

Minister Bill Blair  
House of Commons,  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Blair;

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to the actions your government is planning on taking to ban certain firearms, which you have ill-defined as "military assault style". You have stated publicly that you would be using an Order-in-Council (OIC) to ban these legally acquired firearms from licensed owners and would be implementing an expensive "buy-back" program to confiscate them. Your proposals not only unfairly target lawful gun owners, they will prove to be completely ineffective at improving public safety because they won't relieve any criminals of their illegal firearms.

The use of an OIC to change firearms laws in this manner is an egregious overreach of executive authority and the "buy back" confiscation plan is a waste of valuable taxpayer resources. It is incumbent on you and your colleagues to make every legitimate effort to fight actual crime and to bring forth your ideas to the House of Commons where they may be studied and debated by all Members of Parliament.

Lawfully licensed firearms owners are farmers, hunters, sport shooters and collectors. We are not criminals and are not responsible for the crimes committed by criminals. Punishing the criminals is the only thing that will improve public safety. This should be your focus.

I urge your government to drop this proposed ban / confiscation and consider instead investing this money in programs and measures to combat crime, keep criminals off our streets, support at risk youth initiatives and community programming.