



A Newsletter about the Firearms Control Legislation

Vol. 1, No. 1 November 1992

A Message from the Minister of Justice



The Honourable Kim Campbell

I am delighted to introduce this first issue of Aiming for Safety, a newsletter published by the Department of Justice for individuals and organizations interested in the new law concerning firearms. It is the first of several that will help to keep you informed of developments in the firearms control area.

Since becoming Minister of Justice, I have been impressed and encouraged by the high level of public interest in firearms control policies. Canadians clearly want to know about issues that can have a profound impact on the safety and security of their communities.

I have been equally impressed by the large and active community of people in Canada with an interest in firearms use. Both gun use and gun control have long-established traditions in this country.

The firearms control legislation brings forward new and necessary measures to maintain the Canadian tradition of personal and public safety through controlling access to guns. The legislation contains, for example, new requirements for Firearms Acquisition Certificates, safe storage, limits on cartridge capacity, and additional powers for the courts and the police to seize weapons in situations of domestic violence. I believe that these reforms will continue to help make Canada the kind of country where all Canadians can feel confident about their personal security from firearms misuse.

Annual Firearms Report

The 1991 Annual Firearms Report submitted to the Solicitor General by the Commissioner of the RCMP was tabled in Parliament in March 1992.

The report indicates that 203,043 Firearms Acquisition Certificates (FACs) were issued in 1991, compared to 190,768 in 1990. The increase of 12,275 applications is possibly the result of the government's proposed amendment to the FAC fee.

The number of business permits issued to retailers, including those selling restricted weapons, was 4,617, compared to 4,680 in 1990.

The Commissioner also reports that there were 1,011,801 restricted weapons registered in Canada as of December 31, 1991 - an increase of 30,815 since the previous year.

Also contained in the report are statistics on lost and stolen firearms,

permits issued and charges laid under the offence provisions of the firearms legislation.

Copies are available on request from:

Firearms Control Task Group
Department of Justice Canada
222 Queen Street, Room 954
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0H8



What Happens? When?

Key Dates for Implementation

The firearms control legislation will be implemented in stages to ensure that the public has sufficient time to learn how the firearms laws will affect them and for the appropriate administrative mechanisms to be established.

On August 1, amendments became law affecting:

- antique firearms
- firearms with barrel extensions
- genuine gun collectors
- converted fully automatics
- new offences and sentences
- strengthening of prohibition orders

Antique Firearms

Under the previous legislation, a firearm manufactured before 1898 that was not designed to use rim-fire or centre-fire ammunition was classified as an antique. Further, if the firearm was designed or redesigned to use only rim-fire or centre-fire ammunition which was no longer "commercially manufactured," it was also classified as an antique.

The words "commercially manufactured" have been replaced with "commonly available in Canada" to provide a greater degree of certainty as to which firearms are classified as antiques and which are classified as restricted weapons.

Now, if the ammunition for the firearm is not commonly available in Canada, (i.e. at retail or mail-order outlets), the firearm does not cease to be an antique, even if that ammunition is "commercially manufactured" elsewhere in the world. This is to minimize the possibility that obsolete guns will lose their antique classification simply because of the state of the ammunition market on another continent.

Barrel Length

Barrel length is used to determine whether certain firearms are restricted or prohibited in Canada. A new provision came into force on August 1, 1992, specifying how to measure the barrel of a centre-fire semi-automatic firearm.

For most firearms, the new measurement includes the distance from the back of the breech to the muzzle. Not included in this measurement is the length of any part or accessory such as a flash eliminator or muzzle-brake.

If a barrel is now less than 470 mm (18.5") in length and the firearm uses centre-fire ammunition in a semi-automatic manner, then the firearm falls into the restricted category and will have to be registered. A Firearms Acquisition Certificate will be required to register the firearm.

AUGUST 1, 1992

PROHIBITED WEAPONS REGULATIONS

Companies which require prohibited weapons for use in theatrical or motion-picture productions will be allowed possession subject to defined controls.

RESTRICTED WEAPONS AND FIREARMS

CONTROL REGULATIONS

Firearms dealers who are also collectors must keep their business firearms separate from their collection.

Converted Fully-Automatic Firearms

Current owners of automatic firearms that have been converted to semi-automatic may keep them if they applied to register them before October 1, 1992. Only "Genuine Gun Collectors" are permitted to register this type of firearm. Subsection 84(1) and the genuine gun collector regulations outline conditions for establishing the status of a genuine gun collector, the periodic inspection of collections and record-keeping requirements.

The law allows those who possess these weapons and who fulfil the conditions of a genuine gun collector, to keep them, provided they have been properly converted. The local firearms registrar must be satisfied that the firearm cannot be fired in fully automatic mode. Owners of these firearms will be able to buy, sell or exchange only among themselves, and only owners who have registered firearms in their collections will be allowed to register additional ones in the future.

Genuine Gun Collectors

Genuine gun collector status only applies where restricted weapons are involved. Gun collectors who have only non-restricted firearms (common rifles or shotguns) are not affected by the regulations.

Collectors are required to keep copies of the registration application, registration certificate and any permits that are issued with the collection. They must also permit inspections of their collection (restricted firearms, records, storage) at any time mutually agreed to by the collector and the inspector. If no agreement can be reached, the inspection will take place between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. Reasonable advance notice is required and the inspection is limited to the part of the premises in which the collection and records are kept.

JANUARY 1, 1993

**FIREARMS ACQUISITION
CERTIFICATE (FAC)**

- Minimum age to obtain an FAC raised from 16 to 18 years.
- Minor's permits from age 12 to 18.
- 28 day waiting period before FAC issued; may be shorter for applicants with valid FAC.
- Two references who have known applicant for three years and can confirm information on applicant.
- FAC fee \$50. - half fee for renewal before current FAC expires.
- Firearms officer provided with authority to interview neighbours, social workers, spouses, dependants or others.
- FAC to include current photograph of applicant.
- Provisions for corporate FAC and corporate Restricted Weapon Registration Certificate.

**SAFE STORAGE, HANDLING
AND
TRANSPORTATION**

All firearms must be stored, unloaded and separate from ammunition.

Where non-restricted firearms are stored or displayed, they must either be locked (e.g., trigger lock) or the bolt removed.

Restricted weapons (e.g., handguns) must be kept in a secure container and protected by a locking device.

No locking device is required when firearm is in a vault, safe or secure room built or modified for firearms storage.

Handling

A person may have a loaded firearm only where it may be lawfully discharged, as in hunting situations.

Transportation

The basic standard requires that the firearms be unloaded. If a firearm is being transported in a vehicle, it must be kept out of sight and vehicle locked unless an adult remains with the vehicle. In the case of a restricted weapon, it must be kept out of sight, unloaded, and in a locked case.

MUSEUMS AND BUSINESSES

- Museums to comply with same regulations as businesses.
- Creates new business of "storage" of firearms.
- Hours and location of business to be stated on application form.

Other Changes

Other changes which were proclaimed August 1 include:

- the authority for police to seize a Firearms Acquisition Certificate under their customary search and seizure powers;
- the new offence of converting a firearm to fully automatic fire; and
- increases in the maximum sentence for:
 - possession of a prohibited weapon,
 - possession of a firearm while under a prohibition order, and
 - importing, buying or selling of a prohibited weapon.

The courts are required to make mandatory firearms prohibition orders when passing sentence for any offence involving the use, threat or attempt of violence for which the offender may be sentenced to imprisonment for 10 years or more, or the use of a firearm in the commission of an indictable offence. The minimum length of mandatory prohibition orders increases from five years to 10, and to life for any repeat conviction.

The courts will also be required to consider the use of discretionary prohibition orders in all bail or interim release proceedings when the use, threat or attempt of violence or drug trafficking is involved; or any "peace bond" application where violence is alleged.

These measures are important to public safety and will help to prevent firearms crimes, especially violent situations occurring in the home, where there is often an opportunity to remove firearms from potentially lethal situations before they can be used. These measures will also include drug trafficking or importation of drug offences.

Phase II

On October 1, 1992, further amendments to the law came into force related to restricted weapon registration certificates and permits:

- permits to carry may now be issued to persons other than the registered owners of the firearm. This will permit the controlled exchange or loan of firearms for competition and sporting purposes;
- temporary permits may be issued to permit the entry of non-resident competition shooters into Canada with restricted weapons; and
- temporary storage permits will be created to allow persons in possession of restricted weapons to store them in a location other than the one indicated on the registration certificate when on vacation or for other reasons.

The status of a number of firearms in Canada also changed on October 1. Converted automatic firearms became prohibited weapons unless properly converted and registered by a genuine gun collector by that date. Previously registered guns must be re-registered.

On July 27, 1992, several firearms were prohibited and restricted by Order in Council:

- firearms that were prohibited must have been disposed of by October 1, 1992;
- firearms that were prohibited with a "grandfathering" exception may have been kept if registered prior to October 1 by an owner who had them prior to July 27, 1992;
- firearms that were restricted (semi-automatic versions of assault rifles) must have been registered before October 1. Previously registered firearms need not be re-registered.

The following chart describes the other key dates for implementing of the firearms legislation including the new safe storage and Firearms Acquisition Certificate requirements.

Continued on page 7

Firearms Control in Canada from 1892 to 1992

The first national permit system for the carrying of small arms was established in 1892. Since that first law, the type and number of firearms available to the public has steadily expanded and Canadian law has kept pace with these changes.

In 1913, the first version of what we now call the Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC) was introduced. It was then called a possession licence. The law governing firearms has changed several times since this first early legislation. In 1933, for example, in addition to any other sentence, a maximum two-year sentence was imposed on offenders convicted of carrying a handgun while committing a criminal offence. This was repealed in 1951. And in 1939, all firearms were registered, but these records were destroyed after 1945.

In 1976, proposals for firearms control were introduced (Bill C-83) but these died on the Order Paper in July of that year. A new bill, C-51, was introduced in 1977 and it is this bill that has shaped the access and use of firearms in Canada for the last

15 years. Its success can be measured by the reduction in the number of deaths caused by firearms. Canada has not seen a spiralling increase in homicides using firearms. In spite of an increase in the number of firearms owned in Canada between 1978 and 1989, the number of deaths caused by firearms decreased from 1,700 in 1978 to 1,350 in 1989.

There has, however, in recent years been a disturbing trend toward multiple murders using powerful firearms with large capacity magazines. Another continuing problem has been domestic violence where firearms are used.

The 1992 firearms control legislation brings forward new and necessary measures to maintain the Canadian tradition of promoting personal and public safety through controlling the access to guns.

What the Statistics Say

In Canada, the number of homicides using firearms and the ratio of firearm homicides to all homicides is decreasing.* Firearm homicides constituted about 29% of all homicides in 1990, as compared to 47% in 1974.

The number of firearm robberies decreased sharply after 1982. The ratio of firearms robberies to all robberies decreased to 27% in 1991 compared to 42% in 1975.

The number of firearms deaths per year increased rapidly from 1,100 in 1970 to 1,700 in 1978. After the firearms legislation, the number showed significant decreases to about 1,350 in 1989.

Firearm suicides were on the rise before 1978. Since then, they have levelled off at 1,300 per year in 1978 and dropped to below 1,100 in 1989. The percentage of firearm suicides to all suicides increased from 33% in 1970 to 38% in 1977. Since then, it has decreased to 31% in 1989.

Both the total number of hospitalizations due to firearms injuries and the number of accidental firearm injuries show decreases since 1981.

*These statistics have been gathered from the *Annual Firearms Report to the Solicitor General of Canada*, RCMP, *Causes of Death*, Statistics Canada, Cat. 84-203, and the 1991 Firearms Survey, Department of Justice Canada.

Police Training

The firearms legislation introduces a significant number of legislative and regulatory changes which the law enforcement community will be administering. The desire by the provinces/territories to be more consistent with the administration and enforcement of the legislation provided the impetus for the establishment of regional and local police training workshops across Canada.

Police training workshops for firearms registrars and firearms officers were held during the month of June in Halifax, Montreal, Aylmer (Ontario), and Vancouver. These police instructors are now conducting local police training sessions.

A reference manual has been produced in both official languages for police instructors across the country. It deals with the process of issuing Firearms Acquisition Certificates, the registration of restricted weapons, the issuing of related permits and the enforcement of the firearms legislation by police services. It also includes an integration of the old and new firearms provisions of the *Criminal Code*. This material will serve as resource material until the National Firearms Manual and the *Criminal Code* have been updated.

Copies of the following training videos are being circulated to all police agencies across Canada.

- 1) Focus on the Canadian Firearms Legislation
- 2) Deactivation of a Firearm
- 3) Verification of Deactivation
- 4) Identification of Firearms
- 5) Search, Seizure and Prohibition Orders
- 6) The Canadian Firearms Amnesty Program
- 7) Genuine Gun Collectors
- 8) Restricted Weapons Registration: Procedure and Permits

Other future training videos will include:

- 1) Safe Storage
- 2) Large Capacity Magazines
- 3) Business Permits
- 4) Firearms Acquisition Certificate System

The Chief Provincial/Territorial Firearms Officers

Canada's firearms control program is national in scope. The program was established by Parliament in the *Criminal Code*, and provides a single regulatory standard and classification system across Canada. However, the administration of the firearms control program is decentralized, with the responsibility for enforcement with the provinces and territories. This is essential in a country such as Canada where regional variations affecting firearms ownership are inevitable.

Ensuring the consistent interpretation and enforcement of the firearms legislation is the responsibility of the Chief Provincial or Territorial Firearms Officer. These individuals also recommend to the Attorney General/Solicitor General the appointment of local registrars and firearms officers, establish policy governing competition shooting and establish the procedures for exemptions to the firearms safety education course and test.

The mailing addresses, telephone and fax numbers of the Chief Provincial/Territorial Firearms Officers follow:

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Fax: (514) 956-3571

You Were Asking?

We get hundreds of calls about the new firearms control legislation. These are answers to some of the most commonly asked questions:

Q. I'm a target shooter. For competitions I need a 16 shot or 20 shot magazine, but the regulations limit me to 10. Can I get an exemption?

A. In some cases, yes you can. Your organisation should ask to have competitions requiring larger magazines designated as eligible by the provincial Attorney General. Once this is done, you can apply to your local registrar of firearms for an authorization to possess the necessary magazines.

Q. The firearms legislation will only penalize legitimate gun owners and does nothing to control crime.

A. The legislation will not penalize legitimate gun owners. The overall objective of the legislation is to increase public safety by reducing the accidental and criminal misuse of guns. The legislation aims to restrict firepower, to improve the screening of those applying for a Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC), to promote responsible gun ownership and to deter criminal misuse.

There will be stiffer penalties for gun-related offences. The duration of mandatory firearms prohibition orders rises to 10 years for a first offence and to life for subsequent offences. The maximum sentences for importing and possessing a prohibited weapon and for the possession of any firearm while under a court prohibition will also rise to 10 years.

Q. I don't like the idea of inspectors coming into my home to examine my firearms collection. This appears to me to be an invasion of my right to privacy.

A. Inspections will not be held unexpectedly. The local firearms officer will come at a time mutually agreed upon during normal working hours, or during the evening if this is acceptable. The inspection will be limited to the part of the residence where restricted firearms and records are kept.

Q. Under the new law, is my FAC still valid?

A. It is valid until it expires. This includes FACs held by those 18 years of age and under.

Q. Is the Lee Enfield magazine going to be outlawed under the new law?

A. No. The regulations specifically exempt magazines for rifles of the type commonly known as Lee Enfield. The regulations also exempt firearms that use rimfire cartridges, and the U.S. Rifle M-1 (Garand).

Q. Isn't gun control just a knee-jerk reaction to the killings at the University of Montreal in 1989?

A. No. The review of the 1978 legislation began before this tragedy and provides a necessary update to Canada's system of gun control. The firearms package consists of three elements: better screening and training; reduction of firepower; and tougher penalties. There are several lessons which were learned from the shootings at the University of Montreal in December of 1989. One is that, where a suicidal gunman is involved, stiffer penalties or deterrence of any kind is not a realistic solution. Prevention is the only answer.

Q. Were firearms groups consulted during the development of the new legislation?

A. Yes. The legislation is the product of extensive input and communication with Canadians of wide-ranging points of view on firearms. Over 400 individuals representing interest groups, community organizations, firearms experts, target shooting enthusiasts, gun clubs, law enforcement officials and many others wrote to or appeared before legislative and regulatory committees. The legislation also draws upon the specific advice of provincial officials and the Canadian Advisory Council on Firearms (CACF). Many members of the CACF are themselves active in the shooting sports.

Q. How much will an FAC cost and why has it risen?

A. The amendments increase the FAC fee from \$10 to \$50 for first time applicants and \$25 for renewals so long as the previous FAC is still valid upon application for a replacement FAC. The present fee, which is fixed by statute, has not been adjusted since 1978, and resulted in an annual deficit of several million dollars over the years.

Q. Who may act as a reference for an FAC application and will they be liable?

A. Applicants for Firearms Acquisition Certificates (FACs) will be required to supply the names of two references who have known the applicant for three years and who can confirm information in the application. Those qualified to act as references include:

- any employer or fellow employee of the applicant
- ministers of religion
- any full-time manager or signing officer of a bank, trust company, credit union or caisse populaire
- aboriginal chiefs, councillors, or tribal elders
- judges, justices of the peace, police or peace officers, sheriffs or deputy sheriffs
- members of the Senate or House of Commons or a provincial legislature
- any mayor, reeve, warden or municipal clerk and any member of a council or board of trustees of a municipality or an educational authority
- health care practitioner as defined in section 2 of the Canada Health Act (i.e. optometrist, chiropractor)
- social worker or counsellor who treats persons with alcohol or drug addictions
- members of Canadian Forces on full-time service and who hold Her Majesty's Commission
- persons engaged in an occupation or practises a profession for which accreditation, authorization or licensing is required by any law of Canada or of a province
- and the spouse of the applicant, if 18 years of age or older.

The purpose of the list is to help local firearms officers confirm information about the FAC applicant. Referees will not be professionally or civilly liable for information they provide, but an existing provision of the *Criminal Code* creates criminal liability for any person who knowingly makes a false statement in the course of an FAC application, or who deliberately fails to provide important information when asked to do so.

Q. Does the legislation make provisions for gun collectors to possess restricted weapons?

A. Yes, but it will be necessary to establish that the person is a genuine gun collector and that the individual:

- possesses or seeks to acquire one or more restricted weapons that are related or distinguished by historical, technical or scientific characteristics;
- has knowledge of these characteristics;
- has consented to periodic inspection, conducted in a reasonable manner and in accordance with regulations, of the premises in which the restricted weapons are to be kept;
- has complied with other requirements prescribed by regulation respecting knowledge, secure storage (when proclaimed in January 1993) and the keeping of records for restricted weapons; and
- is the holder of a Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC) and satisfies the requirements for obtaining a restricted weapon registration certificate.

These conditions do not apply to collectors of rifles and shotguns that are not restricted weapons. Effective October 1, 1992, converted fully automatic firearms became prohibited weapons. Persons who have fully automatic firearms which have been appropriately converted to semi-automatic mode are allowed to keep these weapons provided that the conditions to become a genuine gun collector are met. Owners of these weapons must have applied to register them by October 1, 1992, even if the weapons have been registered before.

Genuine gun collectors are permitted to register restricted weapons, but such weapons may also be used for target shooting.

Q. What will the new legislation do to improve safe storage requirements?

A. Safe storage regulations will be strengthened. The new legislation expands the regulations to include all types of firearms.

Generally, guns must be kept unloaded, locked and separate from ammunition when not in use. Non-restricted firearms must be either locked or an essential part removed. Restricted weapons such as handguns, must be kept in a secure container and protected by a locking device. When the firearm is in a vault or secure room built for firearms storage, locking devices are not required.

Q. Who will be giving safety training courses and when will they start?

A. They will start in July 1993 and their delivery will be the responsibility of provincial authorities.

Q. I've had an FAC for 10 years. Do I need a safety training course?

A. Generally, everyone wishing to acquire a firearm after July 1993 must have successfully completed a course or test in the safe handling and use of firearms, and the laws relating to their use for hunting and sporting purposes. If a person has owned a firearm since January 1, 1979, the firearms officer may test the individual's competency by examining their knowledge of the laws and safe handling and use of firearms.

Q. I inherited a firearm. May I keep it?

A. Yes, but the first step is to get a Firearms Acquisition Certificate. If it is a restricted weapon, it must be registered and stored in the appropriate manner. If it is an unrestricted weapon, you must conform to the regulations governing the ownership and storage of unrestricted weapons.

Have any more questions? If so, please write to the Editor:

Firearms Newsletter
Firearms Control Task Group
Department of Justice Canada
222 Queen Street, Room 954
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0H8.

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JANUARY 1, 1993

LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES

- 10 shots - semi-automatic handguns
- five shots - all centre-fire semi-automatic rifles and shotguns, UZI, Partisan Avenger, and Ingram assault pistols and fully automatic firearms
- No limits - rim-fire rifles (.22 cal) and non semi-automatic firearms
- Exemptions from limits - M1 Garand, Lee Enfield

Owners of large capacity magazines will be allowed to retain them if they have been modified to comply with prescribed limits provided the modification is not easily removable.

Competition shooters may be permitted to possess large capacity magazines for legitimate shooting competitions officially sanctioned by the Attorney General of the province in which the competition is held.

JULY 1, 1993

FIREARMS SAFETY EDUCATION TRAINING

FAC applicants will have to present evidence that they have successfully completed a course or test in safe handling, use, and knowledge of laws relating to firearms. Some courses previously taken might be approved by provincial Attorneys General. Firearms officers may certify firearms competence without a course or test if the applicant has owned a firearm since January 1979.

Firearms Safety Education Training Program

The *Criminal Code* requires applicants for a Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC) to have successfully completed a course or test in the safe handling and use of firearms and laws relating to firearms.

Safety courses and tests will be approved by the Attorneys General/Solicitors General of the province in which the course or test is administered. Courses or tests taken previous to the proclamation of this provision could also be approved for FAC purposes depending on the decisions of the Attorneys General/Solicitors General who may wish to grandfather certain provincially sanctioned courses and tests.

Firearms officers have the discretion to certify an FAC applicant, but only where the applicant has had a firearm before the FAC law took effect on January 1, 1979. Applicants for certification must still establish that they are competent and familiar with the laws relating to firearms. An applicant who is able to pass the prescribed safety test based on personal knowledge of firearms safety and the law need not necessarily take the full course, although this is recommended.

In order to develop a curriculum content for the firearms safety education training program, the Minister of Justice asked her officials, the Canadian Advisory Council on Firearms, and the provinces and territories to develop a set of national standards on which to base this course content. In formulating these standards, all groups examined and identified the types of knowledge and skills required to abide by the firearms laws and regula-

tions and handle firearms in such a manner as to not present a hazard to the safety of the firearms user or others. Although still subject to final provincial/territorial approval, the national standards will cover classroom topics as well as a skills and a demonstration component. Many of the proposed standards already exist in firearms safety courses and would be enhanced, with the major exception being knowledge of federal and provincial/territorial laws and regulations pertaining to firearms.

It is not the Department's intention to develop a solely federal firearms safety education course or test. Departmental officials are working with the provinces/territories to integrate the national standards into their existing firearms safety courses. This intention has been reinforced by firearms interest groups, who have urged the Department to build on and enhance successful firearms safety programs now being conducted.

A course curriculum, student and instructor manuals and teaching aids are now being developed. This material will be subject to consultation and agreement of the provinces and territories. The course curriculum and manuals will be pilot tested in various areas of Canada. A preliminary selection has begun for instructors and candidates for these pilot tests.

The Minister of Justice has announced that the proclamation date for the firearms safety education training program will be July 1, 1993.

An update on the status of the safety education training program will be provided in the next issue of the newsletter.

Firearms Control Task Group

The newsletter is a production of the Firearms Control Task Group, established in July 1990 to provide policy and operational support to the Minister of Justice during the implementation of the new gun control legislation. As a first and continuing step, a partnership has been developed with provincial and territorial governments, the law enforcement community, and firearms interest groups to develop an implementation strategy consistent with local and national safety requirements.

The Task Group is located in the Criminal and Social Policy Sector of the Department of Justice and is currently staffed by James Hayes, Coordinator; Carolyn Saint-Denis, Senior Policy Advisor; Virginia Kuash, Policy Analyst (safety education training); Bob Holmes, Senior Program Analyst (police training); Marie Gauthier, Senior Program

Officer (public information); Bob Sonier, Program Manager, (FAC information system and forms); and Murielle Lepage, Administrative Assistant.

The Task Group welcomes requests for information on all aspects of the firearms control program from the public. Additional copies of this newsletter, as well as brochures and pamphlets, can be obtained by writing to:

Firearms Control Task Group
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