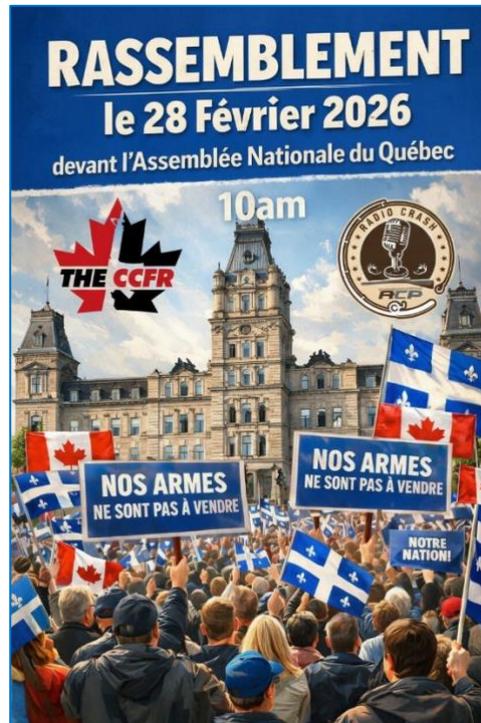


PolySeSouvient Statement on Quebec City Pro-Gun Rally in Wake of Tumbler Ridge Mass Shooting

MONTREAL, February 23, 2026

PolySeSouvient/PolyRemembers, which represents survivors and families of victims of mass shootings, condemns the rally **planned** for next Saturday, February 28th in Quebec City opposing the federal ban and buyback of assault weapons. The event appears to be spearheaded by the Canadian Coalition for Firearm Rights with support from **other** tone-deaf gun lobby groups, including the National Firearms Association, as well as well-known gun rights advocates.



It is disgraceful that Canada’s gun lobby is proceeding with a large Quebec City rally next Saturday to promote the legal possession of military-style assault weapons. The goal of the event is to derail the federal ban on assault weapons as well as the buyback program, now underway, to remove prohibited weapons from circulation. The rally comes a mere 18 days following the worst school mass shooting in Canada involving children. Six children and two women were murdered by an assailant who had access to multiple firearms in the northern BC town of Tumbler Ridge, on February 10th.

The rally, which promises “**flags, DJ playing music and food trucks**” is incredibly insensitive and disrespectful at a time when survivors, family members, the community of Tumbler Ridge, as well as countless other Canadians are experiencing trauma and grief.

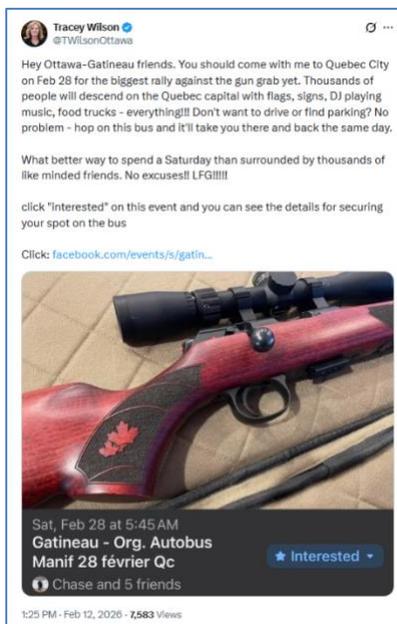
The pro-gun rally’s timing, its **stated justifications** and the celebratory atmosphere being promoted will doubtless be viewed as a slap in the face by many mass shooting survivors, as well as anyone whose life has been forever changed by easy access to guns, especially assault weapons.

While details of the specific guns used in Tumbler Ridge remain largely unknown, the presence and easy access to guns, including **at least two assault weapons**, in the home of the shooter is deeply alarming. The incident was the deadliest **mass shooting in Canada** since the **Nova Scotia attacks** in 2020, the deadliest

school shooting in Canada since the 1989 [École Polytechnique massacre](#) and the worst school shooting in Canada involving children.

It is shameful that in the wake of this tragedy the gun lobby remains steadfast in its efforts to prevent the successful removal from circulation of civilian versions of military weapons that are typically used in mass shootings and that have been prohibited for public safety reasons, consistent with the values of [the majority](#) of Canadians who voted for four successive Liberal governments that promised to get these weapons out of our communities.

The event's promoters never honestly portray the type of firearms that are actually being prohibited and eligible for financial compensation. They cherry-pick the most innocuous-looking prohibited firearms, use images of [hunters and their dogs](#), or avoid any mentions or images of guns. That is likely because they know that most Canadians don't believe ordinary citizens should be able to own assault weapons for recreational purposes and support banning such weapons.



THESE ARE THE TYPE OF FIREARMS THAT HAVE BEEN PROHIBITED AND ARE SLATED FOR BUYBACK (↓):



Invoking American-style talking points like gun owners “rights” and [self-defense](#), acting like mass shootings involving legal gun owners don't exist (the rally is a few kilometers away from the Quebec Mosque where a legal gun owner committed a mass shooting in 2017), falsely claiming the government [intends to confiscate all guns](#), falsely claiming survivor Nathalie Provost said she wants Canadians to have “ZERO” guns and therefore hunting firearms are next (2:10) are all part of the promotional efforts for the rally, adding insult to injury.

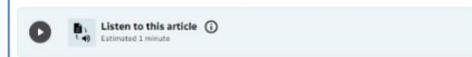
A [notable organizer](#) of the Quebec City rally is [Guy Morin](#), the same gun rights advocate who previously attempted in 2017 to organize a pro-gun rally on the December 6th Memorial Parc close to the University de Montréal campus where Polytechnique resides. The [ensuing public outcry](#) forced organizers to cancel this event. He has launched a [GoFundMe](#) in support of the February 28 event.

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'We went too far': Pro-gun group apologizes for planning rally at Polytechnique memorial

Group held demonstration Saturday at a sugar shack near Quebec City following public uproar

CBC News · Posted: Dec 02, 2017 12:32 PM EST | Last Updated: December 2, 2017



A display table at the rally near Quebec City. Only a few dozen people attended. (Radio-Canada)