

# PolySeSouvient / PolyRemembers

Étudiants et diplômés de Polytechnique pour le contrôle des armes

Students and Graduates of Polytechnique for gun control

www.polysesouvient.ca ❖ info@Polysesouvient.ca ❖ @polysesouvient ❖ 514-816-7818



NEWS RELEASE

## Victims group reacts to Liberal gun control promises

**Montreal, September 1st, 2021** — According to **Nathalie Provost**, survivor of the 1989 Montreal massacre and spokesperson for **PolySeSouvient**:

### *Assault weapons and large capacity magazines*

*"The promise for a total ban on assault weapons is very positive. It is also very precise, specifying that existing weapons would be either bought back or rendered permanently inoperable. They are also promising to ban modifiable magazines and to eliminate the flaws and loopholes in the law that currently allow magazines for long guns to surpass the theoretical five bullet limit. This proposed measure is new and very welcome. In short, with respect to military-style weapons and accessories, the Liberal party is making excellent promises for measures that are long overdue."*

*"However, these remain promises, like the 2015 and 2019 ones which were not kept. We hope the Liberals will also explain to Canadians why this time they should believe them. Indeed, two years ago we were in exactly the same situation. We enthusiastically applauded the Liberals for promising to ban assault weapons, including a buy back of all existing ones, only to be brutally disappointed with the end result."*

### *Handguns and the NDP*

*"Most worrisome is the Liberals' continued insistence to offload the handgun issue to other jurisdictions. This time it's not municipalities, but provinces — despite at least three provinces categorically stating they are against banning handguns, and not single one expressing an interest in doing so, including Quebec. This is essentially going back to square one, except this time there are thirteen squares. Our belief, based on our observations over the past few months, is that without federal intervention the exponential proliferation of handguns will continue, and soon it will be too late to reverse this trend. Indeed, half of the more than one million handguns circulating in Canada today were purchased in the last ten years."*

*"Our conclusion is that the safety of Canadians against handgun violence now depends on the position of the NDP. In a Liberal minority context, for example, they would be the ones deciding on whether or not the government can offload this responsibility to provinces, since the Bloc québécois has already stated it supports provincial bans. We hope that, unlike the Liberals, the NDP will have the political courage to fully assume their constitutional authority and push for federal measures."*

See our [review of key Liberal gun control election promises](#) (2015-2021)

See our [overview of flaws and loopholes regarding large capacity magazines](#)

See our [letter to Quebec National Assembly parti leader on why provincial bans are to be avoided](#)

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### Interviews:

Nathalie Provost: : 514-796-0142

Heidi Rathjen: 514-816-7818