



For immediate release

Budget 2025 Re-Commits to Completion of National Buyback Program for Prohibited Assault-Style Firearms

Continued funding for buyback program signals Liberal government's resolve to remove prohibited firearms from communities, but missing are indications the government intends to ensure a comprehensive assault weapon ban (SKS) and the imminent implementation of hard-fought measures (C-21) to prevent intimate partner gun violence

MONTREAL, November 4, 2025: PolyRemembers/PolySeSouvient is pleased to see continued funding for the completion of the buyback program for prohibited assault-style weapons in the **2025-2026 Budget** unveiled today. The promised funding is a good start by the new government toward fulfilling **Prime Minister Carney's election promises** to enact responsible gun laws and support his avowed priority to keep Canadians safe.

However, we are concerned there is no mention of action on other commitments **made by the Liberal Party** on gun control during last April's election, including the following measures:

- **Enact relevant articles in former Bill C-21, adopted in December 2023, that automatically revoke gun licences of individuals convicted of violent offences**, particularly those convicted of intimate partner violence offences, and those subject to protection orders.
- **Finalize draft regulations that would implement a new pre-authorization system** that ensures that the classification of new firearm models entering the market is determined by the RCMP and not the gun industry.
- **Toughen oversight of firearms licensing and strengthen the enforcement** of new measures contained in former Bill C-21 by bolstering the capacity of Provincial Chief Firearms Officers to fulfill their obligations.
- **Conduct consultations** with the goal of **identifying and implementing solutions with respect to firearms that, while designed for military purposes, are also commonly used for sustenance hunting** (including **the Soviet-designed SKS**).
- **Eliminate loopholes or exemptions that circumvent the rules aimed at prohibiting large capacity magazines, like requiring the permanent alteration of large capacity magazines, to ensure that they can never hold more than five rounds again** and prohibit the sale and transfer of magazines capable of holding more than the legally permitted number of rounds.

The measures aimed at removing firearms from domestic abusers in **former Bill C-21**, which received Royal Assent on December 13, 2023, are still not in effect. In the meantime, women and children have been shot and killed in family settings. It is appalling the regulations needed to enforce these new measures are not yet in force, almost two years after they became law.

PolyRemembers' recommendations to the government to deal with the **SKS** to ensure Canada has a true ban on assault-style weapons are [here](#).

The number of prohibited assault-style firearms in Canada ranges from the [federal government's estimate of 150,000](#) to gun industry suggestions it is much higher. These semi-automatic firearms, when used with high-capacity magazines, are capable of powerful and rapid indiscriminate 'spray-firing' of bullets and can quickly kill and injure multiple people. Public opinion [research](#) has consistently shown strong support among the general public for a ban on civilian possession of assault-style weapons. According to [Public Safety Canada](#), over 19,000 non restricted makes and models, equating to over 127,000 variations of firearms, remain legal for hunting and sport shooting in Canada.

Removing Assault-Style Firearms from our Streets

Weapons made for the battlefield do not belong on Canadian streets—where children walk to school, where workers wait for the bus, and where you live. To protect our communities, Canada's new government is removing assault-style firearms from our streets. These measures respond directly to the Mass Casualty Commission's recommendations.

- Budget 2025 proposes to realign previously announced funding for a net fiscal impact of \$38.7 million over three years, starting in 2025-26, to allow for the continuation of the **Assault-Style Firearms Compensation Program**. The program will be implemented in the most efficient and cost-effective way possible, within its existing funding envelope of \$742 million.

	2025- 2026	2026- 2027	2027- 2028	2028- 2029	2029- 2030	Total
4.1 Defending our Sovereignty	7,235	11,029	12,423	13,971	14,125	58,784
Rebuilding, Rearming, and Reinvesting in the Canadian Armed Forces ^{1,2}	7,217	10,125	11,601	13,331	14,348	56,622
Less: Funds Previously Provisioned in the Fiscal Framework	-18	-80	-148	-214	-280	-739
A New Defence Investment Agency ³	0	13	19	19	19	71
Strengthening Canada's Presence: Operations REASSURANCE and AMARNIA ⁴	57	1,018	998	836	40	2,949
Less: Funds Sourced From Existing Departmental Resources	-20	-47	-48	-2	-2	-119
4.2 Protecting our Borders and Communities	17	631	890	1,203	1,283	4,024
Strengthening Federal Law Enforcement ^{5,6}	0	236	367	535	623	1,761
Less: Projected Revenues	0	0	-3	-7	-10	-20
Enhancing the Canada Border Services Agency ^{7,8}	196	96	147	186	208	834
Less: Funds Previously Provisioned in the Fiscal Framework	-11	-11	-11	-11	-11	-54
Modernising the Meteorological Service of Canada ⁹	8	17	302	418	391	1,136
Renewing Canada's National Public Alerting System	0	14	14	14	14	55
Improving Preclearance at Canada's Borders	0	3	4	4	4	15
Removing Assault-Style Firearms from our Streets	364	217	5	0	0	586
Less: Funds Sourced From Existing Departmental Resources	-541	-6	0	0	0	-547

Retirer de la circulation les armes à feu de style arme d'assaut

Les armes conçues pour le champ de bataille n'ont pas leur place dans nos quartiers, parmi nos enfants qui se rendent à l'école et les gens qui vont travailler. Afin de protéger nos communautés, le nouveau gouvernement du Canada retire de la circulation les armes à feu de style arme d'assaut. Ces mesures donnent directement suite aux recommandations de la Commission des pertes massives.

- Le budget de 2025 propose la restructuration d'un financement annoncé précédemment, dont l'incidence budgétaire nette sera de 38,7 millions de dollars sur trois ans à compter de 2025-2026, afin de permettre le maintien du **Programme d'indemnisation pour les armes à feu de style arme d'assaut**. Le programme sera mis en œuvre de la manière la plus efficiente et économique possible, dans les limites de son enveloppe de financement actuelle de 742 millions de dollars.

	2025- 2026	2026- 2027	2027- 2028	2028- 2029	2029- 2030	Total
4.1 Défendre notre souveraineté	7 235	11 029	12 423	13 971	14 125	58 784
Réinvestir pour rebâtir et réarmer les Forces armées canadiennes ^{1,2}	7 217	10 125	11 601	13 331	14 348	56 622
Moins : Fonds affectés précédemment dans le cadre financier	-18	-80	-148	-214	-280	-739
Une nouvelle Agence de l'investissement pour la défense ³	0	13	19	19	19	71
Renforcer la présence du Canada : opérations REASSURANCE et AMARNIA ⁴	57	1 018	998	836	40	2 949
Moins : Fonds provenant des ressources ministérielles actuelles	-20	-47	-48	-2	-2	-119
4.2 Protéger nos frontières et nos communautés	17	631	890	1 203	1 283	4 024
Renforcer les services policiers fédéraux ^{5,6}	0	236	367	535	623	1 761
Moins : Revenus projetés	0	0	-3	-7	-10	-20
Renforcer l'Agence des services frontaliers du Canada ^{7,8}	196	96	147	186	208	834
Moins : Fonds affectés précédemment dans le cadre financier	-11	-11	-11	-11	-11	-54
Moderniser le Service météorologique du Canada ⁹	8	17	302	418	391	1 136
Renouveler le Système national d'alertes au public	0	14	14	14	14	55
Améliorer le précontrôle aux frontières du Canada	0	3	4	4	4	15
Retirer de la circulation les armes à feu de style arme d'assaut	364	217	5	0	0	586
Moins : Fonds provenant des ressources ministérielles actuelles	-541	-6	0	0	0	-547