



Mailed — 121-MP'S C7
April 10/18 22-Senator

The Corporation of the
TOWNSHIP OF BALDWIN

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April 9th 2018

Dear Members of Parliament, House of Commons,

In our absence from being able to speak in person on this matter of Bill C-71, I request that our esteemed colleagues from the Canadian Shooting Sports Association (CSSA) be allowed to speak on our behalf. These folks are well versed in the existing firearms legislation and licensing requirements in Canada and can easily explain to non-firearm's owners current legislation already in place and the rigorous criteria needed to obtain a Firearms License or PAL that is required before any person can purchase any firearm or any ammunition.

We have listened to both sides of the debate concerning bill C-71 and have also done extensive reading on the matter, reviewed the flawed statistics charts that single out the lowest year of crime in 40 years and use it as a base point for increase or decrease. Its unfortunate that the Federal Government and News Media do not realize what's contained in the currant legislation that is already in place and has been since the mid 1990's. Rather than create new legislation, why not spend the time and money in enforcing the laws that are on the books today that never really seems to matter as a deterrent to the criminal and gang element?

The RCMP daily checks all Firearms License holders (Commonly called Firearms License or PAL) in Canada for any wrong doing and that is more than sufficient without putting additional or duplicate checks in place.

Simply enforce the laws that are in place now without putting new ones in place.

We have heard numerous times that a Police Officer needs to know what firearms he may be facing each time he comes to a residence. That statement, if applied, creates a very false sense of security because if the answer came back and said “no firearms” and he/she proceeds with that thought in mind, and it just happens to be a criminal with illegal firearms, then what happens? However, the Police know better than that and always proceed with caution to any domestic dispute but the Media like to glamourize it as a selling point for any proposed new gun legislation.

The Conservation Officers (CO'S) in this province during a single hunting season encounter more law-abiding people with firearms than most police officers would in their entire career. Many of these encounters are often in very remote locations with no cell service. There are no issues with their checks due to the fact that the majority of all firearms owners are very responsible citizens. For those folks that are unsure of a “Conservation Officer's” duty, they are officers that work for the MNRF enforcing all the hunting and fishing laws in all parts of the province.

Much of our country was founded and built with the use of firearms first in the fur trade and then in the rebellions/uprisings in the 1700's and 1800's and then the wars.

Many Canadian families have a long list of service in the military in WW 1 and WW2 and Foreign Wars with many being left overseas at very young ages. These folks fought for some of the rights and the privileges that we have today.

Trapping has been and still is a way of life for generations in many families.

For many Ontarian's firearms are a part of their lifestyle and culture and heritage especially those living in the north and even to some extent those in the GTA.

I'm asking that you make a wise move and cancel Bill C-71 and simply enforce the legislation that is in place.

Thanks very much,

Sincerely.

**Mayor Vern Gorham,
Township of Baldwin.**

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BALDWIN

C7

MOVED BY:

David Fairbairn

DATE: April 9th, 2018

SECONDED BY:

B. H. McDowell

MOTION NO.: 18-39

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Township of Baldwin send the attached explanatory letter to all Municipalities in Ontario for their support via e-mail as well as by Canada Post to all MP'S and Senators that represent our Province of Ontario.

We don't need bill C-71 and it should be quashed without further ado.

Carried ✓

Defeated _____

Mayor *[Signature]*



RECORDED VOTE	FOR	AGAINST
Vern Gorham	✓	
David Fairbairn	✓	
Texas MacDonald	✓	
Ray Maltais	✓	
Bert McDowell	✓	