

The Canadian Police Association is deliberately misleading Canadians about the Gun Registry.

Just as the Canadian Chiefs of Police deliberately misled Canadians in its push for the long gun registry, so has the Canadian Police Association stepped up its dishonesty in trying to salvage this waste of billions of taxpayer dollars.

A bogus study released at a 1997 Chiefs of Police conference in Fredericton overstated the number of long guns "involved" in crime by a factor of 9 - including gun collections found during investigations where charges were never laid (i.e. a domestic complaint against a gun collector) or near (but not involved with) a crime or suicide.

The Canadian Police Association is now using an eerily similar tactic in its desperate bid to save the registry, as are those in Toronto who are pushing for an outright ban on legally owned handguns.

CPA president, Charles Momy claims that a registered rifle found at the scene of the 2005 murder of four RCMP officers in Mayerthorpe, Alberta was "part of the evidence that ultimately led to the arrest and conviction of two men for manslaughter".

What led investigators to investigate Hennessey and Cheeseman was a registry hit linking Hennessey's grandfather to a rifle, having nothing to do with the crime, found on Roszko's property. In fact, media reports have indicated that all Hennessey had to do to make a dead end in the investigation was say that the rifle had been stolen. It was in fact Cheeseman's boss, Brad McNish, who came forward with a tip for the police implicating Cheeseman, and a subsequent police sting operation yielded a (what might be considered bogus) confession.

The gun registry didn't solve a single thing; the criminal did more to help the prosecution than the registry did.

Conscientious journalists should be asking the CPA and the CACP to provide data on how many violent crimes have been adjudicated based mainly on registry information.

Momy should also explain how many of the police officers killed with long guns were killed by lowlifes not legally qualified to have guns and why being killed with a registered gun justifies the registry rather than prove its worthlessness..

Not only is the CPA being dishonest here, it is also hypocritical in its continued support of the registry.

At a General Meeting of the CPA in Regina in August of 1999, the CPA made its support for the registry conditional upon the following outcomes;

1. - the Auditor General of Canada conduct a thorough review of the firearms registration system
2. - the accuracy of the information that is collected in the firearms registration database be verified
3. - confirmation that the registration system has the capacity to meet the legislative time frames established for firearms registration
4. - the cost recovery plan for the registration can be achieved
5. - meaningful consultations with the User Group to ensure that the concerns of stakeholders are addressed in the review process
6. - confirmation that the implementation and operation of the system is not taking officers off the street
7. - Auditor General of Canada release a public report on their findings to the people of Canada

Not one of these conditions were met.

How can anyone take these politically motivated associations seriously when they are funded by groups like Taser International and CGI, (who designed and maintain the gun registry's computer system!) and who are now embroiled in a sponsorship scandal over it?

- Barry Glasgow