

MEDIA RELEASE – May 18, 2006

GUN REGISTRY CHANGES - A GOOD FIRST STEP

We congratulate the Conservative Government for keeping their election promise to start the dismantling of the much maligned and wasteful gun registry.

“The Firearms Act has proven to be a huge waste of valuable resources that could have been used far more effectively by giving police forces and the Justice system the funds they need. This move by the Conservative government is a good first step towards restoring faith in our criminal justice system” said Executive Director Larry Whitmore.

“The firearms act proved to be a dismal failure in preventing violent crime. Criminals have no problem obtaining illegal guns from the black market. The only way to deter the criminal use of firearms is to make it too costly for the criminal. The mandatory sentencing provisions previously announced by the government will go a long way to making our streets safer” he goes on to say.

However, we have identified a number of other critical areas that need to be addressed:

- Resolution of the prohibited handgun grandfathering court appeals (12-6)
- Extension of the amnesty provisions to restricted and prohibited firearms owners who have expired licenses
- Allowing grandfathered owners of prohibited rifles to transport their firearms to approved ranges
- De-criminalization of paperwork infractions

The Canadian Shooting Sports has been at the forefront in lobbying efforts to make these and other changes to the Firearms Act. We will continue to press the government for more legislative changes to protect the rights of law abiding firearms owners in Canada.

For more information and current developments, see our websites:

www.cdnshootingsports.org and www.twelvesix.ca

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