

## **Firearms Questions**

**1. Bill C-71, an Act to amend certain Acts and Regulations in relation to firearms, received Royal Assent on June 2019. Do you support repealing Bill C-71? Yes / No**

Canada needs a balanced approach to gun legislation. The rules need to ensure that responsible gun owners, hunters, and gun clubs are able to enjoy their sport responsibly, while ensuring that we keep guns out of the hands of criminals and address the very serious issue of gun crime in our cities. The bill ensures that best practices already followed by the vast majority of gun owners and suppliers across the country are being followed by everyone.

**2. If a person has passed all the RCMP required background checks do you agree they should be allowed to own and use handguns only at appropriate facilities?**

Too many lives have been lost in Canadian cities over the last few years to rising gun crime and our focus is solely on tackling gun and gang crime and reversing this heartbreaking trend. A New Democrat government will work to keep assault weapons and illegal handguns off our streets and to tackle gun smuggling and organized crime. At the end of the day, background checks are not meant to punish people or to block someone from buying a gun or getting a license: they are meant to keep Canadians safe.

**3. If a person has passed all the RCMP required background checks do you agree they should be allowed to own and use all types of semi-automatic rifles for hunting and or target shooting at approved gun ranges?**

Canada's gun control laws are in place to keep Canadians in every corner of the country safe. New Democrats believe strong background check laws are fundamental when it comes to addressing rising gun crime in our urban cities. Municipalities are best placed to deal with the issues of specific types of firearms and the circumstances in which they can be used, and we would support municipalities to make the decisions that work best for them and their residents.

**4. Why is it necessary to have firearms licensees undergo background checks every five years when the Canadian Police Information Centre computers check you every day?**

Background checks are not meant to punish people or to block someone from buying a gun or getting a license: they are meant to keep Canadians' safe. We know that strong rules regarding background checks can save lives, including gun owners', and we will continue to support their use.

**5. Why is it necessary to revert to the paper issuance of permits to take restricted firearms to gun shows, gunsmiths, and the border if you are allowed to take your restricted firearms to All Approved Shooting Ranges at any time?**

Borders, gunsmiths, and gun shows are often not Approved Shooting Ranges. In the case that a border, gunsmith, or gun show may be an Approved Shooting Range then current laws regulating firearms use at, and transportation to those facilities will apply. We do know, however, that the issue of illegal gun-smuggling over the border is a problem, with too many of the guns being transported from the United States ending up in the hands of criminals and gangs. That's why New Democrats will make tackling the issue of gun smuggling and the illegal gun trade a key part of our public safety initiatives.