# PolySeSouvient / PolyRemembers

Étudiants et diplômés de Polytechnique pour le contrôle des armes

Students and Graduates of Polytechnique for gun control

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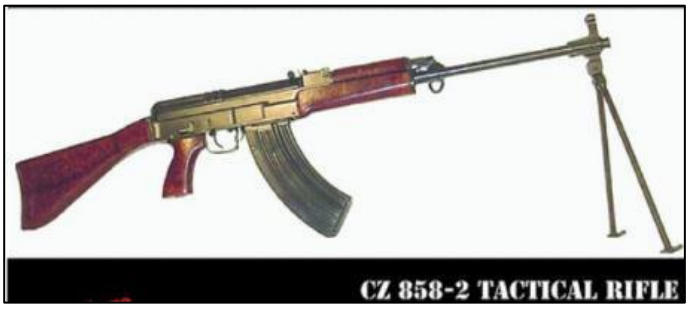
*(Updated July 2024)*

## Mass shooters who illegally modified their legal magazines

➡ **Justin Bourque used a legal semi-automatic M305 rifle to shoot three RCMP officers in Moncton in June 2014**. This weapon is a Chinese semiautomatic version of the American military's M14, a favorite of military weapons collectors. Bourque legally possessed this weapon as well as two magazines originally designed for 20 rounds and sold with a pin to hold no more than 5 cartridges, in keeping with Canadian law. That the pin was illegally removed by Bourque so that the magazines could hold 20 cartridges.

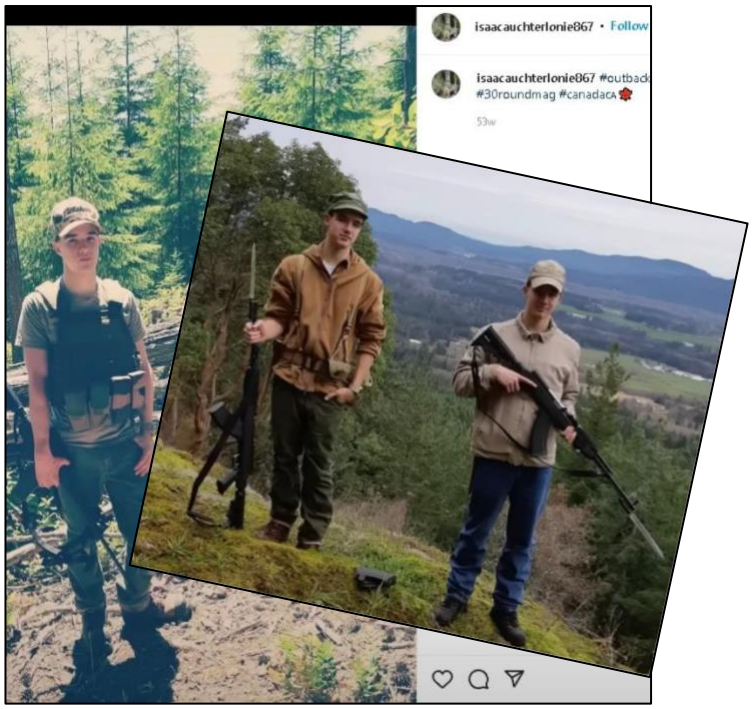
➡ **Richard Bain had in his possession ten legal CZ-858, one of which he used in the attack against Premier Pauline Marois in September 2012**. He used an illegally modified 30-round magazine. If the weapon had not jammed while trying to shoot a police officer, things would have turned out much worse (one person was killed, stagehand Denis Blanchette). According to an academic expert, the Czech CZ-858 is similar to the AK-47, with only a few differences: the CZ is more powerful but known to be less reliable.




➡ **In January 2017 Alexandre Bissonnette had a Czech semi-automatic Small Arms VZ58 Sportster rifle.** He was equipped with two illegally modified 30-cartridge magazines containing 29 cartridges. He also had a Glock pistol and five 10-bullet magazines. According to the media reports, he legally owned at least six guns. By a stroke of luck, the VZ58 jammed on the first shot, preventing him from using it further. He subsequently used his handgun, virtually emptying all magazines (48 bullets) and, leaving behind six dead, five wounded and dozens of worshippers including children traumatized for life, left less than two minutes after he entered the Mosque.

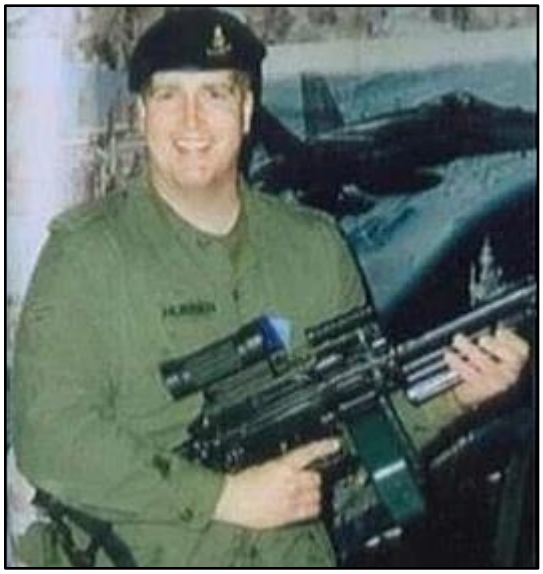
➡ **In August 2018, Matthew Raymond Vincent shot two civilians and two police officers with a legally owned non-restricted semi-automatic Russian SKS rifle**. On the morning of the shooting, he illegally modified the magazine of his rifle so it could hold more bullets. One officer was killed when he was shot 5 times including once through his bullet-proof vest. Another bullet ended up in another apartment: through door, multiple walls & bedrooms and into a cupboard.

➡ **In June 2022, brothers Mathew and Isaac Auchterlonie, both 22, set out to rob a Saanich bank with legal SKS semi-automatic rifles.** According to the RCMP, their goal was to draw police into a gunfight in order to shoot as many officers as possible (several were injured). The gun men illegally modified at least one magazine for it to hold 30 rounds.




**Other potential close calls:**

➡ **In July 2020, Corey Hurren drove for 28 hours to get to Ottawa, rammed his truck through the gate at Rideau Hall, carried three loaded long guns, and set off in pursuit of the Prime Minister**. Amongst other charges, Hurren was charged with having a "prohibited high-capacity magazine" (likely for his – legally owned - M14). The prosecutor in this case stated that "Mr Hurren thought it might be useful to him to be able to fire 30 rounds without reloading."



➡ **In February 2022, police found an .223-calibre Panther Arms rifle in a trailer at Coutts (AB)** among many other weapons. National Weapons Enforcement Support Team member testified that he tested the gun using one of five magazines (also found in trailer) modified to hold 30 rounds by removing a pin. "I inserted (a) magazine with 30 rounds ... and successfully fired all 30 of those rounds ... (in about) nine seconds."