

PolySeSouvient / Poly Remembers

Students and Graduates of Polytechnique for gun control



www.polysesouvient.ca ❖ info@Polysesouvient.ca ❖ @polysesouvient ❖ 514-816-7818 ❖ 4529 rue Clark, no 102, Mtl, H2T 2T3

Preliminary analysis of **Bill C-71**

as compared to expectations related to Liberal **election promises**

March 20th 2018

Promise no 1a.	“Repeal changes made by Bill C-42 that allow restricted and prohibited weapons to be freely transported without a permit...”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bill C-71 automatically confers authorization to transport a restricted weapon for two purposes: to an owner home following a purchase and to approved shooting clubs and ranges”.• The measure fails to associate an authorization to transport to a specific place, instead allowing an owner of a restricted weapon to ANY of dozens or hundreds of gun clubs or shooting ranges in a province, even if they are not a member. This is weaker than the pre-C-42 law.
Promise no 1b.	“...and we will put decision-making about weapons restrictions back in the hands of police, not politicians;”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• While C-71 eliminates the authority (introduced in 2015 via C-42) allowing for politicians to overturn RCMP classification “decisions”, it does nothing to change the criteria that the RCMP must apply and that allows assault weapons to remain legal.• Some weapons that should have been prohibited because of their capability of being converted to automatic mode (CZ858 and Swiss Arms families) will be properly classified, but current owners can keep them via grandfather clauses.• C-71 does nothing to close the loophole that allows large capacity magazines (over the 5 or 10 rounds) for magazines that are not designed for the guns they can be used in (see page 19).
Promise no 5.	“Require enhanced background checks for anyone seeking to purchase a handgun or other restricted firearm;”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authorities will take into consideration a longer history of risk factors (from 5 years to life history) in assessing applicants for possession licenses.• This changes nothing with respect to the extremely broad and problematic discretion of the courts, who still only have to “take into consideration” a list of risk factors. There have been many cases of people that had a history of risky behaviour from current list and were legally allowed to keep their guns (ex: case of Thierry LeRoux’s killer, who had suicidal and violent history).

Polysesouvient est un groupe de citoyens bénévoles, dont de nombreux témoins, survivants et familles des victimes du massacre du 6 décembre 1989, qui oeuvrent pour un meilleur contrôle des armes et dont les objectifs sont endossés par l’Association des Étudiants de Polytechnique, l’Association des étudiants aux cycles supérieurs de Polytechnique, le CA de l’Association des diplômés de Polytechnique, l’Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec, le Réseau des ingénieurs du Québec, l’École Polytechnique, l’École de technologie supérieure et plusieurs associations étudiantes de génie du Québec.

A/S: polysesouvient@gmail.com ; téléphone : 514-816-7818 ; @polysesouvient ; www.polysesouvient.ca

<p>Promise no 6.</p>	<p>“Require purchasers of firearms to show a license when they buy a gun, and require all sellers of firearms to confirm that the license is valid before completing the sale;”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone selling or giving a non-restricted firearm, including private sellers, will be required to verify the validity of the firearms licence of the recipient with the Canadian Firearms Program • No records of a non-restricted firearm will be retained.
<p>Promise no 7.</p>	<p>“Require firearms vendors to keep records of all firearms inventory and sales to assist police in investigating firearms trafficking and other gun crimes;”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses, excluding private sellers, will be required to keep records of the sale of all firearms and their purchasers for a minimum of 20 years. • The measure in Bill C-71 does not apply to private sales, which represent about a third of all firearm transfers (at least in Quebec¹). The BC Task Force on Illegal Guns recommends tracking all private gun sales, in addition to commercial ones. Two recent polls that show, respectively, that 85% of Canadians agree that “the Canadian government should reinstate the requirement for commercial gun sellers to keep records of sales and require private sellers to report gun transfers to the authorities” and almost 8 out of 10 Canadians support “creating a national database tracking all gun sales” • Access by police to sales record will require “judicial authority” to consult them, an unnecessary and substantial procedural obstacle, which didn’t exist during the 30+ years that the former sales ledgers were in use. This requirement doesn’t even exist in the United-States. • This precludes any routine controls to verify compliance (sales records, inventories, sales to legal licence holders, etc.). There is no allowance for preventative actions. Access to records seems only possible in relation to investigations of crimes that are being committed or have already been committed.

¹ In Quebec, there are approximately 106,000 private or commercial gun transfers in a year ([Sûreté du Québec](#), testimony before the Committee on Institutions, April 5, 2016. <http://www.assnat.qc.ca/fr/video-audio/archives-parlementaires/travaux-commissions/AudioVideo-64087.html>); these include about 40 000 private sales ([Sûreté du Québec](#), data provided to the Committee on Institutions, 2016. http://polysesouvent.ca/Documents/STAT_16_04_07_Cessions_Entreprises_Particuliers_SQ.pdf)