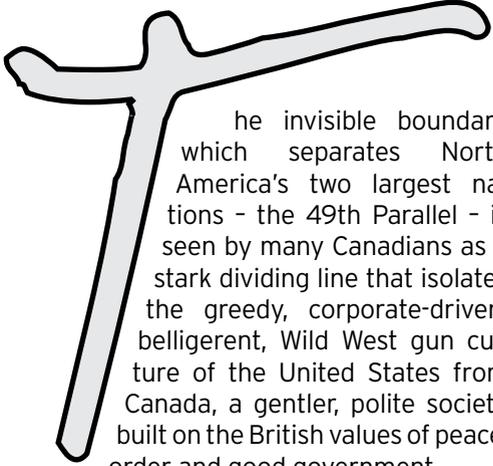




A Justification For
Concealed
Carry
In **Canada**

By Chris McGarry

*Canadians should eventually
consider concealed carry*



The invisible boundary which separates North America's two largest nations - the 49th Parallel - is seen by many Canadians as a stark dividing line that isolates the greedy, corporate-driven, belligerent, Wild West gun culture of the United States from Canada, a gentler, polite society built on the British values of peace, order and good government.

And while many ordinary Canucks will (in most cases) at least pay lip service to the not-so-publicized fact that the world's second-largest nation does indeed have a gun culture to rival the one much touted by our American cousins, the concept of anyone other than a peace officer or possibly an armoured car guard carrying a handgun to defend one's life/property or the lives of others is anathema and merely bringing up the topic is cause enough for these normally polite, benign folks to flee for the safety of their homes.

In all truthfulness, for decades Canada, with a relatively low population and generous social programs, was a much safer country than the US, hampered by a population 10 times larger, widespread social inequality as well as prevalent racial tensions.

Not all that long ago, I spoke with a retiree from southern Ontario who currently lives in my home province of PEI. One day, this man told me that in the 1960s families from dangerous, crime-ridden Detroit would cross the Ambassador Bridge to spend lazy weekend afternoons in Windsor, Ont. And this was at a time when Canada, in some respects, had more lenient gun laws than the US. Unfortunately, as the old saying goes, all good things come to an end.

Now while I'm not trying to convince readers that over the last 50 years Canada has somehow degenerated into a cesspool of bloodshed and anarchy (a 2012 Statistics Canada report explicitly states that the country's overall crime rate has been decreasing since 1970) certain violent offenses such as swarmings, sexual assaults, unprovoked violent

attacks and home invasions have gotten worse and threaten the everyday well-being of citizens, most of whom are unarmed, in some of our nation's largest cities.

It's a rather sad fact, but many Canadians, through years of brainwashing by politicians and the media, have been duped into embracing a false sense of security, one which sounds great in theory but fails to deliver when the chips are down. The hard reality is, the police cannot be everywhere at once, and, in a life-or-death situation, seconds count. If this isn't a justification for law-abiding, trained Canadian citizens to have the right to carry the tools that will enable them to successfully protect their lives or those of complete strangers, than I don't know what is.

As is to be expected, on the few occasions when the topic of armed self-defense does come up, people are generally opposed, aping the ridiculous, unsubstantiated claim that allowing concealed carry will somehow turn otherwise rational, peaceful citizens into violent psychos and the streets of our cities will magically transform into war zones.

If any of these (sometimes deliberately) uninformed Canadians would only read the truth about right-to-carry laws in the US, they would soon learn that in jurisdictions with high rates of gun ownership, property crimes and offenses against the person have decreased significantly. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, crime rates for the five most violent offenses decreased as much as 28.1 per cent between 2006 and 2009. It comes as no surprise that NCIS background checks and applications for concealed-carry permits, in as many as 40 American states, increased during this three-year period. So there you have it folks, an armed society is truly a safer, more polite one.

Many people who are not up to date on Canada's laws merely assume that concealed carry is completely illegal in this country. Such an assumption is totally off the mark. Authorization to carry (ATC)

is permitted under sections of the Firearms Act and Criminal Code. While this may sound good on paper, the bureaucratic hoops one must overcome to actually exercise his or her God-given (or natural rights for atheists and agnostics) are borderline insurmountable.

In keeping with the spirit of the often overbearing nanny state Canada has developed into since the heyday of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in the 1960s, 1970s and early 1980s, an ATC permit will only be issued by a chief firearms officer if there is a genuine threat over a substantial period to the potential issuant's life, as well as police confirmation that they cannot provide adequate protection for that person. Not sure about you folks reading this, but I'm more than just a bit against the idea of freedom-hating bureaucrats having the authority to play God with my life.

This won't happen overnight, but down the road, when and if significant reforms to Canada's draconian gun laws are finally put into action, the next logical course of action should be to simplify the process of getting an ATC permit. Perhaps all current holders of restricted PALs, who are trained and vetted by police, would automatically become eligible.

Though many gun-shy people will proudly state that arming private citizens is and never will be warranted in peaceful, laidback Canada, I vehemently beg to differ. In recent years, two high-profile cases - the murders of Winnipeg native Tim Maclean in 2008 and Halifax gay rights activist Raymond Taavel in 2012 - are proof that disarming citizens only turns potential victims into easier targets. If only one armed citizen had have been nearby, the outcomes of both tragic events may have been dramatically different.

One of the major challenges for Canada's firearms community in the near future will be to educate the general public about their rights but most importantly, change the way people think in this country regarding the use of firearms for personal protection. In the long run, it will be a great benefit to our society.

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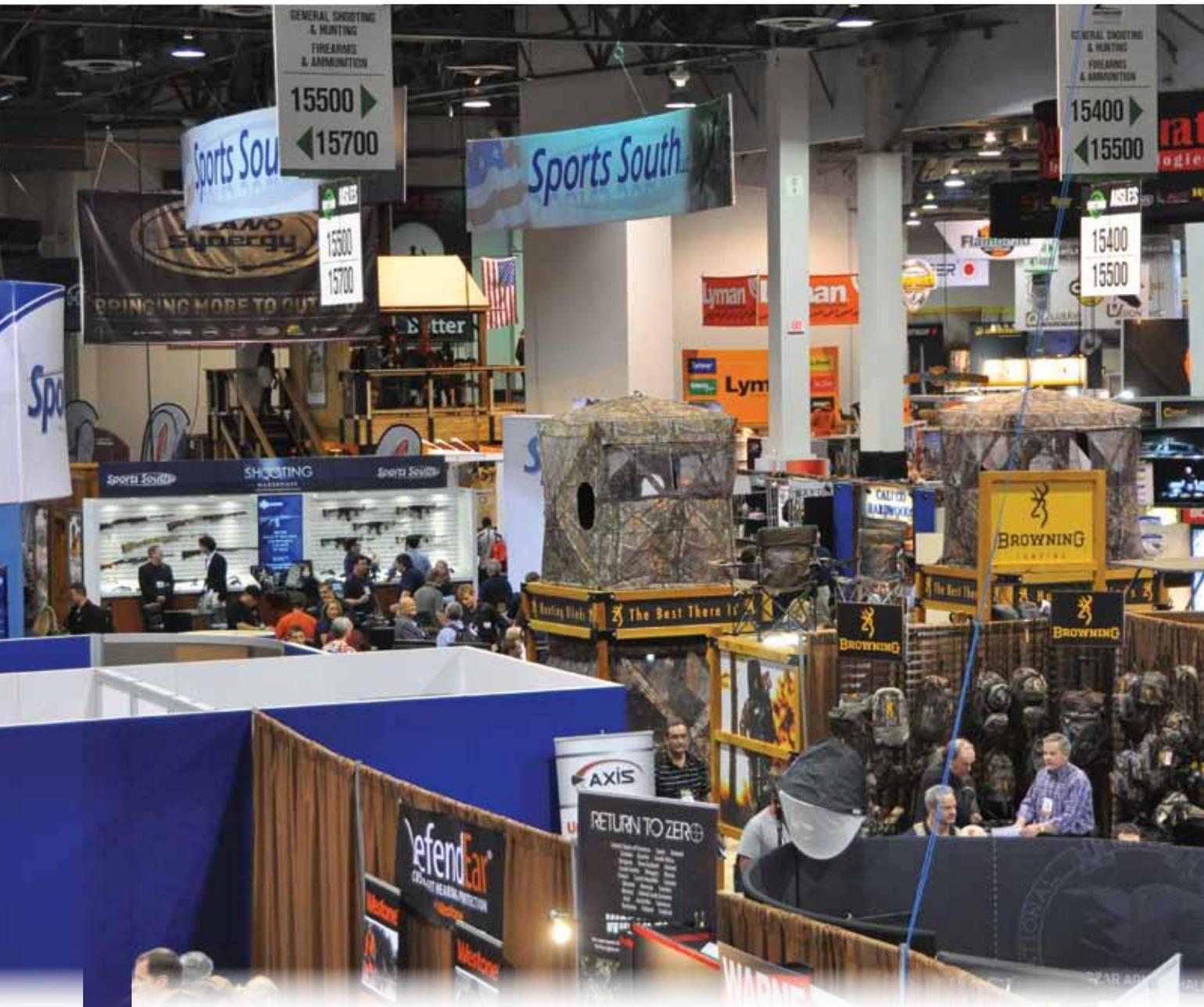
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SHOT

More companies exporting and consolidating in 2014



Show Report



BY AL VOTH

In my opinion, the most important part of my visit to the annual SHOT Show in Las Vegas is the search for trends or changes happening within the firearms industry. Sure, all the new guns and other products are fun to play with, but they aren't the important things - those are a lot more intangible. I'm not sure I caught them all, but these are some of the most important trends and changes you need to know about the industry in 2014.

We export

A new multilingual sign popped up at SHOT this year - all it said was "We Export." Its intent was to clearly designate which companies have the paperwork in place to export their product to other nations. I thought it was a great idea, as one of the items on my task list was to research a new rule change regarding exports from the US.

For many years, the US has imposed a \$100 limit on exporting gun parts without an export permit. That meant if you needed parts not available in Canada, you had to order them in small batches from a US supplier. The emphasis was on small, because if an order was over the \$100 limit, then an export permit was required from the US government, as well as an import permit from Canada. The limit has been raised to \$500.

To find out if and how this is being applied, I spoke with some US-based suppliers. Boyd's Gunstocks told me they are aware of the new limit and Canadian consumers can now order almost everything in their catalogue. Timney Triggers was next and they also told me that the new \$500 limit was being applied to Canadian orders, making all of their product line available for direct order. Gun Parts Corporation, the largest gun parts supplier in the world, was on my list and their staff told me the new limit is being applied there, too. Only their interpretation is that the \$500 limit applies to the wholesale price. They have therefore applied a somewhat arbitrary 50 per cent rule to the \$500, meaning a Canadian consumer can order \$1,000

worth of parts from them without import and export permits.

However, not all the companies I spoke with were as knowledgeable as these firms. One manufacturer of high-end synthetic stocks wasn't aware of the rule changes at all and told me he'd endured some severe financial punishment from US government bureaucrats for stepping over the old \$100 limit. He was understandably gun-shy about any new limits. It's also important to note that each company representative I spoke with had a slightly different interpretation of the rules. That's a good indication of poorly written legislation, and it makes it imperative to double-check with any US firm before placing a Canada-bound order.

Canadian success stories

As usual there were lots of Canadians present at the show. Numerically, most were buyers, but there were some sellers too and they had success stories to tell. One of those was Revision Military, a Canadian company best known among sport shooters for its military-grade eyewear. However, they are in the military helmet business too and have been signing contracts all over the world to supply both items. A major coup was a recently signed deal with the US Department of Defence to produce 90,000 hi-tech combat helmets for them.

Modular Driven Technologies, of Chilliwack, BC, is on a roll too, as they've been producing their chassis system in an OEM capacity for



This seven-languages sign appeared for the first time at the 2014 SHOT Show in Las Vegas. Any booth with the paperwork in place to export their products was encouraged to display it.

Remington. When I toured the Remington booth, there it hung, a Remington rifle wearing the MDT chassis as a factory item. Remington calls it the Model 700 Tactical Chassis and it's available in 308 Win, 300 Win Mag and 338 Lapua. That's what you call "making it big."

The folks from Winnipeg's PGW Defence were seen in the aisles of the show as well. They, of course, are well known as the builders of the Canadian Forces sniper rifles. A deal that morphed into supplying a host of other nations with similar guns. After conquering the sniper world, they are interested in expanding further into the civilian market and SHOT is the place to do it.

Elcan is another well-known name in military circles and their Canadian-made optical sights appear on rifles around the world. They were showing off a new version of their Specter sight. This one is called the SpecterTR 1-3-9x, with all those numbers

meaning this optical sight has three fixed magnification settings: 1X, 3X and 9X. It's an interesting concept, one the company has proven works well in their 1-4X SpectreDR, which is US SOCOM approved.

More real women

Women have always been a part of the SHOT show, with their most visible presence in a role as booth babes. Thankfully, that seems to be changing, as I noticed more "real" women at the show than ever before. It was especially evident in the pressroom, where a significant number of ladies had press badges and were working with the rest of us grunts, filing their reports and stories. Additionally, women who are champion shooters were making appearances, giving presentations and lending their star power to various companies. It's obvious women are making significant inroads into the shooting sports and that's a good thing.

Available ARs

The panic buying of ARs, and thus the shortage of those guns, is over. There was a glut of manufacturers exhibiting versions of the classic black rifle and all were working hard to try and distinguish their particular iteration from the rest of the pack. Some succeeded, but most didn't. After all, how many ways can you build an AR? About the only thing that outnumbered AR builders were companies building accessories for ARs.

Concealed carry

Concealed carry is becoming a large part of the US firearm industry and a significant part of the SHOT show. I'll speculate that the majority of new handgun models introduced this year were directly aimed at that market. For Canadians? No point in stopping to look at these - move along, move along.



The Monday of SHOT Show is the media day at the range and there was no shortage of ammunition at the IWI booth.

Consolidation

At the corporate level, a lot of consolidation has been going on the last few years. Large companies are buying small ones and creating bigger companies. ATK did it this past year when they purchased Savage Arms and Bushnell. The trend is easy to spot at SHOT because all booths from one holding company are usually clustered into the same complex. What does it mean to consumers? In the past, some of these acquisitions have resulted in disruptions to production, quality control issues and lack of product availability. Other times it has meant more money for research and product development. Each acquisition is different and I wouldn't want to predict a result for any of them. But it does look like we're going to end up with half-a-dozen large conglomerates controlling most of the firearms industry.

Shortages

Canadian shooters are all too familiar with making a trip to the local gun shop, only to find that what's being sought is out of stock and there's

no indication of when it might be available. Unfortunately, it looks like that will continue for some products.

The availability of guns is better than it was a few years ago, although companies like Ruger are reporting they are still over one million guns behind in production. Many of these are handguns intended for that concealed carry market, which is irrelevant to us Canucks. But overall, the gun situation looks tolerable.

Ammunition availability looks better than previous years too, with the only real potential for painful shortages being in the rimfire calibres. Demand for those calibres in the US is still significantly outstripping production. Strangely, I think we have more rimfire ammunition available right now than the Americans do, however we're at the end of the supply line and it could catch up with us here too. Ammunition companies told me centrefire production is catching up with demand, but that's largely because of some massive increases in production. There is no let up in demand.

The bleakest forecast is for hand-

loading components. Neither Sierra, Hornady nor Berger announced any new bullets this year. All of them told me they are far too busy trying to keep up with production demands to even think about adding to their line. Additionally, Hornady has suspended production of some of their less popular bullets, so they can concentrate on keeping up with the more popular items. The powder situation looks dismal too. Every company is producing at capacity and it's being sucked up faster than they can make it. Hodgdon has a bulletin on their website called "Why Can't I Find Hodgdon Powders?" They put it up in 2013 and it will likely stay there a long time. Everything I heard suggests there is no relief in sight and if you're a handloader the best advice I can give is buy what you need when you see it, because it won't be there tomorrow.

Those are at least some of the trends and changes shooters need to be aware for the coming year. Next issue we'll look at a collection of new products that were introduced at the SHOT Show.



The factory-available Remington Model 700 Tactical Chassis features a Canadian-made MDT chassis system.



NFA's
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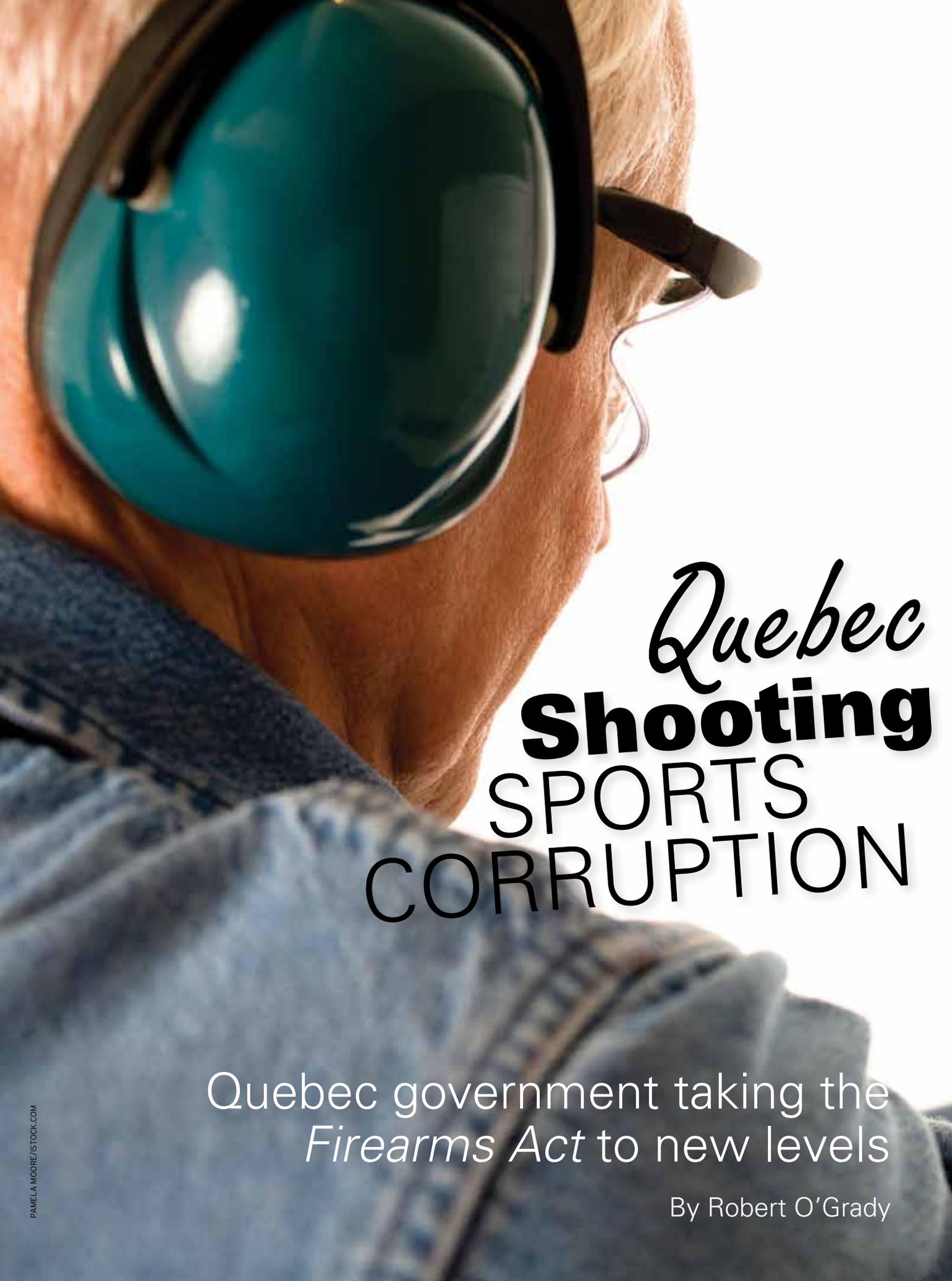
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Quebec
Shooting
SPORTS
CORRUPTION

Quebec government taking the
Firearms Act to new levels

By Robert O'Grady

I'm a Quebec resident and working professional. I lived my whole life in Quebec and have seen many of the downsides to its unfortunate political affairs.

I do partake in several activities: SCUBA diving, cycling, running and several shooting sports/disciplines, Service Conditions Rifle Matches, Service Conditions CQB and IPSC. I'm an average competitor, but I do it for the love of the sport, comradery and of course chatting it up with guys about technical stuff and our firearms. My favourites are both Service Conditions Rifle Matches and Service Conditions CQB - they are unique traditions we have here in Canada.

Service Conditions is the basis on which the Ontario Rifle Association (ORA) was built. Since 1868, we have had close and co-operative links with the Canadian Forces, especially the army reserves in Ontario.

From the .577 Snider-Enfield to the present generation of C7A2 rifles, the ORA contributes to their marksmanship training. Service Conditions is the conditions under which the match is conducted, basically the military style of shooting. We conduct the current rifle matches of the Canadian Forces Small Arms Concentration (CFSAC). These matches are fired at distances from 15 to 400 yards. Gone are the days of shooting mats, spotting scopes and duffle bags of kit.

Today's service competitor travels light; all kit is carried on the person. Chances are if you don't have it on you, you don't need it. You will find these matches very challenging and competitive, both physically and mentally.

It is a relatively expensive hobby, but well worth it. But living in Quebec has hindered the sports in several aspects. The CFO and FTQ have joined forces to add more redundant and extra regulations that are not in the Firearms Act. The FTQ has also arbitrarily decided all courses for the CSFC have to be taken by an FTQ instructor. Gun clubs are no longer allowed to set up a course with certified instructors and pay them. This has now extended into becoming a range officer in Quebec - you have to take the course through the FTQ as well. As far as I'm concerned this is like organized crime, extortion per say, more corruption, as this is basically a government-run outlet, more politics and emotional reactions that have not done anything in regards to public safety. Specifically I'm talking about Law 9; no other province has this kind of handicap and ridiculous measure.

The basics:

- Restrict ownership of semi-automatic weapons to gun club members.
- Limit the right of the owner to transport guns from one place to another.
- Require people to apply for gun permits in person at a police station and pass an aptitude test.
- Require gun club owners to report any suspicious or unusual behavior detected among members.
- Require other professionals, such as physicians and teachers to report suspicious behavior even if it contradicts doctor-patient or any other confidentiality.
- Create gun-free zones on public transit, and at day cares, schools and colleges.

"Someone who does not comply with this ban will have to pay a very high fine of as much as \$5,000. Those weapons will be seized immediately without a warrant and will be confiscated," Former Liberal Premier Jean Charest said.

NFA's Shawn Bevins explains:

This is not the only time Quebec has broken the rules and gone beyond the Firearms Act. Law 9 (a \$50 course, which is administered by the FQT) that restricts the transportation of restricted firearms is nothing more than a way to punish law-abiding handgun owners. The CFO, in collaboration with the FQT, have devised a way that if your shooting club membership expires, even though the federal Firearms Act makes no mention of conditions found in Law 9, your gun club will advise the CFO that you are no longer a member of that club and you can have your firearms seized. They have also decided that now that your club membership has expired, so has your Law 9 course. Yes you will have to pay another \$50 and take the course over again. This, as most of Law 9, is beyond the scope of the federal Firearms Act. The federal Firearms Act allows for handgun owners to legally transport those firearms with a valid authorization to transport, issued by the CFO, to any authorized shooting range. Unfortunately, not in Quebec; only if you are an FQT member will you be allowed to do that and if you choose not to associate (a charter right) you cannot transport your handguns to another club. If you are caught, you will face seizure, fines and jail time. ISPC, an internationally recognized sports shooting body that is very popular in Quebec, cannot hold certain matches in Quebec because the CFO, with the FQT, have decided you cannot move forward. Again, we find no mention of any of these rules in the Firearms Act. Quebec, you are still Canadians!

It's time shooting clubs and Quebec competitive shooters stop supporting this and fill out your annoying ATTs every match.



Canada's National Firearms Association Annual General Meeting 2014

Radisson Hotel Vancouver Airport

8181 Cambie Road, Richmond B.C., 1-604-276-8181 toll free +1-800-967-9033

Join us in Vancouver for the 2014 Annual General Meeting of Canada's National Firearms Association.

Friday May 23

Meet and Greet - mingle with the Directors and other activists

Saturday May 24

**Open Panel Discussion, AGM, Banquet
(Evening dinner with door prizes).**

Special guests invited: *Professor Gary Mauser, Solomon Friedman, LL.B. of Edelson Clifford D'Angelo, Murray Morrison of All Sport Insurance Marketing Ltd, Lorne Gunther from Sun News and the Edmonton Sun, Phil Watson Executive Director of IAPCAR, Derek A. Birch, Barrister & Solicitor...*

Please register early to help us plan arrangements. The first 15 members to register will receive a copy of the "Journal on Firearms & Public Policy" by Gary Mauser. If you are not yet a member, it is not too late to join. Donations to support this event are gratefully appreciated.

To view more information regarding our 2014 AGM, please visit our website at www.nfa.ca.

To book your hotel reservation with Radisson Hotel Vancouver Airport, please follow this link <http://www.radisson.com/cnfaagm2014>.

NATIONAL FIREARMS ASSOCIATION REGISTRATION FOR 2014 AGM:

Registration fee:	\$45 _____	Membership # _____
(Includes: Information sessions & Banquet)		Name: _____
Guest (s) Registration fee:	\$45 x ___ = _____	Address: _____
Buffet Lunch-May 24	\$20 x ___ = _____	Phone: _____
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au sujet de notre Réunion général 2014*

Tactical Gun Training In Ontario

By Charles Zach



Shooting is a learned skill.

In order for any shooter to improve in the accuracy and speed of his/her shot, the individual need to learn the proper techniques. Scott Little, of TDSA Canada, has developed a system that perfects the mechanics of a shooter.

TDSA Canada was founded in 2006, with well over 1,000 students attending the various courses that are offered by the school. Student backgrounds are diversified, ranging from civilians to law enforcement or military. Many of these students

have been NFA members. Abilities of incoming students vary from novice to grand master. Classes encompass pistol, tactical rifle, shotgun and long rifle. Basic fundamentals are covered for each firearm, which include platform, posture, grip, sight picture, trigger control, target transitions, draw from holster and reloads. The goal is for students to excel in a relaxed, safe environment, where a low ratio of students to instructors is guaranteed.

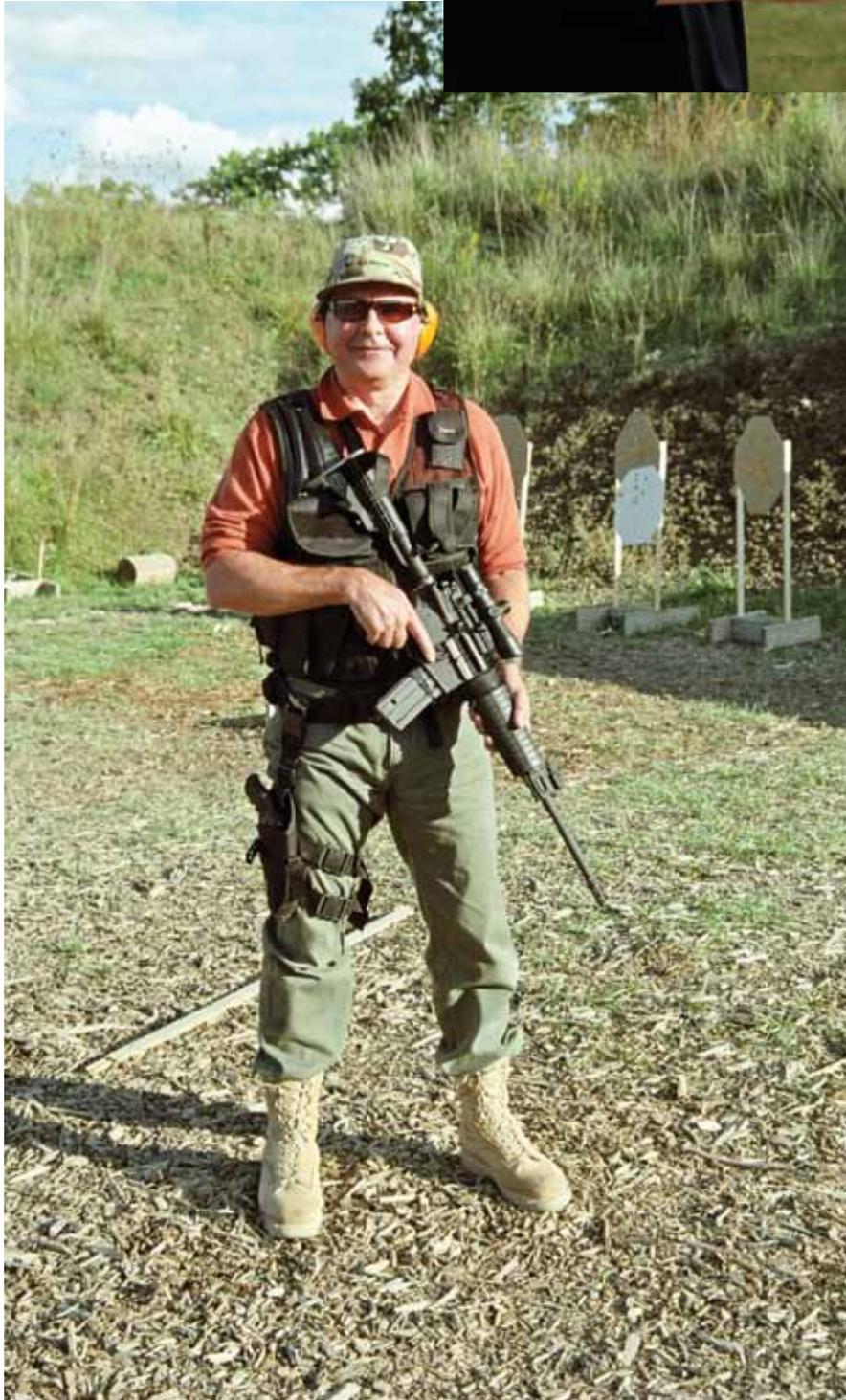
Scott acquired his teaching certificates from TDSA Missouri and Tex-

as. USPSA National Champion and good friend Max Michele has also trained him. Scott has an in-depth martial arts background, including Wing Chun, Jeet Kune Do and Tae Kwon Do. Many great martial arts instructors, including Larry Hartsell, Francis Fong, Paul Vunak and Rickson Gracie, have taught him. In doing this, he has brought a lot of the attributes and drills associated with martial arts into the TDSA training system. However, Scott stresses that he hasn't re-invented the wheel - he's just made it better. He characterizes

TDSA Canada coach Scott Little is pictured doing what he does best.



TDSA Canada offers a variety of courses, for a variety of skill levels.



his coaching techniques for shooters to that of a power skating coach to a hockey player - take that new shooter and drive home the skills needed to be quicker, faster, more accurate and consistent than they were before. Scott adds, "It is fun and challenging to take that new shooter who is very nervous, even afraid at first, and at the end of the day is able to accomplish something that they never thought that they would have been able to do. It makes us proud that our system works."

Classes are assessed and fundamentals are geared to that particular class. Some students prefer tactical teaching methods, where as others gain from teaching techniques that are more sports oriented. In either format, a beginner student can expect to be taken from the Club Safety course and become proficient with all of the basics by the end of the class.

Author and Ontario NFA director, Charles Zach, has taken most of the TDSA courses and can attest to the quality and professionalism of the training and the real improvements in shooting technique that result. I am an ongoing TDSA Canada student and have been trained and certified in their Advanced Pistol 1 and 2, holster, Tactical Rifle 1 and 2 and Precision Rifle 1 courses. While I have been involved with firearms for over 20 years as a recreational shooter and hunter, the TDSA courses that I took advanced my shooting skills to a level that I could not have done on my own. As a re-

When law enforcement or military students participate in one of our regular or private classes, all of the instructors at TDSA Canada take extra time to ensure that they acquire and hone every skill possible.

sult of my TDSA training, and their proven TDSA method of instruction, my shooting competence and confidence has improved immeasurably to the point where I now consider myself an expert shooter and have become a crack shot. Of course like any perishable skill, I continue to hone and refine my shooting skills, seek new knowledge and experiences, and practice, practice, practice regularly on the gun range.

The reason I specifically chose to train with Scott and his highly qualified crew of TDSA firearms instructors was because of their diverse and unique experience that they all had to offer - especially their martial arts backgrounds. As a martial artist myself, I appreciate and understand the TDSA Canada philosophy that using a weapon of any sort for self defense transcends the weapon itself and involves a proper combat mindset. The TDSA instructors have

the "eye of the tiger" mindset that truly sets them apart from other more recreationally focused courses and is a delight to experience.

When law enforcement or military students participate in one of our regular or private classes, all of the instructors at TDSA Canada take extra time to ensure that they acquire and hone every skill possible. Scott summarizes, "They put their lives on the line for us every day and we want to make sure that they get to come home to their loved ones." This commitment to former students also rings true. TDSA prides itself on an open-door policy long after the class ends. Students are always welcome to ask instructors questions via phone, e-mails or text and will be provided with feedback and advice. The TDSA also fully supports the goals of the NFA and promotes it with all students.

TDSA Canada is an advocate for shooting sports and its tightly knit community. Unfortunately, due to some recent events, the shooting sports world has had to carry the burden, or black cloud if you will, of negative press surrounding firearms. In reality, shooting sports are a very safe and enjoyable pastime. Whether it be skeet, trap, bench rest, pistol matches, steel challenge, 3-Gun or cowboy action shooting, it gives an individual the opportunity to compete at any age or fitness level, as well as an avenue to meet new people. Scott comments that he has met some of the most upstanding individuals during his travels while teaching.

TDSA Canada is located in the Niagara Region of Ontario, Canada, and teaches out of the Hamilton Angler and Hunting Association. For more information or to enquire about our classes, please visit www.tdsacanada.com.

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Mail To: National Firearms Association, Box 49090, Edmonton AB T6E 6H4 or Toll Free 1-877-818-0393 or at www.nfa.ca

Legal Corner

Guy Lavergne, Attorney At Law

Challenging The CFO

What to do when a firearms licence is denied or revoked



ERIC'S PHOTOGRAPHY/INSTOCK.COM

Gun control laws in Canada are flawed at best, but if you have been denied for a firearms license, or have had your revoked, there may be recourse.

Under Canadian law, as it now stands, the possession of a firearm by an individual is not recognized as a right. On the contrary, it is viewed as a crime under Section 91 of the Criminal Code, unless one holds a valid license for the class of firearm that one possesses. In other words, possession of a firearm is a privilege that can be enjoyed only by those of us who hold the proper license. If one does not hold such a license, if it expires or is revoked, and one remains in possession of even a single firearm - albeit peacefully - the law views that person as a criminal.

We could argue all day that the proper measure of what constitutes criminal behaviour should not be whether one has complied with bureaucratic requirements. The reprehensible nature of one's actions and intents, when judged against standards of acceptable social behaviour, should define what is "criminal," but that is not so under current Canadian firearms legislation. Rather, a number of bureaucratic violations are treated as crimes, although no wrong is being committed. Hence, the importance of obtaining a valid license of the proper class, and keeping said licence in effect, cannot be over-emphasized.

Under Canada's Firearms Act, which together with the Criminal Code is the centerpiece of Canada's firearms legislation, each province has a Chief Firearms Officer (CFO). Each CFO has staff, called firearms officers, who are appointed by the provincial public security minister. The CFO's staff main role is to issue firearms licenses, and, some might be tempted to say, to deny them and/or take them away. To obtain a licence, one must fulfill the requirements set forth in the Firearms Act and regulations, including having successfully completed the Canadian Firearms Safety Course. In addition to having completed the course, a firearms licence applicant must convince the CFO's staff that it is desirable for the applicant to possess firearms. That desirability, from the CFO's standpoint, is treated like an issue of public safety. In other words, the CFO's staff has discretion to issue or deny a firearms license. Discretion does not mean arbitrary powers; at least, it is not supposed to.

Once issued, a firearms license has a nominal validity period of five

years, and must be renewed prior to its expiration date. However, it can be revoked at any time by the CFO, essentially for the same reasons that would have justified a denial of such licence in the first place.

Generally, a firearms license will be denied to an applicant, or revoked, if already issued, if the firearms officer believes that the applicant (or holder) may be a threat to himself or others. Factors to be considered include past convictions for violent acts, a history of violence and mental health issues. Obviously, this process is highly subjective, and wholly dependent upon the quality of the information available to the firearms officer in making that determination. Quality information can only be obtained through a quality fact finding process. Unfortunately, staff and budget limitations being what they are, that is not always the case. The reality is that firearms licences are sometimes issued to applicants to whom they should have been denied, and licences are denied to applicants to whom they should have been issued. It is at best an imperfect system, but unfortunately it is the system that we have, and until it changes, we have to know how to navigate its murky waters.

Thus, the provincial CFOs and their staff have the power to deny people the privilege to possess firearms, and to take that privilege away after it has been granted. Fortunately, the law makes that discretion subject to review by a court of law. The CFO is a government official, and as all government officials, the CFO's powers are subject to the powers of judicial review of the courts. For all license-related CFO decisions, those review powers (also known as supervisory powers) are exercised by provincial courts, pursuant to Section 74 of the Firearms Act. Thus, a party against whom the CFO renders an adverse decision in relation with a license, such as a denial or revocation, may not be with-



out recourse. That individual may apply to a provincial court to have the CFO's decision reviewed. In appropriate cases, the provincial court will overturn the CFO's decision and order the CFO to issue or reinstate a license.

The review process is a judicial process, as opposed to an administrative process. Like every other recourse before a court of law, it is complex and technical. Hiring a qualified lawyer is quite important. There is also a limited time after the decision to apply for a review. That time period is 30 days, and it may only be extended in exceptional circumstances. A review is not the same thing as an appeal; not all incorrect judgements can be overturned. As previously mentioned, the CFO has discretion, which is another way to say that the CFO has some degree of latitude. In some instances, the CFO's decision may be somewhat wrong, and the court being asked to perform the judicial review may refuse to overturn the CFO's decision, as long as said decision was not unreasonable. Thus, the CFO can get away with somewhat wrong decisions, but the CFO will not get away with unreasonable decisions. It is in essence the difference between merely wrong and shocking. If you are a person who has been affected by an adverse CFO decision, a qualified attorney should be

able to tell you whether such decision can be successfully challenged, after reviewing the facts that led to such decision.

Oftentimes, a firearms officer will make the wrong decision because he/she failed to obtain the correct information. The CFO, like most government officials, is subject to what the law calls a duty to act fairly. It is a form of due process. In essence, it means that the CFO must use its discretionary powers properly. That includes the investigative powers granted to the CFO by section 55 of the Firearms Act, which are quite broad. If the CFO should have investigated a situation before making a decision, but did not, the CFO's decision can be challenged under Section 74. Such decision may be overturned, if it can be shown that a proper investigation would have uncovered information conducive to a different decision. CFO staff and budget limitations, as well as administrative shortcuts, such as a tendency to rely solely upon information obtained through police resources, are not conducive to proper investigations and a fulfillment of the duty to act fairly. A decision can hardly be right if it is based upon flawed or limited information.

What is entailed by the CFO's duty to act fairly also varies, depending upon the situation of the applicant. An individual whose livelihood depends upon the possession of a firearm, such as a gunsmith, outfitter, or security officer is entitled to a greater extent of due process on the part of the CFO, than a sportsman or hunter.

To summarize, obtaining and keeping your firearms licence in effect is essential if you wish to continue to enjoy firearms related activities, such as hunting, shooting and/or collecting. Should your licence be denied or revoked, you have a limited period of time (30 days) to seek review of the adverse decision. The review process takes place before a court of law, and it is advisable to retain the services of a qualified attorney, who is familiar with the applicable law and is experienced in this field. There are few attorneys familiar with this field, as this remedy, albeit useful, is little known and seldom used.

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Firearms owners have 30 days to seek review of an adverse decision.

Multiple-Victim Killings: THE FACTS

By Gary Mauser

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

If it bleeds, it leads. The media love multiple-victim shootings - particularly public shootings by berserkers. Immediately afterwards, demagogues then use shootings to lobby for more gun restrictions by demonizing firearms owners. But what are the facts? How serious a social problem are multiple-victim murders? Are guns usually involved? How many murders end with the perpetrator committing suicide? How likely are strangers to murder someone? Are these problems growing? It's time to examine some

basic facts about multiple-victim shootings in Canada.

To probe beneath superficial news stories, over the years I have made several special requests to Statistics Canada. My analyses have helped to debunk myths about domestic violence (2010) and to expose the failure of the long-gun registry (2011). Here I examine two related phenomena, multiple-victim murders and murder suicides. This article can only address a few of the most basic questions. More remains to be uncovered.

Multiple-victim shootings tend to happen in gun-free zones, places

where victims can't shoot back. Since Canada is pretty much a nation-wide gun-free zone (thanks to our emasculating gun laws), in this article I look at Canada-wide statistics.

First, it is important to take an overview of homicide in Canada:

- In 2012 (the most recent year statistics are available) there were 543 homicides, or 1.56 per 100,000
- Homicide rates reached their peak in 1991, declined rapidly through the late 1990s and then remained stable
- In 2012, there were 172 fatal shootings and 164 fatal stabbings

- In most years, shootings and stabbings each constitute roughly one-third of homicides annually, alternating as the most frequently used murder method
- In 2012, there were 132 unsolved homicides (24 per cent of all homicides)
- This is higher than the long-term average of 17 per cent unsolved homicides
- The percentage of unsolved homicides has gradually increased since the 1980s
- Most homicides involve criminals killing criminals
- In 2011, in 59 per cent of cleared homicides, the accused had a criminal record
- Just over half of murder victims also have a criminal record
- Half of all homicides involving firearms were gang-related
- One-third of all homicides were due to drug trafficking or drugs
- In 2012, there were 82 intimate-partner homicides (20 per cent of solved homicides)
- 44 per cent of these families had histories of family violence
- In 2012, there were 65 stranger homicides (16 per cent of solved homicides)
- This is higher than the average (12 per cent) over the past 30 years

Multiple-victim homicides

Five primary motives for mass murder have been identified:

- Revenge (for example, seeking payback for perceived personal failures)
- Power (for example, a personal war against society)
- Misplaced loyalty (for example, a deranged father kills his family to spare them from a miserable existence)
- Terror (for example, a political dissident sends a strong message to those in power)
- Greed (for example, a criminal executes customers/employees to eliminate witnesses)

In my most recent special request to Statistics Canada, I asked for a year-by-year analysis of multiple-victim homicides since 1974. I will follow the standard definition of an multiple-

victim homicide as a homicide incident with four or more victims.

In Canada, there were between two and three multiple-victim homicide incidents (with a total of about 14 victims) per year from 1974 to 2010, on average. This is less than one half of one per cent (0.4 per cent) of all homicides. In some years there were none (1995, 1998, 2003, 2004, 2010) and in others up to seven (1977) multiple-victim homicide incidents.

relationship remains unknown for these incidents. The unsolved multiple-victim homicide incidents are probably gang related.

The annual average of multiple-victim homicides (and multiple-victim shootings) in Canada has dropped steadily since 1974, continuing to fall after new gun laws (Bills C-17 and C-68) came into force, in 1994 and 2003, respectively. The gun laws do not appear to be a factor in the decline because the number

Multiple-Victim Homicides and Firearms Laws in Canada

	Multiple-Victim Shootings	Annual Average	Multiple-Victim Homicides	Annual Average
1974 to 1981	61	8	200	25
1982 to 1994	102	8	187	14
1995 to 2003	43	5	65	7
2004 to 2010	22	3	52	7

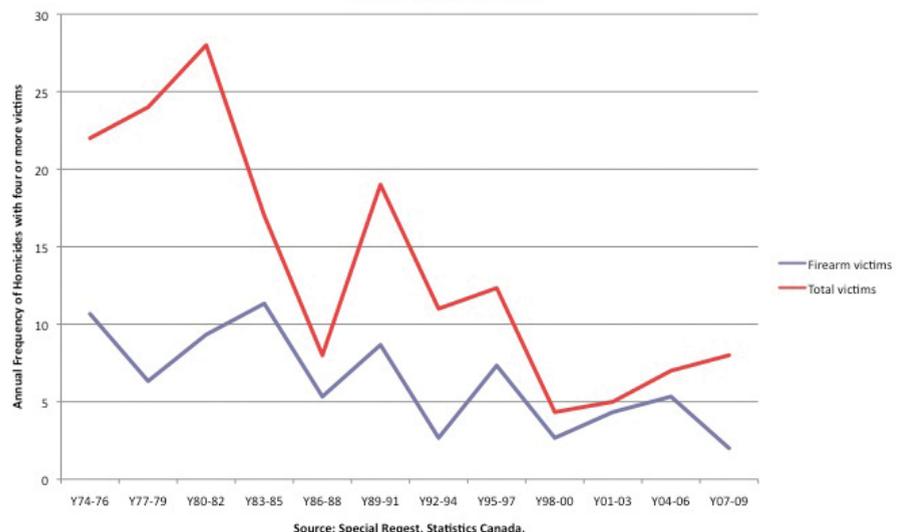
Source: Special Request, Statistics Canada, 2011

About half (45 per cent) of multiple-victim homicides involved a firearm, although the percentages have gradually decreased over the decades. Many of the multiple-victim homicide incidents appear linked to criminal activity, but close to half of these incidents were family related. However, about one third of multiple victim shootings have not yet been solved by police, meaning that the victim-accused

of multiple-victim homicides that did not involve firearms fell even faster than multiple-victim shootings.

In sum, multiple-victim homicide incidents are rare in Canada, and their frequency, both with and without firearms, has been decreasing for decades. Many of these incidents appear linked to criminal activity, but close to half of the solved multiple-victim homicides were family related.

Multiple-Victim Homicides and Firearms
Canada, 1974-2010



This chart shows the year-over-year statistics for multiple-victim homicides in Canada.

Murder suicides

There are on average 38 murder suicides per year (or seven per cent of cleared homicides). Most murder suicides (80 per cent) involve family members. Despite lurid media presentations, murder suicides involving strangers are quite rare (under five per cent of all murder suicides or fewer than one per cent of all cleared homicides). Firearms are involved in almost two-thirds (62 per cent) of murder suicides.

In sum, murder suicides are few (if not rare) and have been generally declining since the early 1990s. The number of murder suicides involving firearms has been declining since the 1970s. Murder suicides committed by strangers are so infrequent it is difficult to identify a trend.

Comparing Canada with other countries

There are fewer multiple-victim homicides per capita in the US than in Canada. Between 1974 and 2011, there were about 25 multiple-victim homicides per year in the US, just 0.2 per cent of 13,750 homicides. The lower rate in the US is consistent with John Lott's hypothesis that armed citizens can deter or stop public shootings.

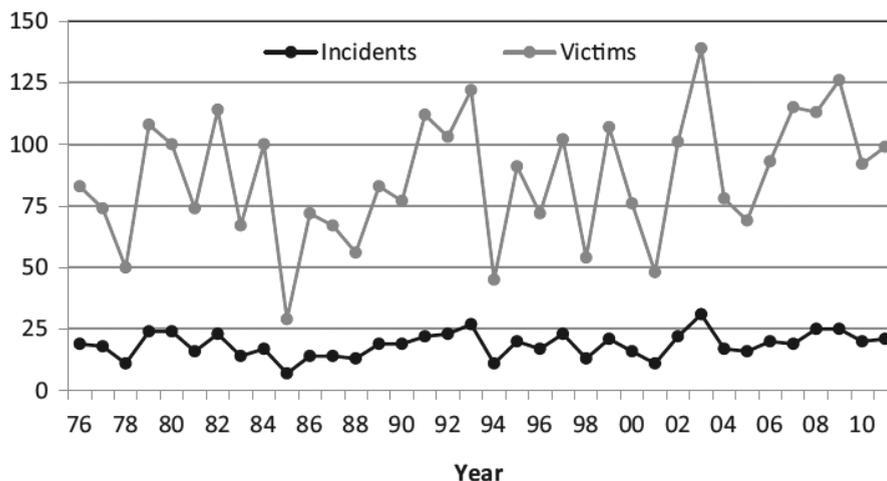
An article in the left-wing Mother Jones that received wide publicity erroneously claimed public mass shootings have recently surged in the US. Other analysts have refuted this using better methodology.

Figure 1 (from Fox and DeLateur) shows that there was no effect found from the Assault Weapon Ban (which was in effect from 1994 to 2004) on multiple-victim homicides.

In Europe, multiple-victim homicides are more frequent than in the US or Canada. The percentage of homicides involving two or more victims is seven per cent of all homicides in Europe, while it is four per cent in both Canada and the US.

Is it firearms owners?

Despite lurid media accounts of murders involving firearms, law-abiding gun owners are not a threat to public safety. According to Statis-



This chart relates the number of mass shootings in the US (1976-2011), and the number of victims in each year.

tics Canada, Canadians who have a firearms licence are less than one third as likely to commit murder as other Canadians. Statistics Canada data shows that licensed gun owners have a homicide rate of 0.60 per 100,000 licensed gun owners between 1997 and 2010. Over the same period, the average national homicide rate was 1.85 per 100,000.

Conclusions

Multiple-victim homicides are rare in Canada, and becoming even less frequent. Similarly, murder suicides are few (if not rare) and have been declining since the early 1990s. The number of murder suicides involving firearms has also been dropping since the 1970s. Murder suicides committed by strangers are so infrequent it is difficult to identify a trend.

No effect was found for any gun law. In the US, multiple-victim homicides did not decline during the Assault Weapon Ban. In Canada, multiple-victim homicides that did not involve firearms fell faster than did multiple-victim shootings, which suggests that gun laws were irrelevant. Multiple-victim homicides are much more frequent in Europe than in the US, which is consistent with the argument that multiple-victim homicides are lower in jurisdictions where citizens can shoot back. The low Canadian multiple-victim homicide rates are perhaps due to the lower level of criminal activity in Canada.

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The International Front

Gary A. Mauser

What Does The ATT Mean For Canada?

Arms Trade Treaty will only complicate life for recreational gun owners

One of the legacies of the 20th century is an irrational faith in international treaties to avoid war and genocide. Despite his hopes, the 1938 Munich agreement, signed by Neville Chamberlin, did not stop Hitler. The United Nations has not done much better.

The UN has failed to live up to its founding goals of finding peaceful ways to settle disputes, and more importantly, to prevent genocides. European faith in treaties is driven by their collective memory of the horrors of war. An estimated 160 million people died in various wars during the 20th century. Government deliberately murdered even more (at least 260 million people) as part of ethnic cleansing campaigns during the same period. (See the works of Rummel, Scaruffi and White.)

The leaders of both the UN and the European Union believe that war can be avoided by creating treaties that guarantee "collective security." This is delusional. Treaties can play important roles. But treaties, like contracts, are only effective between honourable parties. Treaties cannot stop determined aggressors or murderous governments. Treaties did not stop Hitler, Stalin, Saddam Hussein or Kim Il-Sung. Worse: it is a sad truth that the UN has never been able to stop genocide. Remember Cambodia, East Timor, Rwanda and Zimbabwe? Nor will the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) stop governments from murdering minorities in the future. The ATT is another pipe dream that will just cause enduring problems. While the ATT purports to limit all international firearms movements, it really

only limits commercial sales between what the UN calls "non-state actors." The term "non-state actors" confuses terrorists, criminals and revolutionaries with Olympic target shooters and responsible citizens.

What's happening with the ATT?

The Canadian Conservatives deserve praise for refusing to sign the ATT. Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird has defended this decision by noting that a potential link exists between the treaty and Canada's recently abolished long-gun registry. This frightens the proponents of the ATT, as they do not want to talk about the exact nature of the treaty.

As of December 2013, 115 countries have signed the ATT, including the US, the United Kingdom and France. While only seven countries have actually ratified it, the ATT is likely to get the 50 national ratifications it needs in 2014 to come into force. The ATT will not be ratified in the US Senate, whose ratification is required by the US Constitution. While Obama claims that he can implement the treaty under his existing powers, this is problematic. The Obama administration has been warned not to try to implement the treaty without the Senate's advice and consent. Attempting to circumvent the Senate would be just one more unconstitutional step by the Obama administration.

What's wrong with the ATT?

In a recent CBC interview, Angela Kane, the UN High Representative for Disarmament, misled Canadians by claiming, "We called it a disarmament treaty, but it's really not a disarmament treaty because it doesn't disarm." She added, "It simply regulates what is being exported to other countries. ... [The treaty] deals with the trade aspect, it does not deal with the ownership aspect." Her statement is false.

Even if one accepts the idea that the UN is the appropriate body to regulate international arms transfers, and that the process of adopting this treaty was legitimate, two serious problems with the ATT itself remain: first, it explicitly ignores government-to-government arms transfers, which are the primary ways warring parties obtain arms; and second, the ATT is so vague that no one knows what kinds of restrictions it will impose on civilian firearms owners in an effort to regulate international trade. The devil is in the details.

First, Article 2 of the treaty explicitly states that all government-to-government arms transfers are excluded. Unfortunately, the arms involved in the vast bulk of insurrections and civil wars are obtained from states that arm local groups to act as their proxies. For example, in Syria the various parties in that bloody civil war are supplied by Iran, Saudi Arabia and Russia, among others. Thus, the treaty is misdirected in that it is not even directed at the problems it purports to solve.

Second, the ATT is full of moralistic bromides, but its provisions are exceptionally vague and misleading. The ATT requires each country to establish a national control system for all small arms and ammunition, and all parts and components. It then goes on to say that the "national control

list" should be provided to the UN Secretariat. Anyone who was concerned about the government knowing what firearms he or she owned should be petrified by Canada sharing that information with the UN. Remember, the balance of power in the UN General Assembly rests with the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of Islamic Co-operation and the world's autocracies and dictatorships.

Articles 6 and 7 prohibit international transfers that violate a number of vague UN conditions. Unfortunately, it is impossible to know when a violation occurs as the regulations implementing this treaty have yet to be written. Whether or not it signs the treaty, Canada will not be able to control what these rules say. The regulations will be written by UN bureaucrats and will dictate the rules of firearms ownership within Canada, contradicting Angela Kane's claims. To make matters worse, the treaty can be easily amended by majority vote, so future restrictions can only get worse.

What does the ATT mean for me?

While the ATT is deceptively vague about what a national control system for small arms and ammunition, and all parts and components might include, a broad hint is to be found in another arm of the UN, ISACS (International Small Arms Control Standards), that has invested countless millions of dollars in developing standards to aid nation states to control small arms. ISACS was created in 2008 within a UN directorate called CASA (Co-ordinating Action in Small Arms) to provide comprehensive guidance to the more than 20 UN bodies active in policy development related to the illegitimate use of small arms and light weapons. Unfortunately, special interest groups have captured the process. ISACS has shifted its focus from "curbing the uncontrolled proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons" to advocating complex and costly measures whose effect would result in disarming responsible citizens. This approach exacerbates the intrinsic problems of the ATT.

ISACS has developed a one-size-fits-all national control system for small arms that makes no distinction between Rwanda and Switzerland, terrorists or responsible citizens. Nor do ISACS so-called standards meet the internationally accepted definition of a standard. If adopted, the ISACS proposals would undermine democratic governments and provide powerful tools to bolster authoritarian regimes. Widespread civilian firearms ownership co-exists naturally with democratic principles in a wide range of countries (for example, Austria, Germany, France, Finland, Israel, Italy, New Zealand Norway and Switzerland). Indeed, some scholars have even argued that civilian firearm ownership might be important in resisting genocide (Halbrook 2000; Kopel 2003, 2006).

Armed civilians should be considered a vital resource, rather than a threat to national security. Interpol Secretary General Ronald Noble said that the democratic world is at a security crossroads in the wake of the deadly al-Shabab attack at a shopping mall in Nairobi, Kenya, and that the answer could be in arming civilians. Noble said there are really only two choices for protecting open societies from attacks like the one on Westgate mall where so-called soft targets are hit: either create secure perimeters around the locations or allow civilians to carry their own guns to protect themselves.

One of the typical groups that dominate the ISACS process is the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA), an organization claiming to be working towards eliminating gun violence. Rebecca Peters, IANSA's Executive Director at the time, said, "We have been working directly with the authors of the modules behind the scenes." As a result, the modules suffer from a myopic focus on gun violence, without any regard for the potential unintended consequences of ISACS recommendations.

The UN looks to ISACS to develop the control systems required to implement the ATT. ISACS modules cannot be considered to be international standards, best-practice guidelines, nor model regulations. Nevertheless, the UN will encourage states to adopt these modules. It is true that as a treaty the ATT only applies if a country agrees it applies, but if our major trading partners agree to its terms then Canada will be forced to comply as well.

"In a recent CBC interview, Angela Kane, the UN High Representative for Disarmament, misled Canadians by claiming, "We called it a disarmament treaty, but it's really not a disarmament treaty because it doesn't disarm." She added, "It simply regulates what is being exported to other countries. ... [The treaty] deals with the trade aspect, it does not deal with the ownership aspect." Her statement is false."

Conclusions

We've all heard complaints that the Conservatives haven't done anything for us. That's bunk: they eliminated the long-gun registry and taken many other small positive steps. Unfortunately, almost all fly below the media's radar. It is true the Conservatives haven't done anything flashy, or lived up to their promises back before they formed government, but they have delivered many small gifts to the firearms community. None of which would have happened under the Liberals or NDP.

The Tories are practicing stealth politics. Prime Minister Harper has repeatedly claimed that his long-term intention is to transform Canada, and that he prefers to do

so incrementally. He argues that the small size of each step robs the Opposition of sufficient excuse to mobilize against him. Given that the media hammers Harper for any position he takes that smells "conservative", this looks wise. Unfortunately, his small steps are near invisible to his supporters as well.

As usual elections come down to making tough choices, with voters often having to decide which is the lesser of two (or three) evils. But, the basic rule of politics remains votes. Political parties push policies that they think are favoured by their supporters. Anyone who wishes the CPC to implement a particular policy needs to lobby strenuously. Political parties don't do anything out of the goodness of their hearts. If you give up fighting, you doom your dreams. Cynicism merely justifies laziness.

Or perhaps silence indicates faith in politicians. Which as we know from their faith in international treaties to stop war is irrational.

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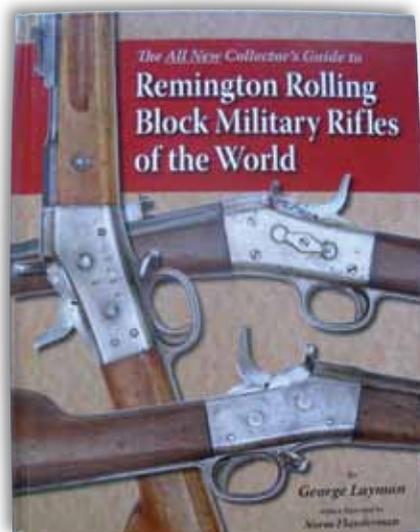
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NFA Book Shelf

Bill Rantz

Remington Rolling Block Military Rifles of the World



Remington Rolling Block Military Rifles of the World

Author: **George Layman**

Andrew Mowbray

Publishers 2010

Hard cover, 238 pages, 8.5

inches by 11 inches

Black and white photographs

ISBN: 1-931464-45-6

The Remington Rolling Block is deemed by the author to be the world's greatest single-shot military rifle. George Layman has enjoyed over 40 years of collecting and researching these unique rifles and has personally owned over 1,200 Rolling Blocks. Details have been carefully recorded on twice that many samples and yet the author readily acknowledges that new, unidentified specimens are still encountered.

Remington Rolling Block Military Rifles of the World was designated as a collector's guide by the author. Layman set out to create an easy-to-use classification system for the many variations of the Rolling Block used by the military of over 50 coun-

tries throughout the world. Such widespread popularity of any firearm creates a huge challenge for researchers, as many variations exist, records are difficult to locate and when found will be in a variety of languages.

Layman was most fortunate to be allowed access to the ledger, which is the 1920 inventory of the Remington factory collection. Of the almost 1,000 firearms listed, over two thirds were sold in the late 1940s. Fortunate collectors may still encounter one of these rifles with a numbered brass museum tag on the underside of the buttstock.

The global success of this rifle was based on its simple design, originally patented in 1866. The Rolling Block utilized fewer, but larger, parts than other competing rifles. The result was a highly dependable and virtually indestructible firearm. This is reflected in the number of serviceable specimens, which may be located today at gun shows and antique firearm dealers.

Other companies produced Rolling Blocks under a licence/royalty agreement with Remington. These agreements not only helped manufacturers meet the extensive demand, but also generated many variations with unique markings or in seldom-found calibres.

Layman faced a monumental task as he organized such a vast amount of information into a user-friendly format. Remington Rolling Block Military Rifles of the World is divided into six specific sections. The table of contents, index and extensive bibliography allow the reader to easily locate sought after information.

The first section, entitled Decisions, Design, Details is very much a history lesson on the development and transformation of the Rolling Block action. Specific features of various models are described in text and many are shown in close up photographs. Charts are used effectively throughout the book to place important information at the reader's fingertips.

The chapter entitled The Remington Rolling Block and the US Military presents a number of specific rifles used by the US Navy, which was the first to adopt the Rolling Block with the Model 1867 Carbine. Variations purchased by the US Army, state militias and the scarce model purchased for the U.S. Niagara are among those discussed and shown extensively in photographs.

Remaining sections inform the collector of Rolling Block rifles and carbines that were used in virtually every corner of the world. Remington Rolling Block Military Rifles of the World will be a most valuable tool for collectors or dealers who wish to research the history of a particular Rolling Block rifle.

Canadian collectors will be particularly interested in the description of the 60 Rolling Block carbines purchased by Montreal Police in December 1875.

Renowned firearms expert Norm Flayderman praises Layman's exhaustive research and refers to Remington Rolling Block Military Rifles of the World as a "benchmark in the literature of arms collecting." It is definitely the most comprehensive book ever published on the Rolling Block rifle and is well worth the retail price of \$40.

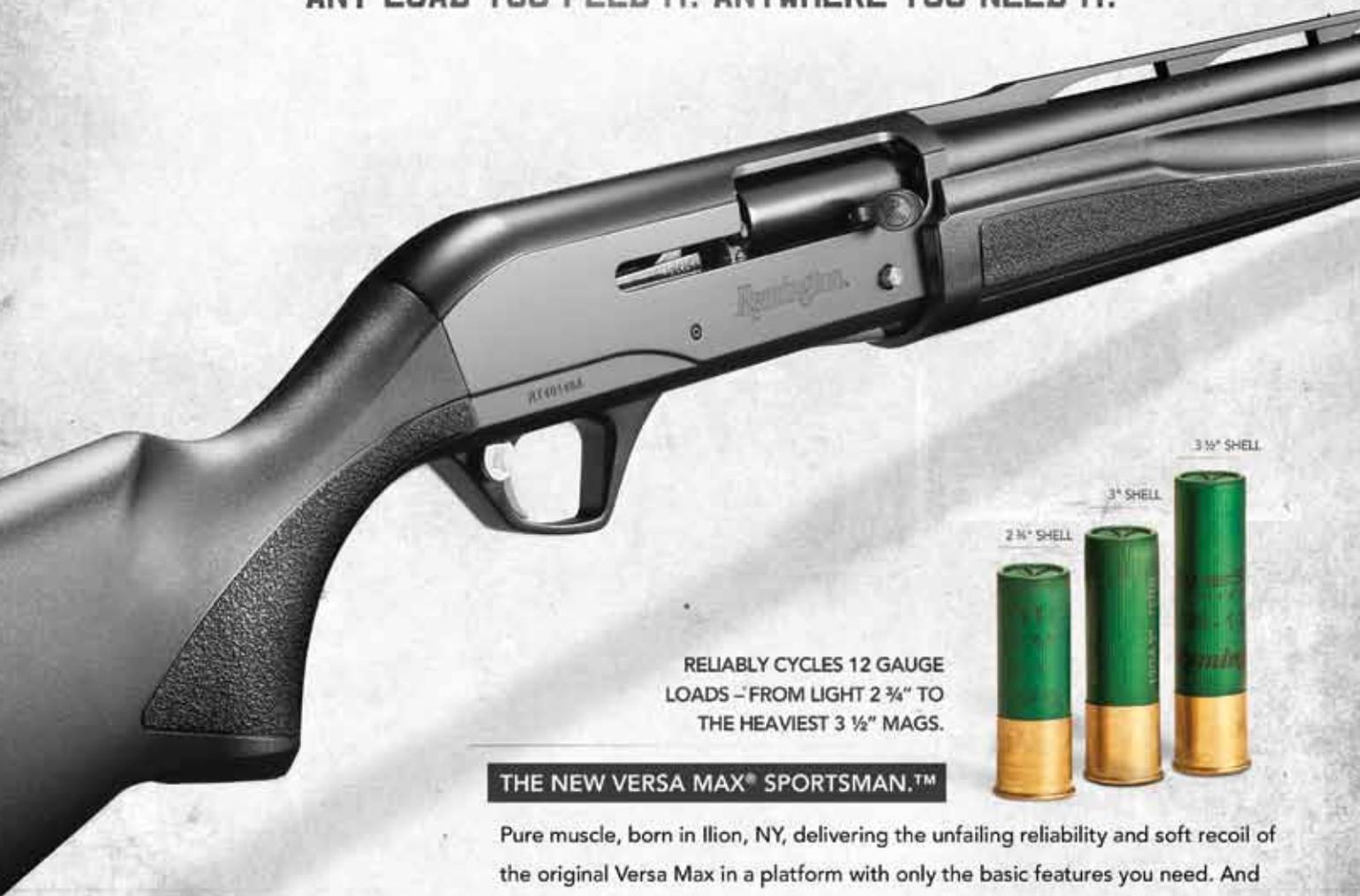
CORRECTION

Correction and sincere apology from author Bill Rantz: **"In a recent review, I referred to the Brown Bess musket as a rifle. The Brown Bess was a smoothbore and the correct terminology is definitely musket. Thanks to Doug from Victoria for pointing out my error."**

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