

“How Will Your Party Protect Canadians from Made-in-America Guns?”

Five questions on gun control and public safety to ask federal candidates seeking your vote

MONTREAL / TORONTO - April 3, 2025: Gun control advocacy groups [have released](#) a list of questions they recommend Canadians concerned about gun violence and community safety ask candidates seeking their ballot in the federal election. The questions, which were also included in a [questionnaire](#) sent to all main parties, are:

Q1: If elected to form government, will your party **insist the U.S. does more to stop the illegal flow of handguns into Canada**, when it engages with President Trump’s administration?

Q2: Will your government **complete the program to buyback prohibited assault-style weapons, with fair compensation for their owners**, within the next 12 months?

This program removes from circulation models with sustained rapid-fire capability based on tactical or military designs not suitable for hunting and exceeding safe civilian use. New Zealand took just six months to collect 56,000 assault weapons as part of its 2019 buyback program following the Christchurch mass shooting that left 51 dead.

Q3: Will your government **enforce measures to address intimate partner gun violence** by finally bringing into force the new law which automatically revokes the gun licence of someone who becomes subject to a protection order linked to domestic violence or stalking, within six months of the election?

Q4: Will your government **close loopholes and exemptions that currently thwart magazine capacity restrictions (five for long guns, ten for handguns)** and directly endanger public safety, within 12 months of the election?

These lethal loopholes let many Canadian [mass shooters](#) legally purchase “modifiable” magazines they easily converted to illegally hold 20 or 30 rounds of ammunition.

Q5: Will your government **protect public safety by promising to introduce a preauthorization system that ensures the classification of new firearm models entering the Canadian market, largely from US gun manufacturers, is determined by the RCMP -- not the US gun industry?**

In recent years, gun manufacturers and importers sidestepped the Canadian firearm classification by labelling thousands of weapons as “[non-restricted](#)”, even though they were technically prohibited (for example, because they are or could be converted to [fully automatic mode](#)). Although regulations to that effect were tabled in December, [they’ve not been strengthened](#) nor finalized.

Quotes:

“Guns that can injure and kill many people in mere moments have no place in our society. A wide body of scientific literature confirms what we can observe from the epidemic of gun violence south of the border: strong laws restricting private access to assault weapons can protect our loved ones from harm. As physicians who have witnessed the devastating consequences of gun injury, Canadian Doctors for Protection from Guns urges Canadians to become informed about all parties’ commitments on gun control before casting their vote.”

- **Dr. Najma Ahmed, Co-Chair, Canadian Doctors for Protection from Guns**

*“Across Canada, **most guns** seized in crimes and **more than half of firearms** used in homicides were legally obtained in this country. However, **the majority** of illegal handguns used in crimes in large urban areas like Toronto are smuggled from the United States. These guns are not just a major threat to public safety, they are killing Canadians. This is why it is incumbent on all political parties to commit to pressing the Americans to do more to stop the illegal flow of handguns into our country.”*

- **Mr. Ken Price, Danforth Families for Safe Communities**

*“Public option polls have long shown a **majority** of Canadians support stronger gun control laws. Now, citizens are concerned that President Trump’s threats to annex our country will lead to American-style gun laws in Canada, increasing the risks of mass shootings, femicides, and suicides. It has never been more important to become informed about each political party’s position on gun control and to vote for reasonable gun laws that safeguard our homes, schools and communities from the devastation of gun violence.”*

- **Ms. Heidi Rathjen, PolyRemembers**

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