

Montreal, December 5, 2025

PolySeSouvient: Statement re [Final report](#) of the Expert Advisory Panel on Firearms

The [final report](#) was submitted to the federal government on January 31, 2025 and publicly release on December 4, 2025.

The expert panel effectively articulated the need to ban certain firearms, namely “semi-automatic assault-style weapons” that “pose substantial public safety risks because of their design and capabilities”. They name the relevant assessment characteristics such as potentially high rates of fire, self-loading mechanisms, ability to accept detachable magazines and incorporation of tactical designs.

The panel emphasized that it’s reasonable and logical to limit access to such weapons in order “to prevent criminals from acquiring dangerous firearms, mitigate the risk of mass shootings, decrease the dangers faced by police, and encourage a culture of responsible firearm ownership”.

Most of the models that the panel said should be prohibited are banned under the March 7th [Order in Council](#).

Expert panel assessment of the SKS:

Regarding [the SKS](#), the panel states that this weapon was designed for military use and has been upgraded by manufacturers to give newer models the same characteristics as currently prohibited weapons, making them capable of inflicting “substantial harm to the public and law enforcement”.



Kodiak Defense Scorpio SKS-15:

example of a modern version of the SKS mentioned by the panel

The panel’s recommendations regarding the SKS are totally consistent with the compromise recommendations that PolySeSouvient and other gun control advocacy groups have communicated to Public Safety Minister Anandasangaree, such as exempting models currently used by Indigenous hunters from prohibition and limiting prohibitions to modern modified models, while grandfathering the rest (registered and not transferable).

The recommendation to review Canada’s classification system is reasonable, given how complex and unwieldy it is. However, such a review and its implementation could take many years and will

not reduce the risk of mass shootings and other killings of Canadians, with the SKS, during this lengthily period of time.

As such, the threat to public safety posed by the availability of the SKS, especially newer models, should be dealt with as soon as possible. While deciding what to do with those currently in circulation, the federal government should immediately end the sale of SKS firearms. Doing this will ensure gun owners cannot use taxpayer funded buyback financial compensation to buy a new assault weapon. Without ending the sale of the SKS, before buyback compensation flows, Canada will not have a complete ban on military-style weapons and the success of the buyback program will be significantly compromised.

- 30 -

Information: info@polysesouvient.ca