

CANADIAN FIREARMS JOURNAL

MARCH/APRIL 2020

 NFA.ca



Fully Committed On All Fronts

CANADA'S NATIONAL FIREARMS ASSOCIATION

PM 40009473
Return undeliverable to:
Canadian Firearms Journal,
P.O. Box 49090, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 6H4

 NFA.ca

CONSIGN YOUR FIREARMS

WITH A COMPANY THAT HAS MILLIONS OF VIEWS EVERY MONTH
AND OVER 40,000 REGISTERED BIDDERS

- Monthly Firearm Sales In Both Saskatoon & Regina, SK
- 15% For Unreserved Consigned Guns
- Restricted & Non Restricted Guns Welcome
- Nation Wide Shipping Available

MANITOBA & ALBERTA FIREARMS AUCTIONS COMING SOON



**ONLINE BIDDING IS HAPPENING
NOW!**

Visit Our Website For Details.

WWW.MCDOUGALLAUCTION.COM

McDOUGALL
Auctioneers Ltd

1-800-263-4193

From East to West sell with The Best!

Belledune, NB | Winnipeg, MB | Brandon, MB | Emerald Park, SK | Saskatoon, SK | Red Deer, AB

Online Auctions Close Daily On A Variety Of Items!

CANADIAN ***FIREARMS JOURNAL***

March/April 2020



COLUMNS

4 ON THE COVER

5
FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK
Canadian Domination
At SHOT 2020
AL VOTH

6
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
History's Lessons
SHELDON CLARE

10
VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
Non-compliance?
BLAIR HAGEN

13
**PRESERVING OUR
FIREARMS HERITAGE**
Canadian Women With Guns
GARY K. KANGAS

16
POLITICS & GUNS
The Public Health
Approach To Violence
BRUCE GOLD

50
LEGAL CORNER
Peering Into The Future
GUY LAVERGNE

54
NFA BOOK SHELF
Last Of The Classic Lever Actions
BILL RANTZ

FEATURES

18
DELIGHTFULLY STRANGE
The Czech VZ.61
EDWARD OSBORNE

23
MAKING SHOT
Touring Ontario's Humasson
Manufacturing Ltd.
JEFF HELSDON

26
THE SHOT SHOW 2020
Traditional Guns
TIM FOWLER

30
THE SHOT SHOW 2020
Modern Sporting Guns
LOWELL STRAUSS

36
THE SHOT SHOW 2020
Handguns
DEAN ROXBY

40
THE SHOT SHOW 2020
Optics, Ammunition
& Accessories
AL VOTH

44
THOUGHTS ON SINGLE SHOTS
Sometimes less is more
TYSON SOMMERVILLE

48
A MODERN SCAPEGOAT
New Zealand's knee-jerk gun ban
GARY MAUSER



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.

The contents of the Canadian Firearms Journal are copyrighted and may be reproduced only when written permission is obtained from the publisher.



On the Cover

CFJ contributor Lowell Strauss grabbed this photo while visiting the Ultimatum booth at SHOT 2020. Ultimatum is a Canadian firm rapidly making a name for itself building centrefire rifle actions. The Deuce, pictured here, is the firm's first rimfire. They are selling the Deuce as a barrelled action complete with rail. Just add a trigger and a stock. The action is a three-lug rear lockup design, with a Remington 700 short-action footprint. It also takes Remington-style triggers. The barrel has a cone breech and is locked in place with a barrel nut. This allows the user to set the headspace specifically for the ammunition being used. As a result, the firing pin protrusion must also be user-adjustable, and it is. The barrel is by IBI, another Canadian company, and with a Trigger Tech trigger and an MDT stock, it's possible to have a fully Canadian precision rimfire rifle. 



Canadian Firearms Journal

The Official Magazine of



CANADA'S
NATIONAL
FIREARMS
ASSOCIATION

Editor

Al Voth cfjeditor@nfa.ca

General Manager

Ginger Fournier ginger@nfa.ca
780-439-1394

Accounts/Membership

membership@nfa.ca

General Information

info@nfa.ca

Legal Inquiries

legal@nfa.ca

National Executive

National President **1-877-818-0393**
Sheldon Clare sheldon@nfa.ca

EVP, Communications **1-877-818-0393**
Blair Hagen blair@nfa.ca

Treasurer **1-877-818-0393**
Bill Rantz bill@nfa.ca

Secretary **1-877-818-0393**
Jerrold Lundgard jerrold@nfa.ca

CANADA'S NATIONAL FIREARMS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 49090
Edmonton, Alberta T6E 6H4
Toll Free: 1 877-818-0393
Local: (780) 439-1394
Fax: (780) 439-4091



PM 40009473
Return undeliverable to:
Canadian Firearms Journal,
P.O. Box 49090, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 6H4
PRINTED IN CANADA



From The Editor's Desk

Al Voth

Canadian Domination At SHOT 2020

The premier meeting of the world's firearm industry is without a doubt the annual SHOT Show held in Las Vegas in January. Those of us involved professionally in the world of firearms know we have to be there for "business." But we're lying if we say it isn't fun to see and shoot products not available to us in Canada (see the photo below). This year's show was my 11th consecutive trip, and while that pales with the record of some folks, it has been enough for me to spot trends and changes. And perhaps the most positive trend I saw this year was the domination of two Canadian companies in their respective niches in the world firearm market.

The first company worthy of note is Ontario-based Trigger Tech. Compared to some companies, they offer a limited selection of triggers, but the ones they do offer are everywhere. Every

high-end gun manufacturer seems to be using Trigger Tech products on their rifles. And as a testimony to their reputation for quality triggers, the fact that Trigger Tech products are in their rifles is always prominently displayed at SHOT. There isn't much doubt this Canadian company is absolutely kicking worldwide butt and taking names in the trigger business.

In the same league, but in the chassis world, we have British Columbia-based MDT. Not only do they sell a ton of their chassis systems directly to consumers, but they are providing the chassis which many manufacturers are putting on their own rifles. To the best of my knowledge, they have so far provided products to Weatherby, Robar, Remington, Mossberg, Savage, Howa and Anschutz. And it's not just a single rifle in the line either, I've lost count of how many Savage models are wearing MDT chassis.

There is a humorous bent to this kind of success, as demonstrated by the conversation I had with a serious American rifle shooter at the show. We were talking about chassis systems and in passing I mentioned that MDT was a Canadian company. He looked at me rather puzzled and said, "Really? I didn't know that. I thought they were American." I never thought to ask him about Trigger Tech, but since they make some of the best triggers in the world, he probably thinks they are American too.

There were numerous other Canadian companies at SHOT as well, all vying for a slice of the world firearm market in some form. You'll find some of their stories in this issue of the magazine, and we'll bring you more in the coming year. If there's a Canadian company you'd like to see highlighted, send me an email and we'll do what we can. After all, it's your magazine. 





President's Message

Sheldon Clare

History's Lessons



The Liberals (and the Greens and most NDP) really believe that gun control is a good thing./Les Libéraux (les Verts et la majorité des NPD) croient vraiment que le contrôle des armes est une bonne chose

police criminal record check became required as part of obtaining a new document called a Firearms Acquisition Certificate. It was provided by the firearms officer at the local police station and certified that the person had no criminal record which would preclude one from obtaining firearms and ammunition.

However, in hindsight, it was the thin edge of a big wedge, and it hit with a heavy ban hammer. It really had nothing to do with crime prevention. It had everything to do with playing a divide-and-conquer game that some firearms are somehow inherently more dangerous than others. Hunters could see no use for owning a machine gun – after all, who hunts with something like that – and so they didn't say much, if anything. The relatively small number of collectors were grandfathered, but they

could never sell their property to anyone not in the grandfathered club, nor pass these relics on to their heirs. In effect, the Liberals stole their property from them.

Existing stocks held by businesses were converted to semi-auto and any imports likewise had to be so converted. These were generally non-restricted. Well, at least until the Progressive Conservatives of Brian Mulroney, with Kim Campbell as justice minister, decided to enact sweeping gun control after the Ecole Polytechnique shooting in December of 1989. This, by a misogynist using a legally purchased broken Mini-14 semi-auto hunting rifle he had tried and failed to convert to full auto. Not that it would have made any difference, as the coroner's report in that incident made it clear the main cause of the casualty count was the failure

It seems that many of us are in denial about what the Liberals have in store for us with their gun grab of semi-auto firearms and handguns. Some sentiments I've heard include, "... they wouldn't do that," or "... they will never get away with that."

As much as I hate to be the bearer of bad news, I think it important to, in the modern parlance, "get woke." Many people were just as much in denial in 1977 when the Liberals were plotting massive and sweeping gun control intended to classify and prohibit enormous numbers of firearms under a bill called C-51.

These were fully automatic firearms, many from past wars, which were owned by collectors who would meet annually for a machine gun shoot in southern Alberta (and other places.) No stores were ever robbed, and no

crimes were ever committed by the owners of these relics of our history. Certainly, ammunition consumption was high, but costs weren't too bad as there was still plenty of war surplus 303 British ball and 30 Carbine ammunition available, along with other military surplus calibres.

There were many businesses selling these firearms, and gunsmithing was a noble and common profession. The likes of Peter Kearns and Global Armaments had racks full of these wonderful guns. And yet, due to pressures caused through the high-profile assassinations in the 1960s in the US, and the FLQ crisis in Canada, and the implementation of the US Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA '68), pressure was on in Canada to "do something about the guns!" So, do something they did. Fully automatic firearms were prohibited, a

of the police to intervene in a timely way. Only the shooter's suicide ended that event.

Kim Campbell's first attempt (C-80) was much like what the Liberals tabled as C-68 a few years later – sweeping prohibitions of various firearms based on their appearance in popular shooting magazines like Guns and Ammo, and silly California-style points system methods of classifying firearms as restricted or prohibited. Many firearms were classed as prohibited without grandfathering and were required by law to be surrendered. She also brought in magazine capacity restrictions and a whole host of other unnecessary and highly restrictive gun laws and regulations. Since most of these targeted firearms were registered, this was easy to enforce. The interesting thing is that lots of these firearms, and many others, never did get registered.

Several firearms were made restricted, clearly to limit their uses, and to allow for them to be identified for subsequent confiscation. Remember those non-restricted converted automatics? They too became prohibited and could no longer be freely exchanged. The funny thing is that the reaction to her Bill C-80 and C-17 was a huge uproar and several rallies; but many firearms owners still thought, "Well, this doesn't affect me, and who needs those firearms anyway?" Then C-80 was dropped and replaced by C-17, and firearms owners tried to adapt to the new rules while the criminal element continued unabated.

Then the Liberals came back. I was happy to help Kim Campbell get defeated in Vancouver Centre, and I would do it again. They wanted to out-gun-control Kim Campbell, so they brought in the firearms license and mandatory training, probably the worst elements of preparing to change the gun culture and create more division. Initially, the license and the course were for both handguns and long arms, but when handgun sales rose, as result of people getting more familiar with them in these courses, another barrier was added to separate the restricted aspect on the license. Pay more and take another mandatory course.

Once again, some brave Canadians stood up and organized rallies in opposition to these changes. I personally organized three, one at my local community college, which attracted

some 600 people, and two others which brought in over 2,000 and 3,000 each. The two well-organized Fed Up Rallies in Ottawa attracted some 10,000 and 30,000 pro-gun rights supporters, respectively. Everyone showed up, there were great speeches, politicians promised their support, and everyone went home thinking they had made a difference. The truth is that it felt good at the time, but it didn't change anyone's mind – it was merely a catharsis. The government wasn't swayed, and gun groups expended many resources without result. Other groups hold similar annual rallies, but these events are likewise largely ignored in the media and by the decision makers sequestered in their offices.

The old problem we have again is that many gun owners, as in years past, do not see the danger, or believe that it won't affect them. Well, I have news: it does, and it will. At the UN talks on the Arms Trade Treaty and at the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons, we are hearing loud and clear the desire to mark and

“The problems we face in Canada are, first, that bad gun control is deeply seated and ideological for the Liberals, and second, that the existing Liberal and Red Tory gun-control laws are broadly accepted by the Conservatives.”

control all parts of firearms, as well as to uniquely mark and control ammunition. There is also a strong push to make ammunition less accessible and more difficult to handload, mainly by limiting access to lead through claims that this naturally occurring substance is inherently dangerous. We have a paper on that subject on our website, which you will find helpful to better understand the issues around lead. The point about the UN that everyone needs to understand is that it is a club of its members, and it is a member-driven organization. When we are at the UN, we are there not to merely confront a globalist anti-gun agenda, but mainly to challenge how our country supports and intends to manifest

that agenda, and further to make it known there are large numbers of Canadians who do not support disarming civilians.

The problems we face in Canada are, first, that bad gun control is deeply seated and ideological for the Liberals, and second, that the existing Liberal and Red Tory gun-control laws are broadly accepted by the Conservatives. Overcoming the first is next to impossible – the Liberals (and the Greens and most NDP) really believe that gun control is a good thing. This dictates that the only cure is to help them to lose power because of it. What we need to do is to identify political options that do not accept that premise. Many CPC members are intelligent about the issue, but some are like Liberals and not open to persuasion on the matter. To that end, we need to be highly selective about who ends up as the next leader of the CPC. If you haven't gotten a party membership already, get one so that you can support intelligent, pro-gun candidates in the election process. Focus on someone who is electable and pro-gun. Don't merely accept that they say they are, get the details. The NFA will be interviewing and grading candidates on their firearms rights positions as we did before.

The best approach for us is to point out that the implementation of the general statements on gun bans by Trudeau, besides being completely ineffective, are unbearably expensive. My early analysis of the costing was that it would likely cost in excess of \$2.5 billion. Subsequent analysis, including court challenges and interest on the cost of the program, demonstrates that it may well be closer to \$8 billion, especially if there is considerable resistance and even civil disobedience.

Given the lack of compliance to the previous gun control regimes of the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s and now, I would suspect that non-compliance and resistance will be normal. Such matters are personal choices, but history is usually on the side of those with strong principles backed by their arms. It really is up to you. I hope we can sort all of this out in the next election, at least for a time. However, we will always have to remain vigilant, as the evil which would disarm us, never sleeps. The Liberals and others will do whatever they can to disarm us. Never give up your guns. 



Message du Président

Sheldon Clare

Ce que l'histoire nous a appris

On dirait que plusieurs d'entre nous sommes en plein dénie face aux plans des Libéraux à notre égard, lorsqu'il s'agit d'interdire les armes semi-automatiques et les armes de poing. Certains affirment "Ils ne feraient pas cela" ou "Ils ne pourraient jamais s'en tirer de nous faire ce coup là".

Je n'aime pas être le porteur de mauvaises nouvelles, mais enfin réveillez vous! En 1977 plusieurs étaient eux aussi en dénie pendant que les Libéraux complotaient pour instaurer le Projet de loi C-51 qui effectuait un contrôle des armes à feu sévère et à grande échelle, celui-ci interdisait un grand nombre d'armes à feu.

Il s'agissait d'armes automatiques, des reliques de guerres bichonnées par des collectionneurs qui se rencontraient dans le sud de l'Alberta (et ailleurs) pour leur tir de mitrailleuse annuel. Aucun magasin ne furent cambriolés et aucun crimes n'ont été commis par les propriétaires de ces pièces de musée, souvenirs de notre histoire. La consommation de munitions était élevée mais les coûts restaient raisonnables grâce aux surplus de guerre abondants en calibre 303 British et 30 Carbine en plus d'autres calibres militaires.

Plusieurs commerçants vendaient ces armes à feu et le métier d'armurier était noble et répandu. Peter Kearns et Global Armaments avaient des étalages complets de ces merveilleuses armes. Et pourtant, à cause des pressions causées par les assassinats hautement médiatisés aux États-Unis durant les années 1960, la crise du FLQ au Canada et la mise en place du US Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA'68), le Canada subissait la pression d'agir: "Il faut faire quelque chose à propos des armes à feu!". Alors ils ont fait "quelque chose". Les armes automatiques ont été interdites et une vérification d'antécédents judiciaires était devenue nécessaire pour obtenir un nouveau document nommé: Autori-

sation d'Acquisition d'Armes à feu (AAAF). Cette autorisation était accordée par le registraire des armes à feu dans les postes de police locaux et certifiait que l'individu n'avait aucun dossier judiciaire et qu'il pouvait acquérir des armes et des munitions. Avec du recul, cette mesure était la partie coupante d'une grosse hache, qui créa des divisions entre les propriétaires d'armes à feu et qui tomba lourdement avec sa collection d'interdictions. Il ne s'agissait pas de prévenir le crime mais de diviser pour mieux régner. Ils prétendaient que certaines armes étaient en soi, plus dangereuses que d'autres. Les chasseurs ne voyaient aucune utilité de chasser avec une mitrailleuse, donc ces interdictions ne les affectaient pas. Le petit nombre de collectionneurs a profité d'un droit acquis, ils gardaient leurs armes, mais à partir de ce moment, ils ne pouvaient plus les vendre à moins que l'acheteur jouisse lui aussi du même droit acquis. Ils ne pouvaient même plus léguer ces magnifiques reliques à leurs héritiers. En effet, les Libéraux ont volé leurs propriétés.

Les inventaires des commerçants furent convertis en semi-automatiques et toutes les armes importées subirent le même sort. Elles étaient généralement des armes sans restrictions. Jusqu'à ce que les Progressistes Conservateurs de Brian Mulroney arrivent au pouvoir et que leur ministre de la justice Kim Campbell instaure de nouvelles lois de vaste portée, sur le contrôle des armes à feu suite à la fusillade de l'École Polytechnique en Décembre 1989. Cet acte fût commis par un misogynne avec une carabine Mini 14 semi-automatique de chasse qui était brisée et dont il fit l'achat légalement. Il a tenté sans succès de la convertir en automatique. S'il avait réussi, est-ce que cela aurait changé quelque chose vu que le rapport du coroner a conclu que le nombre de victimes était directe-

ment lié au fait que la police ne soit pas intervenue assez rapidement. Seul son suicide a mi fin à cet acte.

La première tentative de Kim Campbell (C-80) ressemblait beaucoup à ce que les Libéraux ont mis en place quelques années plus tard avec le projet de loi C-68. Elle imposa des interdictions massives de plusieurs armes à feu basées sur leur apparences et que l'on voyaient dans les revues populaires comme Guns & Ammo. Son gouvernement imposa un système de pointage ridicule comme en Californie, qui classifiait les armes comme restreintes ou prohibées. Plusieurs armes ayant été classifiées comme prohibées furent confisquées par l'État, aucun droit acquis leur avait été accordé. Des restrictions sur la capacité des chargeurs et plusieurs autres restrictions sévères et inutiles furent instaurées. La plupart de ces règlements visaient des armes déjà enregistrées donc ils ont été facile à appliquer. Fait à noter, beaucoup de ces armes et plusieurs autres, n'ont jamais été enregistrées.

Plusieurs armes à feu furent classées comme restreintes pour limiter leur usage, faciliter leur identification et leur confiscation future. Comme par exemple, les armes automatiques converties en semi-automatiques. Elles sont devenues prohibées et ne pouvaient plus être échangées librement. La réaction face à ces projets de loi C-80 et C-17 fut bruyante et mouvementée, plusieurs manifestations ont eu lieu et malgré tout ça, beaucoup de propriétaires d'armes à feu se disaient, "ceci ne me touche pas, qui a besoin de ces armes?" À ce moment Mme Campbell laissa tomber C-80 et le remplaça par C-17. Les propriétaires d'armes à feu se sont adaptés à de nouvelles lois pendant que les criminels continuaient leurs activités comme si de rien n'était. Suite à cela les Libéraux ont repris le pouvoir. J'ai eu le plaisir de participer à la défaite de Kim Campbell dans

Vancouver Centre et recommencerait n'importe quand. Les Libéraux ont voulu en faire plus que Kim Campbell alors ils ont imposés le système de permis d'armes à feu et l'entraînement obligatoire. Ces deux éléments ont été les plus importants qui ont affectés les changements vis à vis la culture des armes à feu et créer encore plus de divisions parmi les propriétaires d'armes à feu. En premier la formation et le permis se donnait à la fois pour les armes de poing et les armes longues, mais lorsque les ventes d'armes de poings ont augmentées parce que les gens avait appris à mieux les connaître, l'État a décidé de séparer la formation et les permis en deux. Il fallait alors suivre une formation pour les armes longues et une autre pour les armes de poing et évidemment payer deux fois. Ceci permettait quelqu'un d'avoir un permis pour les armes restreintes et sans restrictions.

De braves Canadiens se sont à nouveau tenus debout et ont organisés des manifestations contre ces changements. Personnellement j'en ai organisé trois, un à mon collègue où 600 personnes sont venus, deux autres où deux et trois milles personnes sont venus. Ottawa fut la scène de deux autres manifestations nommées "Fed Up Rallies", dix milles et 30 milles citoyens pro-droit aux armes y ont participé. Tout le monde y était, les discours furent excellent, les politiciens ont promis leur appui et tous sont retournés chez eux en croyant qu'ils avaient fait une différence. Tous se sentaient si bien mais en réalité ces manifestations n'ont pas fait changer d'idée qui que ce soit, l'exercice n'était qu'une catharsis. Le gouvernement n'a pas été influencé et les groupes pro-armes ont dépensé beaucoup de ressources sans résultat favorable. D'autres groupes manifestent annuellement et sont ignorés par les médias et les décideurs séquestrés dans leurs bureaux.

Nous nous retrouvons à nouveau devant le même problème, comme dans le passé, plusieurs propriétaires d'armes à feu sont aveugle au danger, ou ils croient qu'ils ne seront pas touchés. J'ai des nouvelles pour vous! Vous êtes en danger et vous serez affectés! Lors des conférences à l'ONU portant

sur le Traité sur le Commerce des Armes et le Programme d'Action sur les Armes de petit calibre et Armes légères, on parle abondamment du désir de marquer et contrôler toutes les pièces d'armes à feu et toutes les munitions. On ressent une poussée pour essayer de rendre les munitions plus difficiles à obtenir et plus difficiles à recharger manuellement. Leur méthode est de prétendre que le plomb, une substance naturelle est un danger en soit. Nous avons publié un document à propos du plomb sur notre site web qui peut vous aider à comprendre les enjeux qui l'entourent.

Ce que tous doivent comprendre à propos de l'ONU est que, c'est un club de ses membres et elle est gérée par ses membres. Lorsque nous nous présentons à l'ONU, nous n'y som-

"Au Canada nous vivons avec deux problèmes, le premier est que de mauvaises lois sur les armes à feu font partie d'une idéologie bien enracinée dans le Parti Libéral. Le deuxième est que les lois existantes établies par les Libéraux et les "Conservateurs Rouges" sont acceptées d'emblée par les Conservateurs."

mes pas uniquement pour confronter un agenda globaliste anti-arme, mais surtout pour contester le fait que notre pays appuie et démontre son intention d'instaurer le programme de l'ONU. De plus nous démontrons qu'il y a un grand nombre de Canadiens qui ne sont pas d'accord de désarmer des civils.

Au Canada nous vivons avec deux problèmes, le premier est que de mauvaises lois sur les armes à feu font partie d'une idéologie bien enracinée dans le Parti Libéral. Le deuxième est que les lois existantes établies par les Libéraux et les "Conservateurs Rouges"

sont acceptées d'emblée par les Conservateurs. Le premier problème est quasi impossible à régler, les Libéraux (les Verts et la majorité des NPD) croient vraiment que le contrôle des armes est une bonne chose. Notre seule solution est de leur faire perdre le pouvoir. Nous devons identifier les candidats qui ne pensent pas de cette manière. Plusieurs membres du PCC sont intelligents et comprennent l'enjeu mais il y en a qui sont comme des Libéraux et qui ne peuvent pas être persuadés de changer d'idée. Nous devons donc choisir judicieusement le prochain chef du PCC. Si vous n'êtes pas encore membre du Parti devenez le rapidement pour pouvoir choisir des candidats intelligents et pro-armes. Concentrez vous sur un candidat qui pourra être élu et est pro-armes. Ne les croyez pas sur parole, faites vos recherches. L'ACAF passera en entrevue les candidats et leur assignera un pointage sur leurs positions envers les droits aux armes à feu, comme nous l'avons fait dans le passé.

Notre meilleure stratégie est de démontrer que la mise en place des interdictions d'armes énoncées par Trudeau sont non-seulement inefficaces mais aussi extrêmement onéreuses. Selon mes premiers calculs ces mesures arrivent à 2.5 milliards de dollars. Mes analyses subséquentes qui incluent les contestations judiciaires et les frais d'intérêts sur le coût du programme, démontrent que les dépenses s'élèveront à 8 milliards, surtout s'il y a beaucoup de résistance et même de la désobéissance civile.

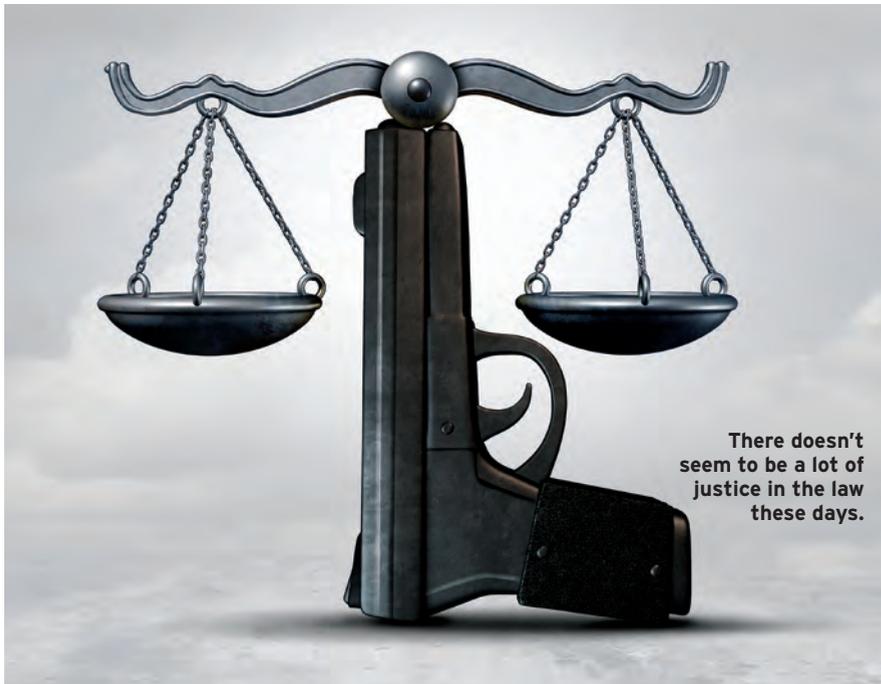
Vu la faible conformité aux régimes précédents, c'est à dire ceux des années 70, 80, 90 et actuels, je soupçonne que la résistance et la non-conformité sera la norme. Ceci est un choix personnel mais l'histoire favorise habituellement ceux qui tiennent à leurs principes. C'est uniquement votre choix. J'espère que nous pourrons régler tout ça lors de la prochaine élection, du moins pour un certain temps. Nous devons quand même demeurer vigilant puisque le mal qui cherche à nous désarmer, ne dort jamais. Les Libéraux et d'autres feront tout ce qu'ils pourront pour nous désarmer. N'abandonnez jamais vos armes. 



Vice-President's Message

Blair Hagen

Non-compliance?



Once again, wild threats and rumours are circulating regarding the Liberal agenda on guns. Talk of bans, buybacks, prohibitions and all kinds of additional bureaucratic and regulatory malfeasance dominate blogs, websites and social media.

Just to be clear, this new attack on the rights and property of Canadians was manufactured to divert attention away from real issues of national importance, and to indulge in a vanity issue popular with progressives and the civil disarmament lobby. Dangerous times and dangerous, irresponsible flights of fancy can have serious effects on the rights, freedoms and property of Canadians. This has nothing to do with public safety, there is no statistical or credible evidence to back these proposals and so claims of an exigent need for public safety are unfounded lies. Offers of buybacks are offensive in the extreme. How can you buy back something that was never yours, with

the tax dollars of its owner?

Now that we have that out of the way, let's look at the ramifications of confiscating the rights and property of Canadians.

There is a lot of talk about non-compliance. We've heard this before. The thing about non-compliance is that you can certainly defy the law on principle and unconstitutionality, and, at the end of the day, you may even be right. But if you must make that argument in court in front of a judge, you will probably lose. That is why it's called a legal system and not a justice system. It can be said there is very little justice in law these days.

We saw this during the attempted implementation of the infamous Liberal long gun registry. Some Canadians complied, many didn't, and the majority of firearms and their owners requiring registration never did so. The controversy raged on for over a decade until the Liberals were defeated

and registration was finally ended in 2012. Did non-compliance defeat that firearms law? It's tough to say. Lack of compliance was certainly well known and widely accepted; however, when their Firearms Act was demonstrated to have failed, the Liberals doubled down on the implementation and enforcement of it. Many Canadians suffered prosecution under that law for failing to register their property. It took the legislative agenda of the Harper Conservative government to put Canadians out of their misery.

Another part of this issue is the recent decriminalization of marijuana. It is widely believed this occurred because of widespread civil disobedience of the law, causing it to become unpopular and unenforceable. The message sent by government through the recent decriminalization was one of reward for and acceptance of decades of contempt for the law and non-compliance. If it's alright to ignore marijuana laws because eventually a government will give in and change them, why not firearms laws?

Never mind the issue of the relevant effects of marijuana use on society; when non-compliance with and disdain for firearms laws becomes the order of the day, that's scary – and dangerous for all kinds of reasons.

Firearms ownership is a Canadian right and cultural tradition handed down through English common law. It needs to be celebrated and protected in law. When it is held in such contempt by the Liberal Party that they ignore it and legislate against it, Canadians rightly question this attack on their rights and freedoms

Real scofflaws and criminals will always be in non-compliance with firearms laws and will always get the guns they want. But when regular, everyday Canadians decide to defy firearms laws, and respect for the rule of law itself is called into question, simply demanding

blind obedience to what are rejected as bad laws is not going to change this. It makes it a hell of a lot worse. Non-compliance and contempt for the law becomes the norm, and as someone who has been involved with firearms issues in Canada for over 25 years, I can tell you we are three quarters of the way there now.

In the early 1990s, many guns were first restricted, requiring registration, and then prohibited and, in some cases, confiscated. Best estimates are less than a third of the firearms effected were submitted for registration and accounted for. Gun bans imposed under two pieces of federal legislation failed utterly.

These guns still turn up often. Sometimes in estates when the owner has passed away, and for many other reasons and circumstances. The first question asked is, "Is it registered?" All too often, the answer is, "No." Sometimes it's, "Yes." Then, upon investigation, it's determined the gun was legally

registered when acquired, but failed to be re-registered when the law required that back in the early 2000s.

The Firearms Act does not allow the registration or even the re-registration of unregistered or previously registered prohibited firearms. Many people who find themselves in the position of possessing one of these guns, when informed of their lack of options under the law, cannot understand. "Surely they want these guns registered. Isn't compliance the goal?"

Again, the answer is, "No." Compliance is not the goal. Confiscation of property and firearms prohibition are the goals. This is built-in non-compliance. When informed of their option of surrender to the police, most fear the prospect of prosecution. So, the guns go back underground, back into the woodwork. They didn't all just "go away" as the civil disarmament lobby thought they would.

Firearms confiscation and buybacks are popular programs for the Uto-

pian socialist civil disarmament lobby because some honestly believe that the owners of these firearms are so law abiding to a fault that they will get in line to surrender their property, especially with the enticement of a payoff. "Better something than nothing." Those that don't, well they're just criminals who will be dealt with by the police.

Well, I'm here to tell them they aren't all criminals. They are your neighbours, co-workers and family members; people who want to comply with laws that respect their rights and property, and legitimately target criminals and lunatics. To put regular Canadians in the position of becoming criminals is itself criminal. But Liberals have historically demonstrated they have little concern for hurting Canadians with their firearms policies. Canadians have been routinely victimized by irresponsible and confiscatory firearms laws that seek to punish the law abiding rather than criminals and lunatics. There is just no other way to say it. 

Which "Dillon" is Right for You?



Square Deal "B"

Dillon's Square Deal "B" was designed to produce large amounts of ammunition in the least possible time for just a little bit of money. At 300 to 400 rounds per hour, you can produce enough ammo for several pistol matches or practice sessions in just a few hours.



RL 550C

More RL 550s have been sold than any other progressive machine in the world, and for good reason: The RL 550C's versatility is almost unlimited. It will load over 160 different rifle and pistol calibers.



XL 750

The XL 750 is the newest evolution of Dillon Precision's world-renowned family of high-volume auto-indexing reloading machines. The XL 750 incorporates the same proven five-station Quick Change toolhead as Dillon's industry dominant XL 650.



Super 1050

The Super 1050 is Dillon's commercial grade loading machine, featuring a frame and crank assembly that provides increased stroke to accommodate long rifle cartridges, yet the handle stroke is at a minimum, meaning less work for the operator.

dillonprecision.com • Call 800-762-3845 for a FREE catalog, ask for stock # 029-14690

LANZ

SHOOTING  SUPPLIES

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

THE BRANDS YOU KNOW FROM THE NAME YOU TRUST.



RIFLES



SHOT GUNS



HANDGUNS



AMMO



GUN RANGE



PLUS MORE



GET THE LANZ SIGNATURE SERVICE WITH EVERY FIREARM PURCHASE

We offer, at no charge, 30 minutes range time with a staff member who will spend time answering all your questions about your firearm, we'll also give you some tips on cleaning, marksmanship and history.



lanzshootingsupplies.com

289.407.0675

Located at Silverdale Gun Club

f @ @lanzshooting



Preserving Our Firearms Heritage

Gary K. Kangas

Canadian Women With Guns



Iver Johnson .38, like the one carried by Anna Kangas.

Canadian women with guns predate us all, with a heritage going back to the very beginnings of firearms in Canada. Sometime ago, while doing research, I came across an image of a young First Nations woman with her horse and little children. It was not a remarkable photograph, except for the fact she had a single-action Colt tucked in the waist band of her checkered-pattern skirt. Canadian women have been using guns for predator control, hunting and self-defence since European immigrants introduced firearms to Canada 400 years ago.

My grandparents immigrated from northern Europe and came to Canada at the turn of the last century. Both my grandmothers acquired handguns. My paternal grandmother, Anna, had an Iver

Johnson, four-inch barrelled .38 which she carried in the pocket of her apron. My maternal grandmother, Aini, had a 9mm Luger in her armoire and a 1907 Savage .380 pistol in the barn wrapped in a greased rag, accompanied by a fully charged magazine. The log house I lived in as a boy had a loaded .22, a double-barrel shotgun and a 30-30 Winchester in a corner of the kitchen. My brother and I were ordered to never touch them, and we did not, as Granny's word was law. When we were a little older (brother Ron was 11 and I was eight) we were instructed in the safe handling and use of firearms. Target practice was standard recreation, and the skills of predator control were part of the instructional curriculum.

The current level of Canadian women interested in and using firearms is trend-

ing up. Research indicates 40 to 50 per cent of women taking PAL and hunter training courses are women. They are particularly interested in the various handgun disciplines, as well as cowboy action competitions. Many women are also taking up hunting to put fresh meat on the table. Our local gun club, at the end of 2019, had 3,959 members. The female component was 1,016 members, or approximately 26 per cent of the total. The club president is a woman who is active in practical pistol shooting. The local cowboy action shooting club has a female ratio of 30 per cent.

Across Canada, there are women involved in hunting, recreational shooting, owning gun shops, training others and competing at the highest level of all types of disciplines. Examples are ▶



Sue Bender receiving PPC award, 2019.



Anna Kangas, 1906.

numerous. Dawn comes from an anti-gun family, but has become a champion practical pistol shooter, as well as a skilled hunter who has hunted big game in BC and the Yukon, as well as harvested a musk ox in the far north. Kathryn had some experience with predator control on a hobby farm, but when she moved to the city chose to research various shooting disciplines. She was drawn to cowboy action events, and has become a champion cowboy action competitor, as well as capable organizer and administrator of these events. LeAnne is a rancher whose firearms experience in the past was as a gopher shooter. In 2008, her husband, an avid firearms owner and trap shooter, introduced LeAnne to trap shooting and then later to cowboy action. She was quickly drawn into the latter and now says, "It's a great sport for us to do together." LeAnne is now an international award winner, hav-

ing won multiple Top Cowgirl Honours in Canada and in the US, highlighted by winning the Cowgirl of Honour Award at the famous Winter Range match held in Arizona in 2018. The list is growing daily, and the women I have interviewed are dedicated, incredibly capable, knowledgeable firearms owners.

Sue told me the following about her introduction to the adventure and enjoyment of firearms: "I didn't grow up in a shooting or hunting household. My introduction to guns came in 1988 when, as a new member of the Victoria Fish and Game Protective Association, I wanted to get involved with the club. I volunteered to help at the Black Powder venue of the BC Summer games, held at the club.

"Watching the shooters competing, all dressed in 1840s period clothing, was fascinating. At the end of the day's competition, one fellow asked if I'd like to try a shot out of his rifle. Sure thing! A couple

of shots later, and after hitting the targets, I went home with a big smile on my face, telling my husband he had to come see this, as it was so cool. He did, and we were hooked! That's how it all started.

"We shared the same rifle for the first year of our black powder shooting, then I got my first gun as a kit and had to build it. It's the rifle I still shoot. From that start, I competed in the BC summer games and was a medalist from 1989 until black powder was taken out of the games in 1998. Every long weekend there's a black powder rendezvous somewhere on Vancouver Island, elsewhere in BC or in other provinces.

"Not long after that intro back into shooting, my husband was keen to rekindle a love of hunting. So, acquiring modern hunting rifles came next. Of course, getting certified via appropriate courses happened too. Being a lover of animals, I didn't know if I would like hunting or not, until I shot my first moose. Apart from the initial unease at the gutting

part, I was hooked. Being able to put meat on the table, procured by my own expertise, is wonderful and satisfying. I've taken moose, elk, bear and deer all over the province, with both modern rifle and black powder rifle. I also compete in rimfire silhouette, which is a timed event shooting at steel knock-down targets at distances of 40, 60, 77 and 100 metres. I've been shooting that about 10 years.

"More recently I got involved with PPC (Police Pistol Combat) a handgun discipline, shooting double-action revolver and semi-automatic pistols. This is four-position shooting, using standing, sitting, kneeling and prone. There is also a barricade position, simulating shooting around the corner of a building, during which you must shoot with your weak hand as well. Handgun shooting is even more challenging, as trigger control/squeeze is critical to hitting what you aim at. Although I've only been shooting this discipline for five years, I placed top in my classification with both revolver

and pistol at the CPCA Nationals held in October 2019.

"In addition to being an active shooter in three different disciplines, I also teach the Canadian Firearms Safety Course. I got my certification in part to be able to offer women interested in getting their PAL the opportunity to learn from a woman instructor; for some, that comfort level can make all the difference."

These dedicated women of all ages are adding to the preservation of our firearms heritage. 

SOURCES

Gary Kangas archive, Dawn Deeley, Katherine Gillert, LeAnne Lane, Sue Bender,

Victoria Fish & Game Membership Chair

RIFLESCOPES / RED DOTS / RANGEFINDERS / BINOCULARS / SPOTTING SCOPES

PREMIUM optics
INCREDIBLE value
TOP TIER service
and **VIP** warranty



CROSSFIRE
RIFLESCOPES

1-866-343-0054

vortexcanada.net





Politics & Guns

Bruce Gold

The Public Health Approach To Violence



The Statistics Canada finding that the current increase in gun violence is directly attributable to increases in gang activity is simply outside the acceptable range of debate.

The public health approach to violence prevention has become a prominent part of the anti-gun crusade in Canada, so it's time we had a closer look. This will help us recognize the debating points it raises and will give us a window into the thinking of the progressives, usually leftists, who oppose civilian firearms ownership. Much of this article is based on the discussions at the Nov. 12 Toronto Board of Health meeting that called for more gun bans.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH

This approach is based on the belief that the medical community – broadly defined – has a special role and expertise that can be used to reduce violence (often defined as gun violence.) This is justified by the medical community's involvement in the consequences and costs of violence, rather than any noticeable expertise in firearms or criminology. The public health approach is usually conceived as separate from or parallel to law enforcement approaches. Law enforcement models of violence (or crime) reduction rely on suppression and deterrence, which are both based

on the power of the state to punish criminal behaviour. This law enforcement approach is criticized because it relies on expensive legal procedures and complex bureaucracies. It is also criticized for failing to generate lasting social change, even if it produces results. The public health approach hypothesizes that lasting improvement requires top-down social engineering to change social norms and attitudes towards both guns and violence.

The public health approach is promoted as a way of stopping violence comparable to stopping epidemics (hence the rhetoric about violence "epidemics.") This approach assumes that gun violence is analogous to a communicable disease that passes from person to person when left untreated. The gun, or bullet, is conceptualized as a pathogen or virus that causes the disease (gun violence). Reducing gun violence is seen as a medical approach that reduces the pathogens (guns), disinfecting the environment (by changing attitudes) and educating those at risk into healthier lifestyles and practices (reducing risky behaviour).

The prescribed intervention starts with an effort to identify those most at risk, then devises means to intervene to eradicate the cause and reduce disease-causing behaviour. To date, this approach has had very mixed results, with failures usually blamed on lack of resources, lack of authority or on implementation errors.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH DEBATE

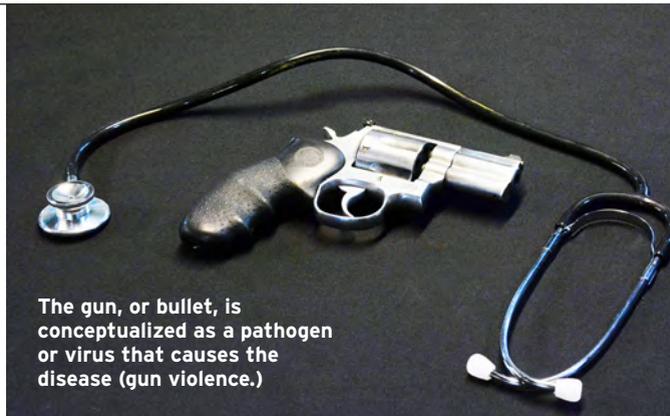
If we examine the public health approach, we see that it is, at heart, a social engineering project which strives to reshape both the target group – the at-risk population – and society as a whole. At its most extreme, it could be described as another attempt at the "soviet new man," the reshaping of individuals to turn them from liabilities to assets of the community. This approach is very much in line with the leftist belief that humans are a blank slate that can be educated into any shape the state desires. One serious problem with this approach is that it largely removes human motivation and will from the equation. The individual disappears into their, often racial, social group. These individ-

uals are conceptualized as lacking in discipline, free will and agency, reduced to the status of pawns to larger forces.

The Health Board debate demonstrates this way of thinking with its deep, unquestioning belief in root causes. Violence was, almost without exception, attributed to such things as unemployment, racism, lack of social inclusion and notably trauma. Trauma (a medical term) was repeatedly and explicitly named as a fundamental cause of violence, as in violence begets violence. In every case, the problem was attributed to the failure of society, with no blame falling on the actual violent person. There was a decided tendency to see the violent person as a victim of society's failures or oppressions. Almost without exception, the solution to gun violence was giving an expanded mandate (and funding) to public health, communities and family development programs to educate the target population away from violence and support that shift with a wide array of public funded services and programs.

AN EXAMPLE

One fairly radical example of thinking further from these assumptions was the presentation by a representative of the Partnership and Accountability Circle, which advises the anti-racism black unit of the City of Toronto (part of the Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism). This black gentleman (Toronto fights racism by assuming only members of one race are qualified to be in the Circle) had a clear message to deliver. Speaking directly to the issue of gun violence, he asserted that violence in and around the black community was due to the criminal justice system being a corporate assault on black youth and on black youth innocence. He stated that, "Black youth is denied any form of humanity, which reflects an afterlife of slavery." Also, that the system "continually situates black people as objects of fetish and force," and perpetuates a denial of black humanity. He believes this societally induced trauma was the root cause of violence and stems from society's failures. This trauma then suppressed the adaptive behaviours of black men, trapping them



The gun, or bullet, is conceptualized as a pathogen or virus that causes the disease (gun violence.)

in a cycle of violence.

His solution was the creation of a system of blacks-only pre-incarceration courts situated outside the court system and within the community. These courts would address the state-sanctioned violence which was responsible for the trauma of offenders. In a somewhat extreme form, this resonates with the shared leftist belief that society is the main cause of violence.

These arguments, and the Health Board's acceptance of them without question or comment, should be recognized as an example of the mandated conformity of politically correct thinking. One could even say that their uncritical acceptance of this Marxist analysis, dividing society into oppressor and victim groups, exposed their leftist politics. Understanding this way of thinking is important to the gun debate, because it is the same sort of thinking underlying a great deal of their anti-gun arguments, which we will examine in the next article.

His unchallenged arguments about the causes of gun violence present an immediate contradiction. If the system is so profoundly racist and anti-black, why does Toronto's government (part of the system) have an action plan to combat anti-black racism and why is it hiring only blacks to advise it? Secondly, it radically misstates both slavery and the black experience in Canada. Upper Canada outlawed slavery in 1793, the rest of the British Empire followed suit in 1833. Canada was the northern terminus of the Underground Railway and many of Canada's historic black communities were founded by American blacks who came here as a refuge and haven to escape slavery. Whatever the race relations failings of Canada may be, unrelenting, unalloyed hatred and unwavering denial of black humanity is not a fair, accurate or just description. His distorted view of our history

and our present was calmly accepted for what it was: a leftist truism.

CONCLUSION

Arguments formed from incorrect assumptions are typical of the gun debate. One incorrect assumption relates to causation; guns are not active living pathogens like germs, they are inanimate object wholly subject to human

choices. This is a medicalized repeat of the discredited weapons effect theory. A second failing of the public health approach is its rejection of rational choice as motivation. The fact that criminals choose guns as a rational response to the need to defend themselves and a necessary tool in the \$10 billion trade in illegal drugs is simply ignored. Unfortunately, criminals understand this very well, undercutting the assumption that violence is simply an unenlightened failure of understanding.

That guns in the hands of the law-abiding would be a hazard and disincentive to criminal violence was completely off the map. The Statistics Canada finding that the current increase in gun violence is directly attributable to increases in gang activity and associated with the opioid epidemic was simply outside the acceptable range of debate. Unfortunately, however, high-minded, successful responses to difficult problems must be based on facts. Programs to "cure" society of intentional violence through education are unlikely to succeed with criminal gangs. Easily bypassed bans on inanimate objects are simply costs without benefits. ❗

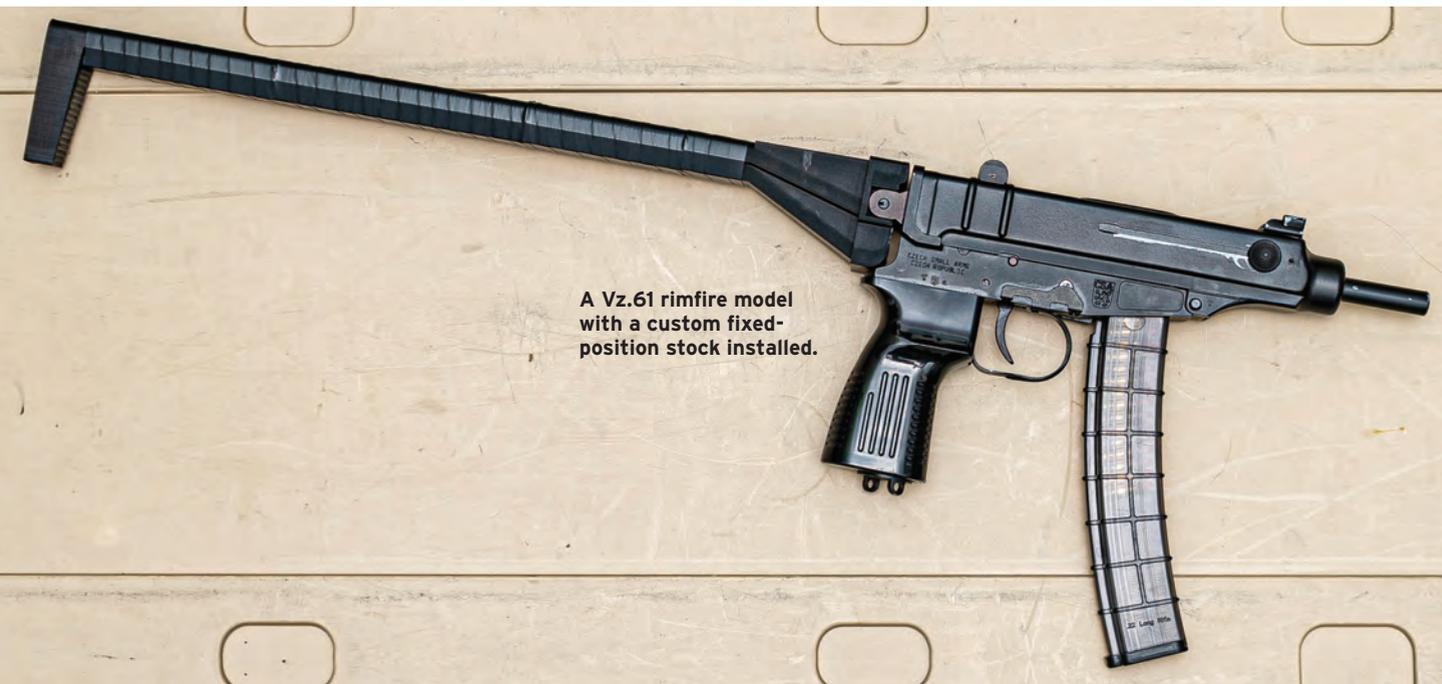
REFERENCES

- Cure Violence: A Public Health Model to Reduce Gun Violence. Jeffrey A. Butts, et al, Annual Review of Public Health, January 7, 2015.
- Homicide in Canada, 2017. Statistics Canada 2018.
- Toronto Board of Health - November 12, 2019 Debate. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dD3QlhoesgM>

DELIGHTFULLY STRANGE

The Czech Vz.61
BY EDWARD OSBORNE





A Vz.61 rimfire model with a custom fixed-position stock installed.

Looking at the Vz.61 tucked into my safe, I can't help but think about its role in my larger firearms collection. The gun's primary value to me is as an oddity – a historical snapshot, a part of pop culture and an outlier in Canadian law. It seems exceptionally lucky that there's a spot for it in the safe at all.

The original design was part of the Czech Republic's desire to maintain its independence from the Soviet Union. While the Vz58 assault rifle assumed the role for the Czech army that the AK-47 fulfilled in the USSR, the Vz.61 was a unique solution for pilots and armoured crews with no room in their vehicles for full-sized rifles.

A blowback submachine gun, the Vz.61 was outfitted with pistol sights and a unique top-folding stock that created a compact package which could be fired with arms extended like a handgun or shouldered like a carbine. Ten or 20-round magazines functioned, along with an integrated rate-reducer, to produce a fast-firing, soft-recoiling firearm that was only suitable for short bursts at close range. Chambered in 7.62x17mm SR Browning (also known as 32 ACP), it was not a gun many would consider ideal for offensive use. Instead, its role was to provide some kind of basic fighting ability for those soldiers not tasked as front-line infantry, i.e. field officers, drivers, crewmen, pilots and scouts.

Designed by Miroslav Rybář, it entered production in 1961 and saw an 18-year run that would result in over

200,000 guns being built for the Czech armed forces. The design also saw international sales and export, with the licensed M84 version from Yugoslavia seeing use in Serbia and as part of many police and security forces.

But more prominently for a young Canadian collector, its distinctive look ensured it found a place in the popular culture of the '80s, '90s and 2000s. From the Klobb in Nintendo's GoldenEye video game, to the lobby scene in The Matrix, the Vz.61 has firmly cemented itself as a recognizable gun in movies, television and video games. The entry for the Vz.61 on the Internet Movie Firearms Database lists over 61 notable appearances, more than double that of its arguably more prolific Vz58 cousin.

Currently, there are several civilian variants available to sport shooters, both in its home country and here in North America. In the US, the dedicated semi-auto version is sold without the distinctive folding stock in order to be classified as a handgun rather than a short-barreled rifle, which would carry with it a \$200 tax stamp and the requirement to register it with their federal government.

In its country of invention, versions in 380 ACP, 9x18mm and 22 LR are produced for civilian ownership by Czech Small Arms. The Canadian situation is particularly unique in that the original calibre 32 ACP is one of the few calibre-based bans on the books here. The excuse used for that ban was "Saturday Night Specials." These were

an element of the late '80s and early '90s crime wave in urban America which were sometimes cheaply made pocket pistols favoured by criminals for muggings and robberies. As they were often chambered in 25 ACP and 32 ACP calibres, the Canadian government prohibited any handguns using these rounds, other than a select few Olympic competition models.

But the Vz.61 in Canada does feature the folding stock, making it a restricted rifle by design, and thus not a handgun in the banned 32 ACP cartridge. To my knowledge, it is one of the only commonly available platforms using this little cartridge.

Even with the pinned five-round magazines, the reasonable trigger pull and sky-high ejection make it a blast on the range. Interestingly, the sights themselves are optimistically labeled with 75- and 150-metre zeros. However, because they are framed like pistol sights, they actually work best with the stock folded and the rifle extended from the body. When the stock is deployed and tucked into the shoulder, the rear sight is a little too close to the eye.

I actually have several Vz.61s in my safe, as different versions can be found anywhere from \$600 to \$800. Included are a Czech surplus original upper, a CSA chambered in 32 ACP and I managed to track down one of the 22 LR versions. These are particularly interesting to me, as it hits several other unique aspects of Canadian law; as a compact rimfire, it is restricted >



A factory-made Vz.61 made specifically for sport shooting by Czech Small Arms. This model has the distinctive top-folding stock.



in its factory configuration, but the magazines are no longer subject to the five-round limitation visited upon semi-auto centrefire components. Additionally, because rimfire is restricted by overall length rather than barrel length, it is viable to have an extended stock built for the 22 LR Vz.61 and fixed in place to ensure total length exceeds 660 millimetres (26 inches), making the rifle a non-restricted plinker. I've created such a stock myself, and while the result may be a little unwieldy, it certainly is a novelty to no longer have such a firearm limited to range use.

While the Vz58 has gone through many upgrades and enhancements, most recently seeing frontline deployment with Czech operators in Afghanistan, the Vz.61 has seen limited attempts at modernization. With few modern organization users, most of the innovation comes from the civilian sporting sector inside the Czech Republic.

As part of my constant hunt for the new and unusual, I stumbled across a prototype optics mount that had been brought in from across the ocean by Canadian company Corwin Arms. This

unusual-looking assembly slides over the Vz.61's front sight and clamps in place on the barrel, adding key picatinny rail sections for mounting optics and fore-grips. A micro red dot is a welcome addition when using the stock, but the added mass at the nose of the gun means that the stock can no longer fold into its stowed location, removing one of the key appeals.

But aftermarket solutions for the Skorpion are so rare that I must applaud the effort. Even if it is a little unwieldy, it presents a clever solution for those looking to improve their sighting ability. Perhaps a fixed stock similar to my rimfire solution is in order.

Ultimately, while the Vz.61 is a somewhat anemic and puzzling gun to shoot, it is a delight to have and a distinctive part of the collection. New shooters are inexorably drawn to it, recognizing it on sight and delighted to try it out. While I'd be hard pressed to argue it as a staple of any Canadian shooter, I'd suggest it's a reasonably affordable treat that is not to be overlooked. 🍷

Become an
NFA
FIELD
OFFICER

Are you a firearms activist
eager to make a difference
and fight to protect gun owners' rights?

Volunteer and join our leadership team today!

FIELD OFFICER PROGRAM:
1-877-818-0393 // info@nfa.ca



NFA

CANADA'S
NATIONAL
FIREARMS
ASSOCIATION

Devenez AGENT DE TERRAIN NFA

Êtes-vous un(e) activiste voulant faire une différence et se battre pour protéger les droits des propriétaires d'armes à feu?

Joignez-vous à notre équipe de bénévoles dès aujourd'hui!

PROGRAMME AGENTS DE TERRAIN
1-877-818-0393 // info@nfa.ca

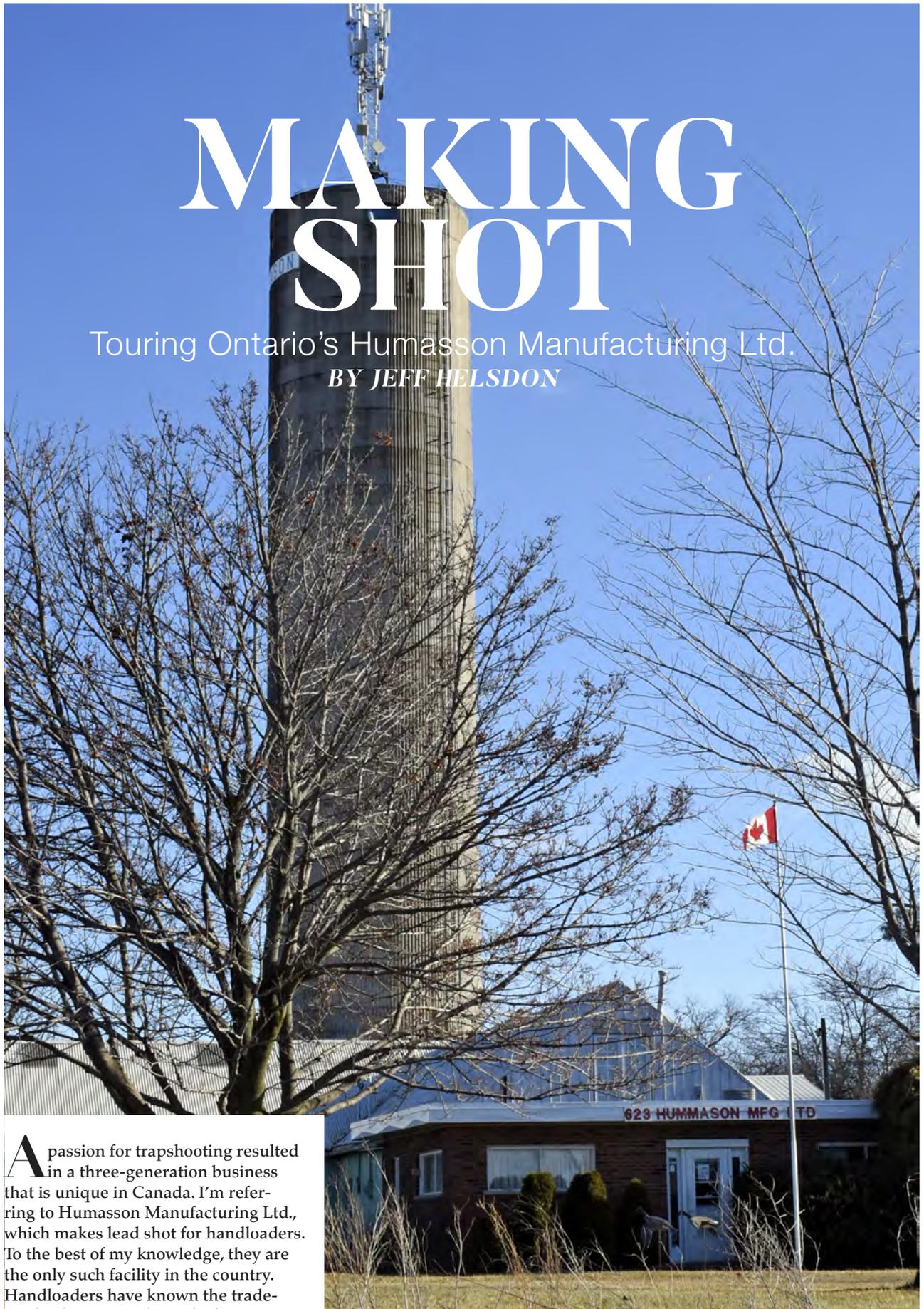


NFA

CANADA'S
NATIONAL
FIREARMS
ASSOCIATION

MAKING SHOT

Touring Ontario's Humasson Manufacturing Ltd.
BY JEFF HELSDON



A passion for trapshooting resulted in a three-generation business that is unique in Canada. I'm referring to Humasson Manufacturing Ltd., which makes lead shot for handloaders. To the best of my knowledge, they are the only such facility in the country. Handloaders have known the trademark white cotton bag which contains ▶



An inside view of the shot tower, where lead forms droplets as it falls into a cooling tank.

the shot for decades. For locals near Hamilton, Ont., the 120-foot shot tower marks the factory location.

Fred Humasson, grandfather of current director of operations Brian Leece, started experimenting with making his own shot in the early 1960s. Fred was a mechanical engineer and teamed up with his son, Lew. Both were avid trap-

shooters. "They started in their backyard really," Leece said. "My grandfather built scaffolding and started making shot." In those days, just about every trapshooter reloaded. "I guess he realized there wasn't anyone making shot, so they decided to give it a try," Leece surmised.

Fred started by melting scrap lead,

but he had problems getting the shot round. Eventually Fred purchased some manufactured shot and found it made a difference.

"He realized a specific alloy is needed to get it round," Leece said. When he found the proper alloy, Fred had it analyzed and then started buying the pre-formulated lead alloy. It contains

antimony to make it hard, and small amounts of tin, copper and silver.

The shot-making process starts with lead ingots which are hoisted to the top of the shot tower. There, a worker, wearing a mask and operating in a ventilated space, puts the lead in a big melting pot. The molten lead is then poured through a pan with different-sized holes. These correspond to the different shot sizes. The molten lead starts falling and is initially elongated. By the time it hits a cooling bucket at the bottom of the tower, it is round and hardens instantly.

The shot is then put on a conveyor to go up through a series of large, spiral funnels. This separates the round shot from imperfect shot and polishes it. The imperfect shot is melted down to go through the process again. The round shot goes up another conveyor into a series of drums with different-sized holes to separate the shot sizes. The shot is weighed out into 25-pound bags, and the bags are then stitched shut. Humasson's shot is shipped across Canada to gun stores.

Besides its proprietary shot, Humasson also sells anything to do with

Brian Leece stitches shut a cotton bag of shot.



This series of funnels/baffles separates the round shot from imperfect shot.

handloading. This includes primers, powder, wads, clay targets, presses and just about any part you can think of for reloaders. The company also sells loaded shotgun shells, some pistol and rifle ammunition and components for metallic cartridge reloading.

Leece admitted shot sales for reloading are on the decline as the price of loaded shells has come down. "For the price, you can buy factory-loaded shells," he said. "You don't save as much as you used to with 12 and 20 gauge. When you get into the smaller gauges, like 28 and .410, you save more."

Brian's mother is Fred's daughter. He started working in the business after high school as a summer job, but never left, taking over the business three years ago.

However, with the government recently completing a consultation on the use of lead shot, Leece sometimes feels concern about the future of the business. "The shooting community is a strong one," he said, "It has a multi-generational history. People love this sport, and reloading is a big part of the history and future of this industry." 



TRADITIONAL GUNS

BY TIM FOWLER

These two Ruger rifles are a closely matched centrefire (2) and rimfire (1).



Precision shooters got a lot of love at SHOT this year, with additional long-range precision rifles and a plethora of new bolt and semi-auto rimfires that promise to deliver competition-level accuracy. Carbon fibre-wrapped barrels are increasingly common, including on rimfires. Women and smaller-framed shooters are finally getting some well-deserved attention with reduced or adjustable length-of-pull stocks, and modified geometry to accommodate their specific shooting needs. The 410 Bore shotgun garnered renewed interest in sporting and home defense, and two innovative muzzleloaders hit the market.

RIMFIRE RIFLES

Anschutz launched their Model 1761 switch-barrel, which allows shooters to transition between 22 LR, 17 HMR and 22 WMR. Anschutz made changes to the bolt, receiver, safety and moved the magazine release to inside the trigger guard. The barrel attaches with two v-blocks secured with two screws. Each barrel swap requires a calibre-matching magazine change.

The new Thompson/Center Performance Center T/CR22 rimfire

features an 18.75-inch heavy contour carbon-wrapped steel barrel with a threaded muzzle. T/C designed the gun to hold the action open when the last shot is fired and added a hole which allows the gun to be cleaned from the breech. Further, the gun is designed to accept most Ruger 10/22 aftermarket parts.

CENTREFIRE/RIMFIRE RIFLE PAIRS

The concept of long-range target rifle and matching rimfire trainer was a theme repeated many times at this year's SHOT Show. With a surprising number of excellent near-custom centrefire target rifles in the \$4,000 to \$8,000 category, some readers might be surprised to find bolt-action rimfires in the same price bracket. Thankfully, Ruger has a long-range rifle pair that won't break the bank. The eight-pound Ruger American Rimfire Long Range Target comes with a Ruger Marksman adjustable trigger, 10-shot magazine, 22-inch threaded bull barrel and one-piece aluminum scope rail. The rifle retails in Canada for \$900. It's matched pair, the centerfire Ruger Hawkeye Long-Range Target, weighs in at 11 pounds, features a heavy contour 26-inch barrel with muzzle brake, a two-stage



3. The Lupo (Italian for wolf) is Benelli's first bolt-action rifle.

4. Franchi's new Momentum Elite rifle is available in three finishes.

adjustable trigger, two-way adjustable comb and a 20 MOA adjustable Picatinny rail. It retails for \$1,950.

Bergara's B-14 Rimfire is a bolt-action rimfire with an 18-inch barrel and a Remington Model 700 footprint. It features Bergara's Performance Trigger, Rem 700 compatible scope mounts, and the carbon model weighs in at 8.1 pounds. The steel barrel version weighs 1.1 pounds more. This rimfire matches up with the Bergara B14 HMR precision centrefire.

Christensen Arms' new Ranger .22 rimfire compliments their ELR Big Game Centrefire, with a carbon fibre tension barrel, carbon fibre stock and a Canadian-made Trigger Tech Rem 700 style trigger. This rimfire weighs in at 5.1 pounds.

CENTREFIRE RIFLES

Benelli's new Lupo is their first bolt-action rifle. It's offered in 30-06 Springfield, 270 Winchester and 300 Winchester Magnum. The Progressive Comfort stock can be adjusted for length of pull, the trigger is adjustable, and the threaded, crio-treated barrel accepts a muzzle brake. Benelli offers a sub-MOA three-shot guarantee for its retail price of about \$2,000.

Browning's new X-Bolt Max Varmint/Target rifle comes with a 26-inch fluted bull barrel with a threaded muzzle brake and extended bolt handle. The adjustable stock comes with two studs and a Picatinny rail mounted under the forearm for bipod attachment. The Varmint/Target comes in several different calibres, including 204

Ruger, 6.5 Creedmoor and 28 Nosler. The X-Bolt Long Range comes with a fluted heavy sporter barrel and three stock studs instead of the rail. The Long Range comes in 10 different calibres, including 6mm Creedmoor, 6.5 Creedmoor and 6.5 PRC, along with 30 Nosler and 300 Remington Ultra Magnum. The Hell's Canyon Speed A-TACS TD-X Camo comes in either a 22 or 26-inch barrel, depending on the calibre, and is finished in Cerakote Burnt Bronze.

CADEX is a Canadian company well known globally for manufacturing precision chassis systems and complete rifles for the civilian and military markets.

This year they launched the CDX-R7 CRBN and the CDX-R7 SPTR, both targeting the performance-oriented hunter. Available in short and long actions, the CRBN model employs a Proof Research carbon fibre barrel, four-lug 50-degree bolt throw, DX2 single/two-stage selectable trigger on a Rem 700 footprint. The SPTR is supplied with a steel barrel.

Franchi's new Momentum Elite bolt-action rifle comes in three finishes: A Hunter Grey stock with a Cobalt Cerakote barrel, a Realtree Escape stock with Cerakote Burnt Bronze barrel, and a True Timber Strata stock with a Midnight Bronze Cerakote finished barrel. The rifles come with muzzle brake, adjustable trigger, one-piece Picatinny rail and integrated swivel mounts. Hunter Grey retails for \$1,000, and the True Timber and Realtree Escape retail for \$1,065.

Marlin is celebrating 150 years in 2020 and the Model 444 Custom in 444 Marlin seems an appropriate way to celebrate a birthday. This custom shop produced, limited edition gun has Skinner ladder sights, a 24-inch half round/half octagon barrel, a gold inlaid engraved receiver and AA American black walnut stock and forend. This birthday gift is wrapped up in a special commemorative box and has a special serial number.

Mossberg launched the Patriot LR Hunter rifle in four calibres, including 6.5 Creedmoor. The new Patriot Super Bantam allows stock adjustment from 12 to 13 inches, perfect for women and smaller-stature shooters who wish they could adjust the length of pull.

Proof Research's new Glacier TI Mountain Hunter Lone Peak Arms Razor action is fitted in Proof Research's patented carbon fibre stock, with their carbon fibre-wrapped barrel and a Trigger Tech trigger. These rifles weigh in at five pounds, 13 ounces, to six pounds, 12 ounces. Proof Research has developed a reputation for manufacturing high-quality, carbon fibre-wrapped barrels that appear on many other rifles for 2020, including CADEX, Nosler, Weatherby, Kimber, Savage and more.

Thompson/Center now has four tiers of sporting centrefire rifles. The Compass Utility is the perfect gateway gun for young hunters who are looking at their first and affordable rifle. It's offered in six different calibres, from 223 Remington to 30-06 Spring-

5



6



5. Marlin's 150th anniversary rifle features beautiful wood and finishing.

6. This short-barreled Remington will be available in Canada, but with a fixed Magpul buttstock.

field. The Venture II is Mossberg's flagship hunting rifle featuring a second-generation trigger and Weather Shield coating for protection from tough weather.

The Remington 700-CP Armbrace bolt-action pistol in 223 Remington and 308 Winchester with a 12.5-inch barrel will need some modifications to the stock before it can be imported into Canada and sold as a non-restricted firearm. The importer says that we can anticipate this new short-barreled centrefire in the next year. The 700-CP offers all the reliability of the Model 700 in a tight hunting/varmint/target-ready format. Remington's 2020 700 CDL Anniversary model is chambered in 300 Savage this year. The stainless fluted barrel is set in grade C walnut.

Tikka offers four new bolt action rifles: the T3X Ultimate Precision rifle with an adjustable cheekpiece on the rigid fibreglass and carbon stock, QD sling attachment and a recoil pad with spacers to adjust length-of-pull (\$2,060); the T3X Lite Roughneck includes a muzzle brake and fluted bolt with oversized bolt knob (\$1,400); T3X Lite Veil comes with a camo-dipped stock and Cerakote painted barrel (\$2,060); and the T3X TAC A1 comes with a folding stock (\$3,160).

SHOTGUNS

Benelli launched three new shotguns this year. Their 828 U over/under shotgun in 20 gauge weighs a slim six pounds. The AA-grade walnut stock comes with a shim kit that provides up to 40 points of adjustment for drop and cast. They also launched BE.S.T. (Benelli Surface Treatment), an impressive hybrid treatment that provides unprecedented abrasion and corrosion resistance. The folks at Benelli are so confident in the treatment, they offer a 25-year no-corrosion, no-rust warranty on any firearm to which it's applied. Both the SBE3 (Super Black Eagle) 3 1/2-inch and ETHOS 3-inch autoloaders now receive this treatment. The 828U retails for \$4,250, while the SBE3 and the ETHOS go for \$2,900.

Browning offers a field of new shotguns: the new and premium-treated Citori Field Sporting Grade VII; two new 725 Citoris, the Field, including two models of .410 Bore, and the Feather in 12 and 20 gauge; the 725 Trap Max, an ideal trap gun with Graco adjustable Monte Carlo

comb and Graco adjustable butt pad plate. The bottom-ejecting pump gun line-up received some tweaks and upgrades with new camo finish offerings and composite stock.

Marlin's 410 Bore lever action is an interesting addition for shooters who want a lever suitable for grouse and turkey hunting.

Remington is offering an 870 Express trap gun, perfect for a budget-minded shooter who wants to take on the challenge of trap shooting. And the addition of 410 Bore shotgun in the 870 line, complete with removable choke tubes, is aimed at turkey hunters.

Savage's model Renegaugue line of autoloading shotguns features an adjustable length of pull and comb height, and a stock rod buffer to help reduce felt recoil. A nine per cent reduction in weight was achieved by full-length fluting of the barrel. Stevens has added three 410 Bore break-action single-barreled shotguns with extra-full Win chokes, designed specifically for the turkey hunter.



7. Beretta's 686 Silver Pigeon Vittoria is designed specifically for female shooters.



8. Benelli's Super Black Eagle is now warranted against rust and corrosion for 25 years because of the new Benelli Surface Treatment (B.E.S.T.).



9. Savage's new Renegade autoloader allows shooters to adjust length of pull and comb height.



10. Traditions new Nitrofire muzzleloader use Federal Premium's moisture proof powder-encapsulated Firestick.

MUZZLELOADERS

CVA's Paramount Pro bolt-action muzzleloader uses a machined magnetic insert to hold a large rifle primer in place to ignite a 150-grain load of 209 Blackhorn powder, pushing a 280-grain PowerBelt ELR out the muzzle at 2,400 feet per second. Accuracy is reported to be four inches at 400 yards. The muzzleloader comes with a range ram rod and a compact folding self-deploying field rod, a Trigger Tech trigger and it's available in either .45 or .50 calibre.

The new Traditions NitroFire utilizes the new Federal Premium Firestick. After loading the projectile like a standard muzzleloader, the Firestick premeasured Hodgdon Triple 8 powder is inserted into the breach. Firesticks are impervious to moisture and can be safely unloaded. The full line of NitroFire muzzleloaders is available in .50 calibre.

In review, the lineup of new firearms at the 2020 SHOT Show was inspiring and an example of the relentless pursuit of excellence. 



MODERN SPORTING GUNS

BY LOWELL STRAUSS



Daniel Defense DDM4 PDW is a compact rifle chambered in 300 Blackout. It's available in either a pistol or short-barrelled rifle configuration.

Dark political clouds loom on the horizon as the Canadian firearms industry braces for a storm. Speaking with Canadian dealers, distributors and industry media at SHOT Show 2020 reveals a lot of uncertainty about new regulations. This doubt leaves buyers in a precarious position when deciding which firearms to bring into Canada – ones that shooters can enjoy long after the storm passes.

Cruising the SHOT Show floor made me hopeful the “weatherman” just might be wrong, as I discovered some new and exciting products for tactical competition shooters. Here is my handpicked list of guns at the show.

MODERNIZING TRADITIONAL GUNS

Customizing sporting guns is not new, but gun manufacturers are taking it to the next level, offering modern styling to classic firearms. Rossi’s Triple Black, Mossberg’s SPX and Marlin’s Dark Series are tactical lever guns, and they may be the gateway to owning a





The Dark Series of lever-action rifles is a new twist on the classic firearms for Marlin.

non-restricted “black rifle” in a future Canada.

As Marlin celebrates its 150th anniversary, it created a new offering called the Dark Series – blacked-out and tricked-out lever-action rifles in models 336, 1894, 1895 and 444. All models use an 18.25-inch barrel with threaded muzzle, paracord-wrapped big loop lever and an XS Lever Rail for mounting optics. Rifles include a ghost ring rear sight and paired XS Sights front sight post. A black-painted hardwood stock and matte black parkerized finish on barrel, action and lever add to the contemporary black look.

SEMI-AUTO RIFLES

Daniel Defense is one of the big players in the black rifle industry. The excitement in their camp this year is the DDM4 PDW or personal defense weapon. It’s chambered in 300BLK with a seven-inch, 1:7 twist, cold hammer

forged barrel, and shoots either subsonic or supersonic loads. The DDM4 PDW is 20.75 inches in overall length, has an ambidextrous safety, Grip-N-Rip charging handle and pistol grip with integrated trigger guard. A six-inch MFR XL flat front rail is compatible with a variety of accessories. The DDM4 PDW uses M-LOK attachment points and an SLR M-LOK MOD2 hand stop to help ensure a safe shooting experience on this short-barrelled rifle platform. A linear compensator directs muzzle blast forward. The DDM4 PDW comes equipped with the Maxim Defense’s CQB Pistol Brace or CQB Gen 7 stock, the latter being the more likely option in Canada.

DRD Tactical builds rifles with a patented internal recoil technology which eliminates the standard buffer tube/spring associated with most AR-style rifles, allowing them to fire with the stock folded. DRD rifles

are built for modularity, with quick take-down technology. The gun can be assembled in less than 60 seconds or change cartridges with a simple barrel swap in the same amount of time. I had the opportunity to shoot the DRD Tactical APTUS and watch a demo of the disassembly and reassembly at Range Day – slick setup! The rifle is a direct gas operated semi-auto action and is chambered in 5.56mm or 300 BLK. Other features include a Magpul folding stock, a full-length M-LOK rail, 4.5-pound mil-spec trigger and a bird cage muzzle device. It also includes a hard case or backpack for transport.

Dark Storm Industries manufactures AR-style firearms in five different configurations to meet strict regulations in some US states. Rifles that comply with laws in certain states include a fixed magazine and unique Featureless (without a pistol grip) models. DSI’s flagship model, the DSI Typhoon, >

is offered in both 5.56 NATO and 300 Blackout. The Typhoon features a 7075-aluminum billet receiver and ultralight M-Lok Typhoon hand guard. The heat-treated, match-grade, nitride barrel yields 1 MOA accuracy and its ambidextrous controls accommodate both right-handed and lefthanded shooters. MSRP \$1,295 US.

F-1 Firearms builds and sells top-quality AR rifles, receivers, parts and accessories at their Texas-based manufacturing facility. In addition to using premium parts, F-1 Firearms builds some of the best-looking rifles in the industry. The FDR-15 rifle has a forged mil-spec receiver, 16-inch match-grade barrel and oversized magwell. Custom magwell cut outs are available, and there's a rumour that we may see a custom Canadian version soon.

TACTICAL/COMPETITION SHOTGUNS

Mossberg designed the new 940 JM Pro with help from World Champion speed shooter Jerry Miculek. It's a feature-rich, fast-cycling, gas-operated 12-gauge competition shotgun with a 24-inch barrel. The gas system allows for up to 1,500 rounds between cleaning, while nickel boron-coated internal parts provide smooth operation. The 940 JM Pro includes an adjustable stock to customize length of pull, drop at comb and cast using incremental stock shims. Other competition features include an enlarged loading port specifically designed for quad-loading; a bright orange follower; an elongated, pinch-free elevator; oversized and contoured charging handle and bolt release button; and a HIVIZ front fibre optic sight. It uses competition-ready Briley extended

chokes for optimum patterns. MSRP \$1,015 US.

Beretta's 1301 Comp Pro is the latest model in the 1301 family of 12-gauge tactical semi-auto shotguns. Incorporating feedback from top competition shooters, the 1301 Comp Pro is packed with features to give a competitive edge. The Comp Pro adds the Beretta Kick-Off Plus system – three elastomer dampeners complete with return springs – to a new polymeric stock to reduce perceived recoil by 40 per cent, while reducing muzzle jump and vibrations caused by the movement of the gun's mechanism. Other comfort features include a soft comb, comfort grip and spacers to adjust drop and cast. This shotgun uses a Beretta Steelium cold hammer forged barrel with an elongated forcing cone, topped with a 10x8 stepped rib and fibre optic sight and mid-bead. Three OptimaChoke HP Black edition choke tubes (IC, IM and C) are included. It's available in 21- or 24-inch barrel configurations. MSRP \$2,125 Canadian.

AR-15-style shotguns are growing in popularity and there are a few new makes and models on the market this year. The new Iver Johnson Stryker SN combines good looks with performance in satin nickel and black two-tone finish, 12-gauge semi-automatic shotgun. This shotgun features a 20-inch barrel plus muzzle break, and a fibre optic front sight. It's chambered for 2.75- and three-inch shotshells fed from a five-round detachable box magazine. An A2 detachable carry handle with adjustable sight, two-piece pistol grip stock (push button releases the stock and leaves the pistol grip) and synthetic forend. It uses a standard AR-15 bolt release but uses a cross trigger safety rather than the typical safety selector. A thick rubber butt pad soaks up recoil. Its overall



The DRD Tactical APTUS rifle features easy take down for changing barrels or for transport.



A DSI Featureless rifle that is California compliant because it doesn't use a standard pistol grip. Is this the Canadian future?



F1-Firearms manufactures high-quality ARs; some are finished with vibrant colours.

length is 43 inches with stock attached and 33.75 inches in its pistol grip configuration. MSRP \$459 US.

PRECISION RIFLES

The Savage 110 Elite Precision is the 110 design at its best. Upgrades to the model include an Adjustable Core Competition (ACC) chassis from MDT with ARCA Rail along the entire length of the chassis, stainless steel, flash nitrided target receiver, titanium nitrided bolt body, 1.5 to four-pound user-adjustable AccuTrigger, MDT Vertical Grip and AICS magazine. The 110 Elite Precision is available in six calibres, including 223 Rem, 308 Win, 6.5mm Creedmoor and 6mm Creedmoor with a 26-inch barrel, or 300 Win Mag and 338 Lapua with a 30-inch barrel. Short-action calibre rifles weigh 12.6 pounds, while the long-action calibres are 14.95 pounds. MRSP \$2,000 to \$2,150 US.

For a shooter wanting to try PRS without breaking the bank, the UI-

timatum Precision Defacto provides an excellent option for a match-ready barrelled action. The assembled and ready to shoot (except for a stock/chassis) Ultimatum action and 24-inch International Barrels Inc (IBI) barrel uses a Remington 700 pattern trigger by Trigger Tech. The barreled action fits any stock for the Tikka T3 with minor inletting for the trigger. It uses AICS and AW mags. Current chamberings include 223 Rem, 6mm Creedmoor, 6.5mm Creedmoor and 308 Win, expanding later this year to include 6.5 PRC, 300 WSM, 300 Win Mag and 300 PRC. MSRP is \$1,000 US.

Sig Sauer designed its first bolt-action rifle, called the Cross, with the input of military snipers and long-range shooters. Weighing only 6.5 pounds, it's aimed more at hunters or 3-gun shooters than PRS shooters. A stainless steel, match-grade barrel is bedded in a folding stock. The stock is fully adjustable for comb height, length of pull and butt pad position.

Its M-LOK forend is free floated. Shooters can change their own barrels using a standard AR-style barrel nut wrench. It includes an ambidextrous AR-style safety, an adjustable (two to four pounds) two-stage trigger and a standard AI magazine. Available in 308 Win, 6.5 Creedmoor and the new 277 Sig Fury. MSRP is \$1,499 US.

PISTOL CALIBRE CARBINES

When compared to handguns, pistol calibre carbines have a longer sight radius, making them easier to shoot accurately. They also offer lower felt recoil and improved ammunition performance from their longer barrels. In addition, they're fun to shoot, especially since cheap ammunition is plentiful in 22 LR and 9mm Luger chamberings, and most accept standard pistol magazines. There's little wonder why we continue to see new models and upgrades to these popular rifle platforms.

TNW Firearms introduced the Aero >



The Beretta 1301 Comp Pro is the latest shotgun in the 1301 Tactical shotgun family, designed specifically for competition.

Survival Rifle 9mm LTE, its lightest semi-automatic take-down carbine. Like all Aero survival rifles and pistols, the new 9mm LTE is a no-tools-required, rapid take-down design, weighing less than four pounds. It uses readily available Glock magazines. Blowback operated for simplicity and reliability, both the upper and lower receiver are machined from 6061-T6 aluminum. The 9mm LTE has specifically engineered parts to reduce weight, and therefore parts aren't interchangeable with guns in other chamberings. MSRP \$799 US.

Ruger's PCC line expands this year, adding two new models. Model 19124 features an adjustable stock, black synthetic chassis and aluminum free-floated handguard, which includes M-LOK accessory attachment slots on all four sides. An interchangeable magazine well allows shooters to use common Ruger or Glock magazines. Like the original Ruger PCC, this model is easy to take down for transport. The receiver is fitted with a six-position, telescoping Magpul MOE buttstock. The trigger utilizes Ruger 10/22 components, and Ruger will be making a version with a barrel long enough to be non-restricted in



At \$1,000 US, the Ultimatum Precision's Defacto barreled action is a value-priced option to get started in precision rifle shooting.

Canada. MSRP \$799 US.

Kriss Vector SBR 22 LR semi-auto rifle is new for 2020 and this exciting plinker has people talking. It's the fun little brother of the Kriss Vector center-fire model, with the same build quality but at a more affordable price. It uses a direct blowback system to cycle. There are several Canadian dealers taking pre-orders on these guns, but its arrival is pending RCMP approval. The SBR has a 6.5-inch barrel and a pinned stock for an overall length of just over 26 inches, while the 16-inch barrel model, the CRB, has an overall length of 34.5 to 37.7 inches, depending on the position of the stock. Both models include flip-down sights and come

standard with one 10-round magazine. An optional 30-round magazine is available separately. The Kriss Vector 22 LR is available in black, flat dark earth and alpine white. MSRP \$750 Canadian.

Whether you want to call them black, tactical or modern sporting guns, there's little doubt they dominate the SHOT Show. Each year, manufacturers add new models – some with different chamberings, different colours, upgraded parts or new accessories. If you're searching for the latest and greatest, I hope you find useful my small sampling of products which may show up in the Canadian marketplace once the political storm passes. 🇨🇦



2020 AGM MAY 29-30

Alt+ Hotel Brossard, QC
(South Shore Montreal)

\$100/person

Friday May 29, 2020 7pm – 10pm

- **Meet and Greet** *mingle with the Directors and other activists*

Saturday May 30, 2020 9am – 10pm

- **AGM** 9am -12:00pm
- **Open Panel Discussion with special guests** 1:30pm - 5pm
- **Banquet (Evening dinner)** 6pm - 10pm

REGISTER NOW!

Online : nfa.ca By phone : 1-877-818-0393

By mail : use mail-in registration form (magazine insert)

ROOM RESERVATION

By phone : 1-833-743-9156 *reservation ID : NFA AGM 2020

Online : nfa.ca

Please register early to help us plan arrangements.
If you are not yet a member, it is not too late to join.
Donations to support this event are gratefully appreciated.





HANDGUNS

BY DEAN ROXBY



1. The Colt Python is back in both six and 4.25-inch barrel lengths.

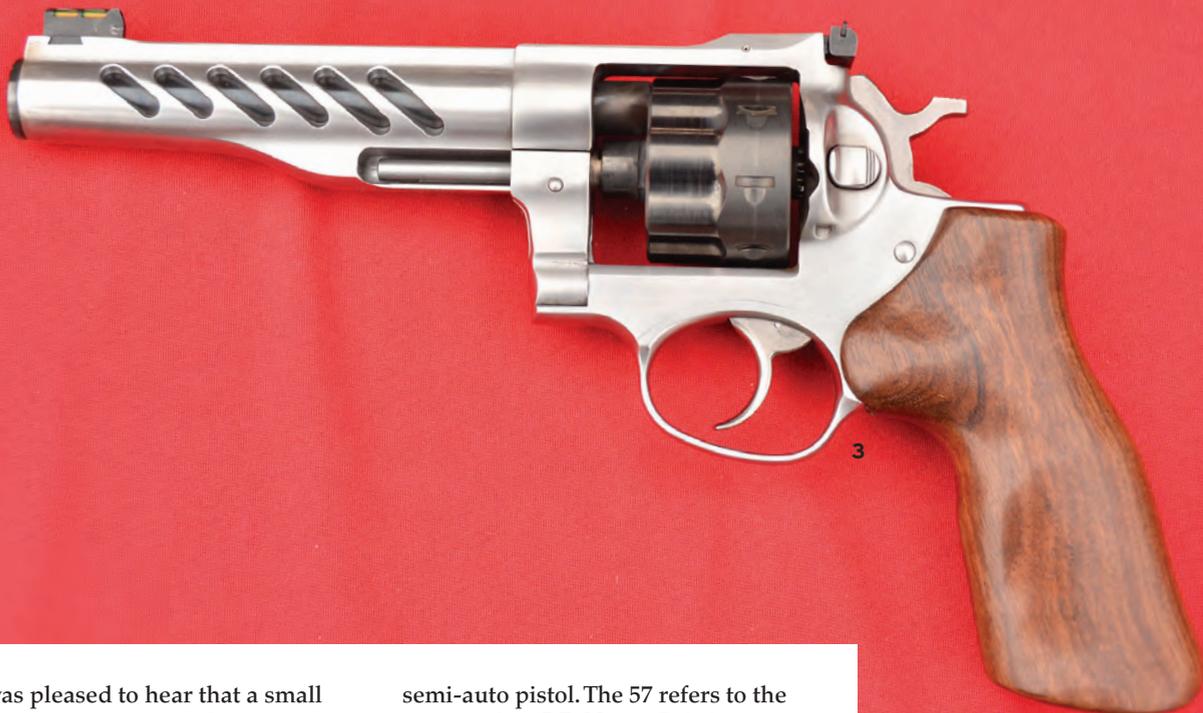
Handgun offerings at SHOT 2020 came in a few different themes. As expected, there were the always-popular concealed carry pistols that our US cousins can purchase and carry for self-defence. As much as I'd like to cover these guns for Canadian readers, to dedicate space to something we can't own seems rather pointless.

In a similar group are "handguns" available to our southern neighbours which are rifles that have been altered to achieve American handgun status. The AR-15 pistol is a common example. It seems that US federal law is a lot less restrictive towards handguns than to short-barrelled rifles, so now there is a sizeable group of rifles that have the buttstock removed, and a wrist brace added. Since the gun is meant to be

fired without any contact of the gun to the shoulder, it is classified as a handgun in the US. Usually these will still be classified as restricted in Canada, and so they are seldom imported. In a related vein, an AR-based pistol from FightLite won the unofficial muzzle flash competition at range day.

Fans of the Colt Python revolver will be delighted to learn that the

Python is returning, after being discontinued in 2005. After a 15-year absence, the Python is back with two models, both made of stainless-steel alloys. There is a 4.25-inch and a six-inch barrel version, both chambered in 357 Magnum. I asked how long it might be before they start shipping, as we have all experienced official release announcements only to wait many months for product to arrive.



I was pleased to hear that a small number have been delivered to dealers already. The Colt spokesperson did say that it would be perhaps six months or more before all the back-orders are dealt with and new orders can be filled. The US MSRP is \$1,499, but some dealers are apparently charging over \$2,000 already, due to supply and demand.

Ruger announced the Ruger-57

semi-auto pistol. The 57 refers to the chambering, 5.7x28mm. This is the round that the FN Five-SeveN pistol and the FN P90 Personal Defence Weapon uses. At \$799 US MSRP, it is about half the cost of the FN Five-SeveN. The Ruger gun has an alloy steel slide, while the grip frame is made of glass-filled nylon.

Revolver shooters weren't left out at the Ruger booth, as they were show-

2. Ruger's latest pistol is chambered in 5.7X28mm.

3. An eight-shot revolver in 9mm is new from Ruger's Custom Shop.

ing off their new Custom Shop eight-shot GP100 revolver in 9mm Luger. It features a heavily fluted cylinder to reduce weight, a fluted barrel shroud and finely tuned action for smooth and fast double-action work. Its six-inch barrel will make it available in Canada, and it should find favour in the action shooting sports among those who still like wheelguns. The American MSRP is \$1,549.

Most Canadian handgunners know that Glock has a 22 LR pistol out now. It's called the Glock 44,

and has a similar appearance to a Glock 19. A notable difference between the previous Glocks and the 44 model is that while the numerous centrefire models use a steel slide, the new Glock 44 uses a slide made primarily of polymer, with steel rails molded into it. As the Glock 19 fires 9mm Luger ammo, and the Glock 44 fires 22 LR, the use of a light-weight polymer slide allows the mild recoil to cycle the action properly. One important item to note is that the Glock 44 has a barrel length of 102 millime-

tres, just three millimetres under the cut-off point for prohibited handguns here in Canada. Dealers in Canada are already taking orders from consumers, so I presume they have negotiated a run of model 44s with 106-millimetre barrels.

Shadow Systems is a Texas-based handgun manufacturer which introduced a polymer-framed pistol labelled the MR920 at SHOT. They report North Sylva will be importing their line to Canada, and it should have some success with shooters who want a Glock-like pis-



4. Glock's first rimfire pistol is designated the Model 44.

5. Blending a CZ-75 with a 1911 produces Dan Wesson's DWX.



6. The MR920 is a highly refined pistol from Shadow Systems.

tol, but with significant refinements. The pistol is optics-ready with a patent-pending mounting system which allows extremely low direct mounting (no adapter plates) for a wide variety of red dot sights. The pistol also has interchangeable backstraps which provide for different angles in the hand, allowing shooters to choose a high, neutral, or low natural point of aim. There are many other refinements as well, making the American MSRP of about \$1,000 quite reasonable.

Smith & Wesson introduced a trio of new guns from their Performance Center which should find favour with Canadian competitive shooters. These are all M&P M2.0 pistols, with tuned actions providing a cleaner trigger break and a more positive, audible and tactile reset. Two of the models are ready for optic mounting and so have taller, suppressor-height sights to ensure they co-witness

with the red dot. Porting of barrel and slide is also found on two of the models. They are available in 4.25-inch and five-inch barrel lengths, as well as 9mm Luger and 40 S&W calibres. American MSRP is reported to be about \$700.

Canadian shooters have long had a love affair with the CZ-75 pistol, and many years ago we were the envy of our American friends because we could import them, and they couldn't. This history suggests the new Dan Wesson DWX might be popular here. This new offering from the folks of CZ and Dan Wesson is a blending of the best features from both a 1911 and a CZ-75. It has the 1911 trigger and fire control mechanism, but the ergonomics (particularly the grip) of the CZ-75. It even takes CZ-75 magazines. The model they were showing at SHOT had flashy red grip panels and a matching trigger, making for a sharp-looking gun. This is Dan Wesson quality,

so the price is up there, with an MSRP of \$1,800 US.

In the realm of handgun accessories, I noticed an interesting training system, called the MantisX. It is a motion-sensing device that attaches to your gun to record barrel motion at the moment of firing. It can be used on any class of firearm or airgun, so is not strictly limited to handguns. But as handguns are harder to learn to shoot accurately, I suspect this system will find the most use as a handgun trainer. It mounts onto a standard Picatinny rail, if your gun is so equipped. If not, there is an adapter mount available. The unit senses the exact motion of the muzzle leading up to the shot being fired. It breaks this into three parts – initial aiming, the squeeze of the trigger, and the recoil upon firing. The three segments are colour coded to better illustrate how the shot progressed. The initial aiming is blue, the trigger squeeze is yellow and the motion following the instant of firing is red. If you yank the trigger or flinch, there will be a noticeable yellow line moving away from the bullseye. The image is displayed on your smartphone via Bluetooth. I had a very brief intro to it at SHOT, but I am intrigued. 🍷



Dillon's new 750 progressive press replaces their 650 model



OPTICS, AMMUNITION & ACCESSORIES

BY AL VOTH

Trijicon's Ventus determines range and displays a wind map on a paired smartphone.



Another SHOT Show is history, and as usual there was more to see than there was time to do it. The hosts of the show generously calculated how much time a person would have at each booth if they visited them all, and it was 22 seconds. With that in mind, the following are a few of the standouts in non-gun items.

OPTICS

There was no shortage of companies displaying optics for gun owners at the 2020 SHOT Show.

Included were several start-ups, who obviously dream of carving out a portion of the market for themselves. I guess they have some reason for optimism, as Nikon recently announced they are abandoning the riflescope market. As a result, the large Nikon booth, a prominent landmark, was missing completely.

Easily the biggest optic story at SHOT was the Trijicon Ventus, a laser rangefinder which also mea-

sures and maps wind. It does this by reflecting laser pulses off dust particles in the atmosphere, in much the same way as police laser "guns" measure vehicle speed. The technical name is LiDAR, which is an acronym for Light Detection And Ranging. LiDAR sensitive enough to measure dust particles has been around for a while, the trick has been to get it into a small enough package to be useful to shooters. While Trijicon has reduced the size, the Ventus is still a long way from being small.

It's size, coupled with its limitation to map wind to a maximum of 500 yards generated some disparaging comments on the show floor. While the size issue may be warranted, the 500-yard wind limitation really isn't as big an issue, because it's always the wind closest to the shooter which has the largest effect on the bullet's path. Nonetheless, this marks a significant technological breakthrough. If you're thinking of using this year's >



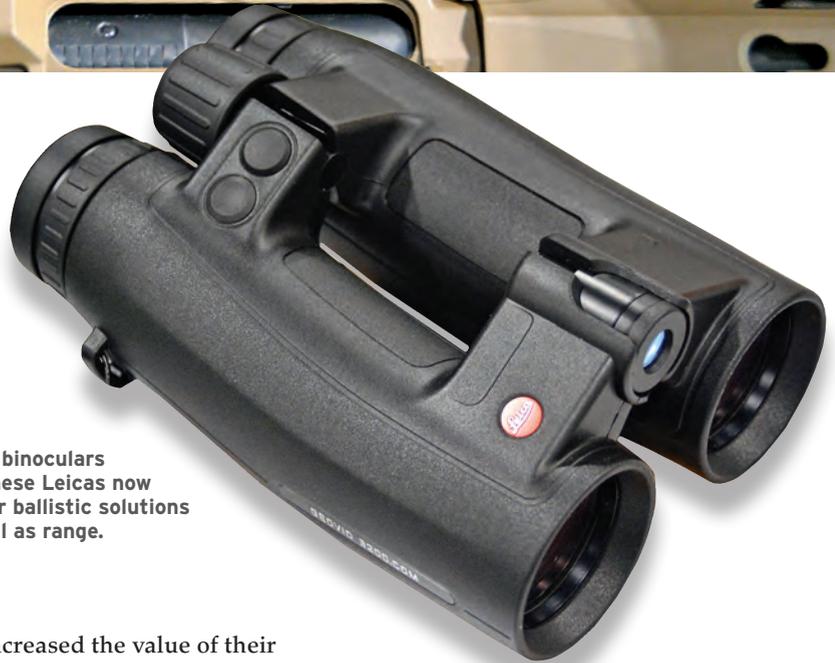
Vortex introduced a new 1-10X compact scope.

tax refund to grab one, consider the version which pairs to your smart-phone and performs all manner of fancy ballistic calculations will cost about \$10,000 US. However, it still needs to be approved for export, and then there's the fact the units on display at the show were non-functioning prototypes.

Back in the real world, there are optics you can actually buy now, including the new Vortex Razor 1-10X24. It features a 34-millimetre tube, a couple of different illuminated reticles and no more weight than their 1-6X model. But this is top-shelf stuff too and will set you back nearly \$4,000 Canadian. Something more along my budget is their new 3X magnifier. I see this on a rail behind my Razor AMG UH-1 holographic sight, and with a street price of about \$500 it's doable.

In a quest for more accuracy and distance from a laser rangefinder, Leica has gone to a class 3 laser in their new 3500 model, which can range non-reflective targets out to 3,500 yards. It will also talk to a Bluetooth-equipped Kestrel weather meter and your smart-phone, providing long-range firing solutions courtesy of an Applied Ballistics program. Of course, there are new Leica Geovid binoculars with the same technology. Figure \$1,200 US for the rangefinder and \$3,000 US for the binocular.

Leupold's major addition this year is a line of sunglasses. They are cool-looking enough that I wish I didn't wear prescription glasses. If my eyes were younger, I'd certainly grab a pair. But I can use their riflescopes, and Leupold



Laser binoculars like these Leicas now deliver ballistic solutions as well as range.

has increased the value of their economical Freedom line by adding the option of a CDS turret. This easily makes Leupold Freedom scopes one of the best buys in the industry. In other news, if you shoot mils and metres, you should be happy to know their excellent VX5 will be available with a mil reticle and mil-marked turrets.

HANDLOADING

At SHOT 2020, it was obvious that precision and long-range rifle shooting is driving the innovation here. Hornady debuted two new products geared to this market, which includes an automated powder weighing/dispensing machine called the Auto Charge Pro. This unit features touch screen operation, enhanced programming and a small footprint on the reloading bench. Also seen was their new Precision Measurement Station, a single device on which to compare bullet ogive location, cartridge base to ogive location,

headspace location, overall length and concentricity.

Forster announced a new bench rest powder measure will be available later this year, and improved shell-holder jaws for their legendary Co-Ax press. They've also added 6.5 PRC dies and a .261-inch inside neck reamer to help handloaders get rid of those pesky donuts which can show up inside 6.5mm case necks.

The big news from Dillon is the removal of the 650 press from their lineup. It's been replaced with the 750, a press which still features five stations and even uses the 650 toolheads. Changes include a move to a more linear primer feed, similar to the 550, and a redesigned cam which indexes the shell plate at a slower speed. This latter feature is intended to eliminate the dreaded "powder flick" that happened when you got into the zone with a 650.

AMMUNITION

At least three new calibres were being shown at SHOT. They included the 27 Nosler, which, like the 30 Nosler and 28 Nosler, is based on the 404 Jeffrey case. Basically a hot-rodged 270 Winchester, it's reported to drive a 150-grain bullet 400 feet per second faster than that old classic.

And speaking of fast, Weatherby introduced the 6.5 Weatherby RPM. It's a .264-inch diameter bullet stuffed into a lengthened 284 Winchester case, complete with rebated rim (RPM means Rebated Precision Magnum). Expect a 140-grain bullet to clock out at about 3,000 feet per second.

However, two other ammunition offerings stood out in terms of new technology, and the 277 SIG Fury was one of them. Its claim to fame is a three-piece cartridge case, which includes a steel case head. That steel head is needed to contain the 80,000 psi this cartridge generates, compared to a max of 60,000 psi for most cartridges. This entire project is aimed at a military contract, but SIG has already built a rifle for this chambering, the SIG Cross.

The other new ammunition technology is the first commercially available rifle ammunition using a composite (plastic) cartridge case. It arrives as a result of collaboration between Sierra and True Velocity. Of course, the case head is steel, but the body of the case is all composite material. It's being marketed as match ammunition, with initial loadings in 308 Win and 6.5 Creedmoor using match bullets. It should be available this year, but I have no information on price point.

ACCESSORIES

A favourite booth to visit at SHOT is MTM, as they always have some new products that are typically well thought out and affordable. No exception this year, as they were showing off a new wind flag, a bore guide and a pistol ammunition box with a slide open lid. All have ingenious features typical of MTM.

Of course, MDT, everyone's favourite Canadian chassis manufacturer, was showing off their new XRS (Crossover Rifle Stock). It will be available in black and FDE for Remington, Tikka, Howa and Savage



Hornady's automated powder dispenser and precision measurement station are aimed at precision rifle shooters.



The 277 SIG Fury and the Sierra's composite cases both suggest we are on the cusp of a cartridge case revolution.

rifles, in a short action version. This stock features lots of adjustability and is intended to be more of a traditional design with all the strength of an aluminum chassis. The best news is the price, a reasonable \$500 Canadian.

MDT is also manufacturing the Ckye-Pod now. If you've never had a chance to handle one of these bipods seek out the opportunity, as they are beautiful creations. In addition to the two-extension unit now being sold, they will be available in three and four extension lengths. The longest bipod is 39-inches tall, making it suitable for kneeling or sitting positions. But expect to pay more than the price of an XRS stock.

Cross Industries, another Canadian company, was also at SHOT demonstrating their 10-round AR-pattern magazines and their

base-to-base coupling feature. It's a slick system, with a reasonable price – only \$55 Canadian for two magazines, in a choice of black, tan or green colours.

Canada's Trigger Tech was at their usual spot, this time with a new two-stage trigger for Remington 700s. It will be available in a couple of variations, both with adjustable pull weights, but in different ranges. I'm fond of two-stage designs, especially for match shooting where a minimum trigger pull weight is mandated. Manipulate the trigger properly and they give you an edge that's not available with a single-stage design. I noted the safety of the Trigger Tech design locks out both stages and was told it blocks trigger movement in four places.

There was more. Lots more. However, that's all the room I have. Next year the show will be even larger, as they are expanding to a new building being constructed across the street. And like everything else in Vegas, it's not small. 🍀

THOUGHTS ON SINGLE SHOTS

Sometimes less is more
BY TYSON SOMMERVILLE

As I write this, the current Canadian government is promising a round of gun control which would see a ban on semi-automatics. Considering this fact, let me state clearly, immediately, and without apology, I do not support any gun laws. I want to be clear; I fear you may have read that I don't support tough gun laws. What I meant was, I do not support any. Licenses can be made nearly impossible to get and work as a restriction in themselves. I want people to be able to own full-auto, unregistered and suppressed. All these anti-gun people want to do is sell you the idea that there are good guns like hunting rifles, and bad guns like assault rifles. Then all they must do is slowly lower the bar until all guns are moved from good guns to bad guns. So do not mistake this article for a "no one needs a semi-auto to hunt" article. If you fall for that flimsy argument, it ends with, "If you need a compound bow, you're not a very good hunter."

My love of the M14 aside, I have always had a strange love of single shots. In fact, my patriotic love of Cooney firearms recently led me to jump at the chance to pick up a Model 84 for a wallet-draining \$50. The previous owner had lost the front sight, so a quick comb through my parts bin and a bit of filing and it was right as rain. The first three shots out of that gun resulted in three dusted clays.

I love making old guns work again. This fascination likely started when I was young (about 12) and I restored my first rifle, a Cooney single shot, bolt-action .22. The barrel had to be sanded

and re-blued, and it still bears my fingerprint from touching it too soon. The stock was sanded, wet sanded, given a once over with steel wool, whetted to stand the fibers up and hit again with steel wool. I'm not sure I've ever been prouder of a project. I spent a lot of my high school years pushing ammunition through that gun.

Years later, I treated myself to a Ruger 10/22 and sold it shortly after. I found I killed fewer gophers with it because my shooting fundamentals vanished when I knew I had a follow-up shot. At the time I had 25 follow-up shots, but the gun control state has, of course, changed that. I sold that rifle and went back to my Cooney, occasionally rotating in my bow, an old pump-action .22, and most recently a 17 HMR bolt-action. They all work well, but I still find the single shot works best for me. Maybe it's the nostalgia factor.

Next in life, I started to dabble in long-range shooting. I started with a \$100 used Savage 110 in 300 Win Mag. I found a handload recipe that worked very well for it. I also treated it as a single shot so I could index the brass. Allow me to explain. I take a marker and make a black line up the side of the case right above the "3" in "300 Win Mag" on the headstamp. I then make sure all casings are resized and loaded on my press with that line facing the same way. When I load them into my gun, the line is up. This way, if there is anything out of alignment on my press, it will be consistently out of alignment in my



ammunition. As a result, I have stretched this gun out to 1,000 yards (walking it into the target). I am confident in my cold bore, first shot out to 500 yards, and ended up taking my first mule deer with that Savage.

Gas guns and bolt guns, with magazines, can be amazingly accurate; of that fact, there is no denying. There is a reason PRS shooters use them. However, it is still worth mentioning that for a budget gun, a single shot will do impressive things. A true single shot bolt-action will also be more rigid in the receiver, and rigidity leads to repeatability and accuracy. This may explain why so many long-range and precision shooters, such as F class and benchrest, use them. A telling story comes courtesy of my mother, who once used a custom 223 WSSM built on a Gaulin single shot action at a "poker rally" long-range shoot. She ended up with a full house and won a custom 260 Remington built by EM Precision. My mom's a cool lady.

Most recently I found myself getting into waterfowl hunting. When some friends and I went out, I brought with me a beautiful Benelli Super Black Eagle semi-automatic shotgun. I had a great time, but sadly, I found I circled back onto my old gopher shooting problem. Perhaps some people, such as I, just shouldn't hunt with semi-automatics. The next trip out, mostly as a joke, I brought my old H&R single shot 10 gauge. I bought it cheap, used, many years ago for no reason other than the price (\$60 if memory holds true). I ended up finding I had better luck per fly over

with the single shot. This season it's all I've been using. It feels weird to leave a Benelli behind for an old break-action, but the heart wants what the heart wants. Despite my friends telling me, "You can't hunt with a single shot," I haven't noticed myself lagging behind the group. Maybe I just need to work my way up to a semi-auto. So, should I now

buy myself a nice double-barrel shotgun or a nice pump action as the next step toward my recovery?

I spend a lot of time waxing poetic about cheap single shots, which, let's be honest, is my wheelhouse. However, I feel I would be remiss if I didn't mention there are some expensive single shots in existence that I would be plenty happy



Waterfowling with a 10-gauge single shot? Why not?



The author's first restoration was a single shot, bolt-action Cooney.



Although it's a repeater, the author uses a Savage 300 Win Mag as a single shot.

to own. A few examples which I've shot come to mind. First is the AR-50, a single shot, bolt-action, 50 BMG, which is a huge amount of fun. Another is the Ruger No. 1, a design well known for its ability to handle powerful cartridges. My stepfather used one in 7mm Remington Magnum as his go-to hunting rifle for many years. The last firearm of note is a Blazer K95. I simply do not have the vocabulary to explain the beauty of this gun. It is miniature in stature, yet feels maturely sized when shouldered, as though it were made for me. The attention to detail is staggering. The one I handled had the full-length wood stock, with all the wood grain of various pieces aligned. It's the kind of gun I felt I needed white cotton gloves to handle. It shocks me that people would subject guns like this to the abuse hunting often demands. Maybe someday when I'm

Single shots, like this Blazer, can be some of the most exquisite guns in the world.



rich, I'll understand.

So, perhaps it's true, that I don't need, or currently want, a semi-auto for hunting. But it will be a cold day in a well-known hot place before I tell someone they shouldn't have one for hunting,

or really any other reason. That reason, of course, being none of my, or anyone else's, business. My gun safe has a great many single shots, and they sit right alongside my semi-automatics, and hopefully they always will. 🍀



NFA

FREEDOM.
SAFETY.
RESPONSIBILITY.

A MODERN SCAPEGOAT

New Zealand's knee-jerk gun ban

BY GARY MAUSER



Will the obsolete M1 Garand be banned as a military-style assault rifle? It was in New Zealand.

The Liberals' propose the taxpayers' own money should be used to "buy back" what they already own - at a discount, of course.

You never let a serious crisis go to waste. And what I mean by that, it's an opportunity to do things you think you could not do before." – Rahm Emanuel

Our prime minister seems to be following the script written by Jacinda Ardern, the socialist leader of New Zealand, on how to exploit public frenzy following a shooting attack: First, demonize 'scary-looking' firearms, and then use that fear to justify a buyback of legal guns.

Both Justin and Jacinda believe waving a red herring around will divert public attention away from the government's failure to confront either terrorism or gang crime. New Zealand and Canada both capitalized on shootings that shocked the public by ordering buybacks of "assault-style" rifles. But will firearms owners co-operate?

In his mandate letter to Public Safety Minister Bill Blair, Prime Minister Trudeau gave the highest priority to confiscating "military-style assault rifles" in a "buyback." Despite the claims these firearms pose a threat, they have been legally purchased and never misused.

New Zealand offers clues about how gun grabs work in Commonwealth

countries such as Canada. The first question to ask about a firearm buyback, in Canada or New Zealand, is how many legal owners will refuse to surrender their lawfully purchased firearms?

SEMI-AUTOS AS SCAPEGOATS

In Christchurch, New Zealand, a racist environmentalist murdered 51 people at two mosques in March 2019. The socialist government, in a knee-jerk reaction, blamed "military-style semi-automatic" (MSSA) firearms, immediately passing an order-in-council to confiscate 13,500 semi-automatic firearms that had been required to be registered in the 1990s. Not satisfied, her government followed up her OIC by passing legislation prohibiting and confiscating between 170,000 to 240,000 semi-automatic and pump-action firearms. This bill received wide support in parliament, including the main opposition party, National. Only one MP representing ACT (Association of Consumers and Taxpayers) opposed the buyback.

Scary-looking firearms are the modern scapegoat. Did you think modern urbanites were any different than rural peasants hundreds of years ago?

In medieval Europe, Christian mobs sporadically went on rampages and murdered innocent Jews. In the early 20th century, Canadian mobs repeatedly rioted through Vancouver's Chinatown, ransacking shops and attacking whoever they found. It's a story as old as humanity: a community, panicking before some existential threat (disease, epidemic, eclipse, terror attack), decides the gods demand a sacrifice. The local culture defines what the sacrifice will be: maybe a young goat or a bull, possibly a virgin, or perhaps a visible minority. Here and now, it's semi-automatic firearms.

Jacinda Ardern was not satisfied with simply banning semi-automatic firearms, she also promised to radically overhaul the firearms laws, as well as launching a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the attack. In September, without waiting for the Royal Commission to report its findings, she introduced another bill, the Arms Legislation Bill, that is currently going through the New Zealand Parliament. This bill tightens regulations on importing firearms, firearms dealers, mandated universal firearms registration, among other restrictions. Public opposition to the proposed changes has increased to the extent that the National Party joined ACT in voting against the new bill at first reading. The Arms Legislation Bill is now in committee and is on the verge of becoming law.

NEW ZEALAND'S SUCCESS RATE

How successful was the New Zealand

buyback? After the deadline expired in December, the New Zealand police announced the final numbers of surrendered firearms. While the police have claimed success, critics disagree, noting there is no agreement about how many guns were to be prohibited, primarily because many of the banned firearms had never been registered.

Banned military-style semi-automatic firearms (including some pump-action rifles and shotguns) fall into two categories: class A, which includes a wide range of unregistered rifles and shotguns, and class E firearms which had been classified as military-style semi-automatic rifles back in 2011 and registered. The buyback of E-category firearms, with 64 per cent handed in, could be called a qualified success. However, 28 per cent of owners are challenging the confiscation in one way or another, and another eight per cent are apparently refusing to comply. This diverts police resources from other duties.

E-category

Before “buy back”	Handed in	In process	Police to follow up
15,037	9,532	4,277	1,228
100%	64%	28%	8%

The success of the buyback of the unregistered firearms is more difficult to assess because estimates of the total vary widely, partly due to the difficulty in precisely identifying which semi-automatic or pump-action rifles and shotguns are prohibited. The National Party estimated there are 240,000 such firearms, while other estimates put the number at 170,000 or 185,000.

	Firearms collected	Low Estimate (170,000)	High Estimate (240,000)
Total surrendered (including amnesty)	56,250	33%	23%
Buyback only	51,342	30%	21%

These low percentages make it difficult to claim success, whatever the true totals are. Important police resources are being diverted from vital duties because over two-thirds of owners are unwilling to readily surrender their lawfully purchased firearms. Since the definition of a military-style semi-automatic firearm is vague, it is difficult to know how many of the firearms collected are centrefire MSSAs and how many are not. One estimate is that only 63 per cent of the firearms handed in were centrefire MSSAs and estimated the compliance rate to be 13 to 17 per cent.

The lack of compliance is surprising because New Zealand’s sizeable firearms community has long supported restrictive gun laws similar to legislation in Australia and Canada. There are 248,000 licenced firearms owners (six per cent) out of a population 15 years or older of 3.9 million who own an estimated 1.5 million firearms. This is comparable to Canada, where seven per cent of the adult population have a firearms licence. Like Canada, New Zealand is starkly divided between urban and rural areas. Auckland has one-third of the total national population and its surrounding region has over one-half of the national population, over one-quarter of which is foreign born.

CANADIAN REFUSAL?

Will Canadians co-operate with the coming buyback by willingly surrendering firearms that they purchased legally and have used in a safe and legal manner since they bought them? As in New Zealand, refusal will be difficult for owners of registered firearms. The police have their names and addresses.

Owners of banned firearms can legally appeal the confiscation order. They may well lose the appeal, but such action would delay the eventual forfeiture of the newly prohibited firearm. If many owners appeal, or sim-

ply refuse to comply, the costs of enforcing confiscation will swell. Such opposition may dissuade the government.

Court costs for a single case are estimated at between \$12,000 to \$16,000, including lost wages for those involved, the cost of lawyers, court personnel, judge, sheriff and clerks. Estimates for compliance with the recent New Zealand confiscation range from 21 per cent to 64 per cent. If similar percentages of Canadians refuse to comply, enforcement costs could range between \$840 million and \$1.9 billion.

However, the names of owners of semi-automatic firearms which are non-restricted will be difficult to identify. The police would need to comb through sales records of retailers. Of course, by the time the police track down the original purchaser, he or she may have sold it, and private sales do not have to be recorded.

There may be time to stop this massive gun grab. In contrast with the lightning response of Ardern’s New Zealand socialists, Trudeau’s Liberals are moving quite slowly. The Canadian shootings Trudeau is attempting to exploit are not as horrifying as the mosque murders in New Zealand. Now that the election is over, Trudeau’s Liberals may decide it is expedient to abandon this red herring and focus on global warming instead of scary-looking semi-automatic firearms. 🇨🇦

REFERENCES

- <https://pm.gc.ca/en/mandate-letters/minister-public-safety-and-emergency-preparedness-mandate-letter>
- www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2019/03/18/christchurch-new-zealand-shooter-manifesto-terrorism-racism-extremism-column/3201164002/
- www.npr.org/2019/03/21/705417556/new-zealand-to-ban-weapons-such-as-those-used-in-last-weeks-attacks
- <http://legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2019/0125/latest/d9580345e2.html>
- www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/111703044/how-the-government-will-pass-its-first-set-of-gun-law-changes
- www.newsroom.co.nz/2019/03/21/499756/military-style-semi-automatic-weapons-banned
- www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-47878042
- www.npr.org/2019/09/13/760460922/new-zealand-moves-to-create-firearm-registry-and-stiffen-penalties-for-gun-crime
- www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/national-and-act-vote-against-governments-latest-gun-laws
- www.police.govt.nz/sites/default/files/advice/firearms/amnesty-buyback-summary-operation_0.pdf
- www.rightminds.nz/articles/total-failure-gun-confiscation-reached-13-compliance?fbclid=IwAR2mSUDCIY8gPqeEcfTcP_fu5pFCJeK6UtWb_5KqS1wJBpruoAjr9LxQWQ



Legal Corner

Guy Lavergne, Attorney at Law

Peering Into The Future



The Liberal plan refers to the rights of hunters and farmers, yet it is silent on those of sports shooters.

Le plan des Libéraux dit vouloir protéger les droits des chasseurs et fermiers, mais ignore totalement ceux des tireurs sportifs.

As I am writing this column, the newly elected House of Commons has only sat for a few days before Christmas and is set to reconvene on Jan. 20, 2020.

As expected, Bill Blair has been appointed as the new Minister of Public Security and Emergency Preparedness, replacing Ralph Goodale, who was defeated in the last election. Mr. Blair's mandate letter from Prime Minister Trudeau, which normally reflects what may be expected in the upcoming legislative term, includes the following language about firearms:

"With support from the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, (you shall) implement our firearms policy commitments, including to:

Amend Canada's firearms laws to ban all military-style assault rifles, with an associated buyback program and two-year amnesty;

Work with provinces and territories to give municipalities the ability to further restrict or ban handguns;

Update firearms licence requirements for ammunition imports, strengthen safe-storage laws, develop a mechanism

for suspending licences for those who pose a danger to themselves or others, continue to build a national system that allows for the flagging of bulk purchases of firearms, impose stronger penalties for gun smuggling, provide the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) with additional resources to detect and stop gun smuggling, and work to limit by regulation the glorification of violence in firearms marketing and sales; and continue to protect the rights of hunters and farmers. There will not be a return of the long-gun registry."

This column will focus on the first item, namely the banning of so-called military-style assault rifles (MSAR). Of course, since I am unable to see into the future, the best I can do is make an educated guess about how exactly an MSAR ban will unfold. However, I do have the benefit of a certain number of ministerial declarations, the knowledge of existing Canadian gun laws and history of firearms prohibitions and familiarity with the recent New Zealand semi-automatic rifle ban and buyback program.

First, I would like to emphasize that the

fourth bullet point in the quoted excerpt from the Blair mandate letter refers only to hunters and farmers. It purposely ignores other legal gun users, such as sport shooters and collectors. This is not inadvertent. This is a divide-and-conquer strategy. Collectors and shooters are the obvious target (no pun intended) of these policies.

WHAT IS MEANT BY A BAN?

First, it should be observed that technically all firearms are already banned in Canada. Indeed, under Section 91 of the Criminal Code, possession of a firearm is already a criminal offence, unless of course one has been authorized to possess a firearm by way of a firearms licence. A firearms licence is a temporary authorization issued to individuals who are deemed by a Chief Firearms Officer (i.e. police) to be trustworthy. I seriously doubt that there are any known criminals who are so licenced. Therefore, any further "banning" of firearms can and will only affect those people who have already been or may in the future be fit to possess firearms. Let us be clear: this policy initiative is not about crime or

about violence, but solely about disarming law-abiding citizens.

At a minimum, in this instance, a “ban” refers to changing the status of certain firearms to prohibited status. However, it likely means outright confiscation. In this latter respect, although the mandate letter does not use the word mandatory to qualify the term buyback, the reference to an amnesty period suggests that individuals will not be allowed to keep the banned guns beyond the two-year amnesty period.

WHAT WILL BE BANNED?

The term military-style assault rifle is not defined in current Canadian legislation. Therefore, it means whatever the Liberals want it to mean. The likelihood is that gun control luminaries will be asked which firearms they want banned. The Ruger Mini-14 (Polytechnique) and all versions of the AR-15 come to mind as obvious targets. However, I have heard rumors that anything and everything with a tactical look may be banned, including, lo and behold, some bolt-action rifles. I would not be surprised if any rifle in a calibre such as 50 BMG were to be banned, since they are usually not used by hunters and farmers.

As a reminder, the recent New Zealand

gun ban covered all centerfire semi-automatic rifles, irrespective of their appearance. The reference to military style suggests that Canada may be a bit more restrained, but barely.

THE STAGES OF AN MSAR BAN

The process of banning MSARs likely entails three distinct stages.

First, the government will make a list of specific firearms to be banned and will likely include the list in regulations to be enacted by way of Order in Council. I fully expect those regulations to include temporary grandfathering provisions, pursuant to either paragraphs 12(8) or 12(9) of the Firearms Act. The immediate effect of those regulations will be to “close the tap.” Closing the tap will prevent individuals from stockpiling and freeze the pool of firearms to be banned. Assuming temporary grandfathering of existing owners, those owners will continue to possess those firearms, although use will likely be limited to approved ranges, in a best-case scenario. This situation will prevail until buyback time, which is part of stage two, as described below.

Second, the government will introduce legislation to implement its buyback scheme. This entails amending existing

legislation (Criminal Code, Firearms Act and regulations) to end all licence rights (i.e. 12(8) or 12(9)) and revoke all registration certificates attached to MSARs. Once the legislation comes into effect, there will be a two-year amnesty period. During the amnesty period, owners will be immune from prosecution for mere possession of MSARs. It remains to be seen whether usage (at shooting ranges) will be permitted during the amnesty period. If the New Zealand experience is any indication, the amnesty period will coincide with the buyback period. The government will enact regulations providing for buyback prices or a formula to determine pricing. There may or may not be a mechanism to dispute what constitutes adequate compensation. Of course, buyback is a euphemism for confiscation with compensation, since the seller will not be at liberty to sell.

Third, upon the end of the amnesty/buyback period, those who remain in possession will be subject to criminal prosecution.

Of course, this government, being a minority government, may fall at any time, which may result in a change in the manner in which this MSAR ban will unfold, or maybe not. ❗



Nathaniel Milljour



Rubrique Juridique

Guy Lavergne, avocat

Un regard vers l'avenir



J'écris cette chronique alors que la Chambre des communes nouvellement élue n'a siégé que quelques jours avant la période des fêtes de fin d'année. La session parlementaire doit reprendre le 20 janvier 2020.

Comme prévu, Bill Blair a été nommé à titre de nouveau ministre de la Sécurité publique et de la Protection civile, en remplacement de Ralph Goodale, qui a été défait aux dernières élections. La lettre de mandat de M. Blair, qui reflète normalement ce à quoi on peut s'attendre au cours de la prochaine session de la législature, comprend le libellé suivant au sujet des armes à feu, que je reproduis verbatim, fautes de syntaxe et de grammaire incluses :

"(Vous devez) mettre en œuvre, avec l'appui du ministre de la Justice et procureur général du Canada, nos engagements en matière de politiques sur les armes à feu, ce qui comprend:

Modifier les lois canadiennes sur les

armes à feu pour interdire tous(sic) les armes d'assaut de type militaire et prévoir un programme de rachat et une période d'amnistie de deux ans;

Travailler avec les provinces et les territoires pour donner aux municipalités la capacité de restreindre davantage les armes de poing ou de les interdire;

Mettre à jour les exigences relatives aux permis d'armes à feu qui s'appliquent à l'importation de munitions, renforcer les lois sur l'entreposage sécuritaire, élaborer un mécanisme de suspension des permis pour les personnes qui représentent un danger pour elles-mêmes ou pour les autres, poursuivre la mise en place d'un système national permettant de repérer les achats massifs d'armes à feu, infliger des sanctions plus sévères pour la contrebande d'armes à feu, fournir des ressources supplémentaires à l'Agence des services frontaliers du Canada (ASFC) et à la Gendarmerie royale du Canada (GRC) pour déceler la

Le ministre Blair a reçu instructions "d'interdire toutes les armes d'assaut de type militaire, et de mettre en place un programme de rachat assorti d'une période d'amnistie de deux ans."

Minister Blair has been told, "... ban all military-style assault rifles, with an associated buyback program and two-year amnesty."

contrebande d'armes à feu et y mettre fin, et mettre en place des règlements pour limiter la glorification de la violence dans les secteurs de la commercialisation et de la vente d'armes à feu;

Continuer à protéger les droits des chasseurs et des agriculteurs. Il n'y aura pas de nouveau registre des armes d'épaule."

Cette chronique traitera du premier point, à savoir l'interdiction des "armes d'assaut de type militaire" ("AATM»). Bien sûr, puisque je suis incapable de

prédire l'avenir, le mieux que je puisse faire est de tenter de mon mieux de déterminer le processus qui sera suivi pour parvenir à une interdiction des AATM. Pour ce faire, j'ai l'avantage d'avoir pris connaissance d'un certain nombre de déclarations ministérielles, je connais les lois canadiennes existantes et je suis familier avec les prohibitions antérieures et avec le récent programme néo-zélandais d'interdiction et de rachat de carabines semi-automatiques.

Tout d'abord, je tiens à souligner que le quatrième item dans l'extrait cité de la lettre de mandat de M. Blair réfère uniquement aux "chasseurs et agriculteurs". Aucune mention n'est faite des autres utilisateurs légaux d'armes à feu, tels que les tireurs sportifs et les collectionneurs. Ce n'est pas par inadvertance. Les Libéraux cherchent clairement à diviser la communauté des utilisateurs d'armes à feu. Les collectionneurs et tireurs sportifs sont la cible de cette initiative.

QU'ENTEND-ON PAR "INTERDICTION"?

Tout d'abord, il faut souligner que, techniquement, toutes les armes à feu sont déjà interdites au Canada. En fait, en vertu de l'article 91 du Code criminel, la possession d'une arme à feu constitue déjà une infraction criminelle, à moins que, bien entendu, on n'ait été autorisé à posséder une arme à feu par l'émission d'un permis d'armes à feu. Un permis d'armes à feu est une autorisation temporaire délivrée aux personnes qui sont jugées dignes de confiance par un Contrôleur des armes à feu (c.-à-d. par les forces policières). Je doute sérieusement qu'il y ait des criminels connus qui soient ainsi autorisés. Par conséquent, toute nouvelle "interdiction" des armes à feu ne peut affecter et n'affectera que les personnes qui ont déjà été ou pourraient à l'avenir être jugées aptes à posséder des armes à feu. Il appert donc que le but de cette initiative n'est ni la violence, ni la criminalité, mais le désarmement progressif des utilisateurs respectueux des lois.

À tout le moins, une "interdiction" fait référence à la modification du statut de certaines armes à feu pour en faire

des armes à feu prohibées. En réalité et une fois le programme mené à terme, interdiction signifie "confiscation pure et simple". À cet égard, bien que la lettre de mandat n'utilise pas l'adjectif "obligatoire" pour qualifier le mot "rachat", la référence à une «période d'amnistie» suggère que les individus qui en possèdent ne seront pas autorisés à garder leurs AASM au-delà de la période d'amnistie de deux ans.

QU'EST-CE QUI SERA INTERDIT?

Le terme "arme d'assaut de type militaire" n'est pas défini dans la législation canadienne actuelle. Conséquemment, cette expression a le sens que les Libéraux voudront lui donner. Il est probable que des sommités du contrôle des armes à feu seront invitées à suggérer quelles armes à feu devront être interdites. La Ruger Mini-14 (Polytechnique) et les différentes versions de la AR-15 semblent des cibles évidentes. Toutefois, j'ai eu vent de rumeurs à l'effet que toute carabine ayant un aspect "tactique" pourrait être visée, y compris des armes ayant un mécanisme à verrou. Je ne serais pas non plus surpris que l'ensemble des armes de certains calibres, tel le 50 BMG, soient également interdites, puisqu'il est pour le moins inhabituel que ces armes soient utilisées par les chasseurs ou les fermiers.

Pour rappel, la récente interdiction des carabines semi-automatiques en Nouvelle-Zélande a englobé toutes les carabines semi-automatiques à percussion centrale, quelle que soit leur apparence. La référence au "type militaire" suggère que le Canada fera peut-être preuve d'un peu plus de retenue, mais à peine.

LES ÉTAPES D'UNE INTERDICTION DES AATM

Le processus d'interdiction des AATM comporte vraisemblablement trois étapes distinctes.

Premièrement, le gouvernement établira une liste d'armes à feu spécifiques à interdire et inclura la liste dans un règlement qui sera promulgué par décret. Je m'attends à ce que ces règlements comprennent des dispositions relatives aux

droits acquis (qui seront temporaires), conformément aux paragraphes 12(8) ou 12(9) de la Loi sur les armes à feu. L'effet immédiat de la réglementation sera de "fermer le robinet". Cela vise à prévenir le stockage et entraînera le gel du bassin d'armes à feu qui sera interdit. En supposant que les propriétaires actuels soient autorisés à continuer temporairement à posséder ces armes à feu, leur utilisation sera, dans le meilleur des cas, restreinte à la pratique du tir à la cible, à des champs de tir approuvés. Cette situation prévaudra jusqu'à leur rachat, lequel fait partie de l'étape 2, telle que décrite ci-après.

Deuxièmement, le gouvernement présentera un projet de loi pour mettre en œuvre son programme de rachat. Cela implique de modifier la législation existante (Code criminel, Loi sur les armes à feu et Règlements) afin de mettre fin à tous les droits acquis rattachés aux permis à l'égard des AATM (c.-à-d. 12(8) ou 12(9)). Une fois la législation adoptée, il y aura une période d'amnistie de deux ans. Pendant la période d'amnistie, les propriétaires seront à l'abri des poursuites pour simple possession d'une AATM. Il reste à voir si l'utilisation (aux champs de tir) sera autorisée pendant la période d'amnistie. Si l'expérience néo-zélandaise est une indication, la période d'amnistie coïncidera avec la période de rachat. Le gouvernement adoptera un règlement prévoyant des prix de rachat ou une formule pour déterminer les prix de rachat. Il pourra ou non y avoir un mécanisme pour contester ce qui constitue une indemnisation adéquate. Bien sûr, "rachat" est un euphémisme pour "confiscation avec compensation", puisque le "vendeur" ne sera pas libre de vendre.

Troisièmement, à la fin de la période d'amnistie/rachat, ceux qui resteront en possession de leurs AATM pourront faire l'objet de poursuites criminelles.

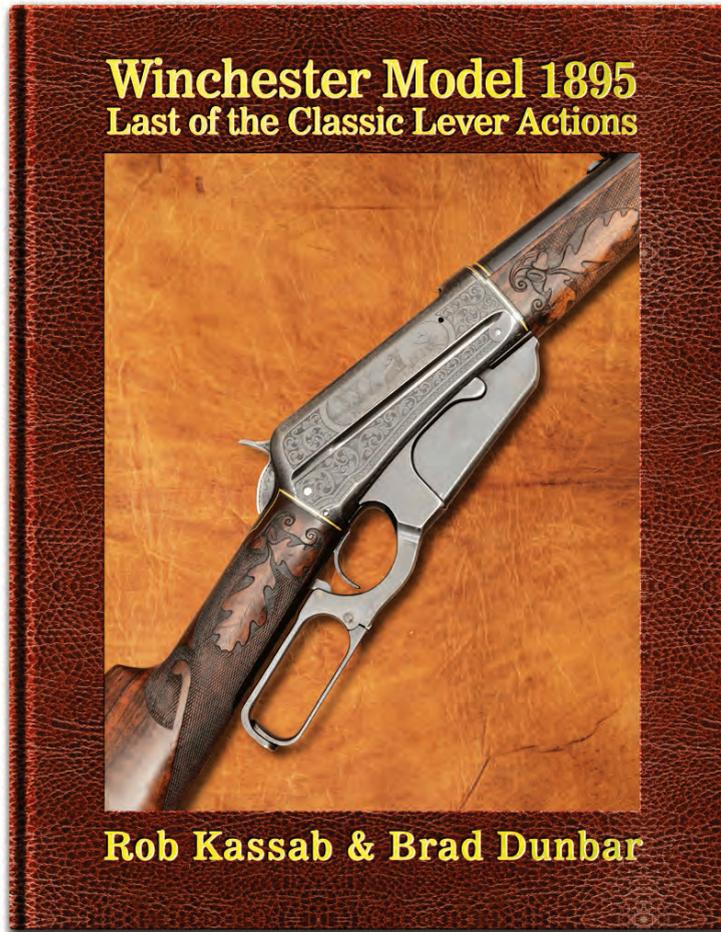
Bien sûr, ce gouvernement, étant un gouvernement minoritaire, peut tomber à tout moment, ce qui peut entraîner un changement dans la façon dont cette interdiction des AASM se déroulera, ou ne se déroulera peut-être pas. 



NFA Book Shelf

Bill Rantz

Last Of The Classic Lever Actions



unique lever-action rifle that Winchester Repeating Arms ever produced. Patented by legendary firearm designer Johnathon M. Browning, the Model 1895 features a top-loading box magazine rather than the side-loading tube magazine found on Winchester's previous lever-action rifles. This significant feature has been a topic of discussion among firearm enthusiasts for almost 125 years.

The ability to safely discharge high-pressure cartridges and utilize pointed bullets added to the popularity of the 1895 rifle over its lifespan. The 1895, including the legendary .405 WCF, was carried throughout Africa by American president and big-game hunter Theodore Roosevelt. Mexican soldiers, lawmen and even outlaws used the 1895 extensively. The Imperial Russian Army received 293,818 Russian Muskets chambered in 7.62mm Russian, forming the bulk of 1895 production.

The result of Kassab and Dunbar's intensive effort is quite simply one of the best firearm-related books to be published in recent years. Winchester Model 1895 – Last of the Classic Lever Actions will be thoroughly enjoyed by readers with a basic interest in firearms, but absolutely treasured by those who own a single 1895 or collect Winchester lever-action rifles. Current list price is \$79.99 USD at Wet Dog Publications, Greensboro, NC, www.fnbrowning.com, phone (336) 394-4138.

Authors Rob Kassab and Brad Dunbar are well-known historians and collectors of the Model 1895 Winchester. They are editors of *The Winchester Collector – Official Journal of the Winchester Arms Collectors Association*. The respect they have earned among the firearm community enabled them to access firearm collections, historical documentation, museum inventories and Winchester factory records not available to the public.

Winchester Model 1895 is the compilation of many years of meticulous research examining, photographing and documenting features of several thousand Model 1895 rifles. Kassab and Dunbar welcomed and included contributions from several talented authors

who are recognized experts in their chosen fields. George Madis, author of the legendary *Winchester Book* is credited with having originally published some of the information presented.

The table of contents lists 29 specific sections, which range from the genesis of the Model 1895 to its demise in 1936. The easy-to-read text provides fascinating historical information, as well as extensive technical details. Hundreds of high-quality photographs make browsing through Winchester Model 1895 a truly enjoyable experience. Included are some of the finest highly finished arms in existence. Kassab and Dunbar graciously provided these rifles the opportunity to speak for themselves.

The Model 1895 Winchester is the most

Title: Winchester Model 1895

Authors: Rob Kassab & Brad Dunbar

Publisher: Buffalo Cove Publishing LLC 2019

ISBN: 978-0-578-46655-2

Pages: 432

Size: Hard cover, leather bound, 8.75 inches by 11.25 inches

Photographs: Current – colour; archive – black and white

TYPE 81

**TACTICAL
IMPORTS**

- IMPORTS
- ONLINE RETAIL
- DISTRIBUTION

TACTICALIMPORTS.CA
SALES@TACTICALIMPORTS.CA
800.994.6223

LAST SHIPMENT

The Type 81 is a non-restricted gas operated, magazine fed, semi-automatic rifle chambered in 7.62x39. Developed by the Chinese military as a replacement for their license produced AK-47's. Was designed to have a longer service life, higher accuracy, improved durability and better controllability. It entered into service in 1981 and is still in limited use today. Features a short-stroke gas piston operating system, two position gas regulator, bolt hold open device and thumb operated fire selector. Barrel and gas system is fully chrome lined. Comes with two 5/30 magazines and choice of fixed or folding stock. All parts and components are 2017 new production, not surplus. In-stock now. This is the final Type 81 shipment. With production shutting down this year, now is the last chance to secure a Type 81. Priced at just \$999.



NO COMPROMISE.