



Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation Media Release

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CLAIMS BY THE GUN REGISTRY SUPPORTERS WAY OFF TARGET

In a reaction to the introduction of Bill C-19, An Act to Amend the Criminal Code and Firearms Act, spokespersons for the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, anti-gun groups and opposition parties are claiming that the elimination of the long gun registry will rob police of a valuable tool to keep track of guns in Canada, and leave them with 'nothing to check'.

"We find it very disturbing that these groups would make such blatantly false statements", said Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation (SWF) Provincial Firearms Chair, Greg Illerbrun.

In a recent interview the President of the Canadian Police Association commented that police have sources of information other than the long gun registry that enables them to keep track of what they consider to be firearms threats. The information available through firearms licensing alone ensures that police will know who is legal to own firearms in Canada. CPIC, the National Information Centre, registries of restricted and prohibited long guns and handguns, which are not affected by Bill C-19, information that exists in local or provincial databases, and databases maintained by the RCMP and other federal agencies will still be available.

The SWF also notes that the Saskatchewan Federation of Police Officers and the Government of Saskatchewan has long held positions in opposition to the long gun registry.

"The gun registry has always targeted the law abiding gun owner. The solution has always been that the enforcement focus should be on those who shouldn't have guns, not those who have demonstrated, through training, safe storage and safe use, that they pose no threat to public safety. These groups should be supporting the creation of a database that tracks people who shouldn't have guns, those who have committed crimes with firearms, who have been charged with domestic violence, or for other reasons have been ruled ineligible to qualify for a firearms license." Illerbrun goes on to say.

The Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation (SWF) proudly represents over 30,000 members from 120 branches across Saskatchewan and is considered to be, per capita, the largest wildlife conservation organization of its kind in the world.

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