

U.S. court filing re. Tumbler Ridge exposes gaps in Canada's gun laws: PolySeSouvient calls for an immediate ban on the SKS and an end to magazine loopholes

Montreal, October 7, 2026 – PolySeSouvient says details in the federal criminal complaint filed in **U.S. District Court** show why Canada's gun control laws matter, as well as where they fall short. The group is calling on the **federal government** to learn from these details and strengthen its laws and regulations, to protect Canadians from mass shootings and other gun violence.

Continued access to assault weapons:

The information made public confirms the shooter had access to an **SKS**. She talked about a "switch" for the one in her possession – "likely referring to a machine gun conversion device," according to the **District Court**, and potentially used at the school, according to the co-conspirator.

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16 safe and was hiding them in her room in preparation for a mass shooting. Van Rootselaar
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18 Rootselaar told Bryant about the types of guns and accessories she possessed, including a
19 3D printed foregrip, firearm magazines, and a "switch" for the SKS (likely referring to a
20 machinegun conversion device). According to Bryant, Van Rootselaar ended up using
some of these same items during the Tumbler Ridge shooting.

The **RCMP** has still not confirmed which firearms were used to kill the victims at the school.

The **SKS** is legal in Canada, despite the fact that it is **literally** a military weapon and has been used in **several** mass murders, as well as shootings of police officers. An **SKS was used** in the June 2026 shooting in Montreal's **Côte-des-Neiges** neighbourhood in which, in addition to resulting with a dead civilian, two police officers were shot - one who died from gunshot wounds while the other survived - **likely averting** a greater mass shooting.

In December 2025, considerations regarding its legal status **were referred to** broad consultations by **Public Safety Minister Gary Anandasangaree** – consultations which have not yet been officially launched, ten months later.

"The Carney government cannot keep ignoring this weapon. SKS sales must stop immediately, and the model must be prohibited. Additional reviews and consultations will not change what everyone can plainly see: this is a highly lethal weapon that has no place in the hands of ordinary civilians." - **PolySeSouvient**

The shooter also mentioned "my vector". The **Kriss Vector** – seen in her mother's **gun cabinet** – was prohibited **in 2024** but will remain in circulation for **at least another year** as the **Carney-led government** **extended** the amnesty for prohibited weapons for a fourth time, in June 2026

2 On or about August 11, 2025, Van Rootselaar and Bryant continued to discuss
3 Van Rootselaar's planned attack:
4 **Van Rootselaar:** I think it'd be pretty hard to escape me with extended
5 magazines on my vector, the recoil is just so light that I really don't think I'd
6 miss. And the suppressive fire would make it hard to run so I think more
7 people would end up hiding. I want people to hide because that means I can
8 play hide and seek. It's hard to bolt down a hallway to escape when an
accurate barrage of fire is being sent down it with ease.

Easy access to lethal magazines:

The criminal complaint shows the shooter knew how magazines can make guns more deadly. The perpetrator claimed “it’d be pretty hard to escape me with extended magazines on my vector” and referred also to “dual magazine pouches for more Glock mags.”

18 **Van Rootselaar:** the camera holder thing for the stream, and also these dual
19 magazine pouches for more Glock mags; and I want a photo with the SKS also
20 on my back later on but I haven’t taken on of all that yet today. I just want
some reference pics of what I wore out there of me.

Large-capacity magazines are easy to get. Canada’s magazine regulations are riddled with loopholes and exemptions. For example, ‘dual magazines,’ which consist of two magazines taped or clamped together so a shooter can swap them faster, are legal in Canada. Here is an online ad for two combined 10-round magazines.

Eliminating some - if not all - magazine loopholes has been a long-standing Liberal commitment. Public Safety Ministers Marco Mendicino and Dominic LeBlanc both committed to implementing this measure, but last December Minister Anandasangaree punted the issue to the same broad review “of the legal framework for firearms, devices, magazines and ammunition” as he did for the SKS.

“A ban on assault weapons means little if some models remain legal and devices that make guns more deadly are easily accessible. Modifiable magazines, dual magazines and a series of exemptions help mass shooters increase the lethality of any gun, including turning ordinary firearms into quasi-assault weapons.

“Astoundingly, one can legally purchase a non-restricted SKS with a 48-round drum magazine ‘pinned’ at five rounds – while such pins are easily removable according to the RCMP, as several mass shooters have done. All assault weapons need to be banned, and all magazine loopholes closed. The families of Tumbler Ridge and all Canadians horrified by this tragedy deserve action, not more consultations. The evidence is right in front of us. The government must act now.” -

PolySeSouvient



← SKS with 48-round drum (“pinned” at 5) legally available for sale in Canada

In short, **PolySeSouvient** is calling on the **Government of Canada** to:

1. **Immediately end all SKS sales and prohibit this model without delay** (potential accommodations for indigenous communities may be advisable).
2. **Close all loopholes on magazines** that hold more than 6 rounds and ban any parts, accessories or configurations that make guns more lethal.
3. **Accelerate the removal of all prohibited assault-style weapons from circulation**, by providing effective incentives for owners and/or moving up the end of the amnesty.
4. **Introduce the promised pre-authorisation process** that would ensure the RCMP, not the gun industry, determines the classification of new models before they enter the market.

Information regarding what specific guns and accessories were used have yet to be disclosed by the **RCMP**.

Questions regarding access to the firearms inside the home also need to be answered and addressed. According to the exchanges, the shooter had stolen guns and ammunition for the family's gun safe.

Finally, critical questions remain surrounding the confiscation of the firearms and their subsequent return, when one of the family members was known by the police to have mental health issues. One exchange in the **District Court** document confirms that police had previously confiscated (and returned) an **SKS** that the shooter had access to.

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2 In late December 2025, Van Rootselaar and Bryant discussed a problem Van
3 Rootselaar was having with the sights on some of her firearms. Bryant told Van
4 Rootselaar that Bryant would not purchase a replacement sight or a sight adjustment tool.
5 **Van Rootselaar:** Y'know wut kinda sucks? The police knocked my SKS
6 sights off zero a lil bit when they roughly confiscated it, so the gun has been
7 hitting high and to the left. And also the people who tripped my room like the
8 insurance and stuff got rid of my old SKS sight adjustment tool so I need a new
9 one and I need to go shooting to adjust it anyways. So it's a lot of work and I
may end up doing my plan with a gun with sights that are super off. But I know
where the hold is so I'm sure I can still do fine.

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