



TOWNSHIP OF NIPISSING CORRESPONDENCE

December 20, 2022

1. Letter from the Commanda Community Centre regarding Fund-Raising New Year's Eve Dance.
2. Resolution from the City of Toronto regarding Update on Bill 23.
3. Minutes of the Township of Nipissing Recreation Committee meetings held October 3, 2022 and November 29, 2022.
4. Request for support of Resolution in opposition of Bill C-21 from the Township of Armour.

Commanda Community Centre

4009 Highway 522
General Delivery
Commanda, ON P0H 1J0

December 1, 2022

Mayor and Council
Township of Nipissing
Nipissing ON P0H 1W0

Re: Fund-Raising New Year's Eve Dance - December 31, 2022

The Commanda Community Centre wishes to hold a fund-raising dance under the authority of a Special Occasion permit. As this will be partly held outdoors, we are required by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario to notify you of our plans, as well as to provide an identification of the physical boundaries of the proposed outdoor area.

We trust this information is satisfactory. If you have questions, please feel free to call me at (705) 729-1816.

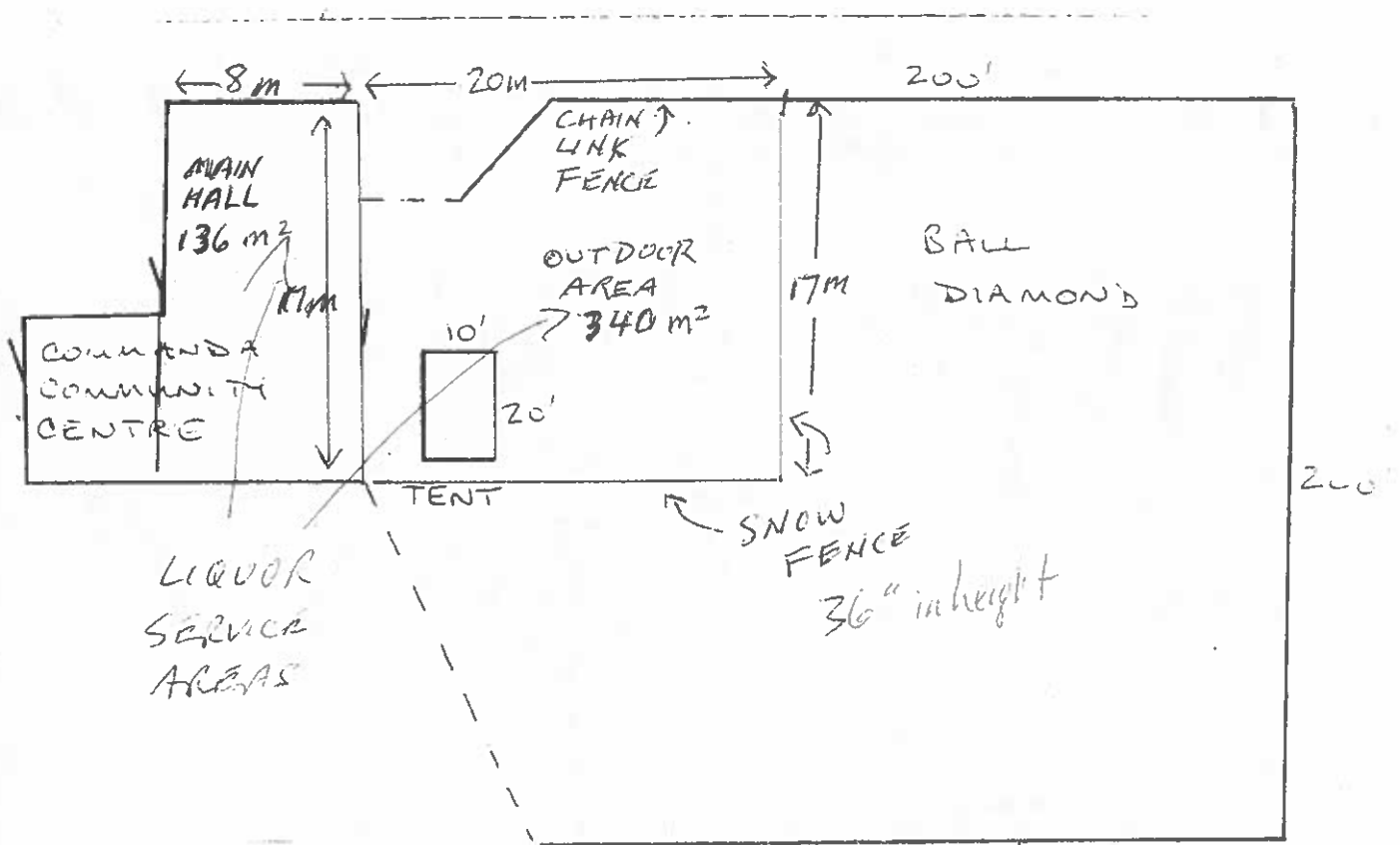
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'per Tom Marchant'.

Tom Marchant
President
Commanda Community Centre



HWY 522



4009 HWY 522

COMMANDA

ON

POH 150

City Clerk's Office

Secretariat
Sylvia Przedziecki
Council Secretariat Support
City Hall, 12th Floor, West
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-7032
Fax: 416-392-2980
e-mail: Sylvia.Przedziecki@toronto.ca
web: www.toronto.ca

**In reply please quote:
Ref.: 22-CC1.2**

November 25, 2022

MUNICIPALITIES IN ONTARIO

**Subject: New Business Item 1.2
Update on Bill 23 - More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (Ward All)**

City Council on November 23 and 24, 2022, adopted this Item, as amended, and in so doing has:

1. Requested the Province of Ontario to extend the commenting period on Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 to at least January 31, 2023 to enable time for consultation, consideration of alternative options and thorough analysis of both short and long-term impacts.

2. Requested the Province of Ontario to:

a. not proceed with any changes that reduce municipal development charges, community benefit charges or parkland dedication, including:

i. removing housing services from development charges;

ii. retroactively phasing in development charges over a 5 year period on top of City Council's previously adopted two-year phase-in that was mutually agreed upon with the development industry;

iii. discounting rates for purpose built rental units;

iv. adding new exemptions;

v. introducing caps to the development charges determined date and instalments interest rates;

vi. extending the development charges historic service level caps from 10 to 15 years;


v. removing growth studies and land acquisition costs from development charges recovery; and

vi. reducing caps to parkland dedication by-laws;

b. instead of the above-noted changes, create a provincial incentive program provided directly to developers or homeowners through targeted grants, rebate and other financial incentive programs; and

- c. alternatively, create a municipal compensation fund to compensate municipalities for the impacts of Bill 23 on municipal growth funding revenues.
3. Requested the Province of Ontario to amend Bill 23 to preserve the City's Green standard, Rental Replacement Policy, parkland provisions, community benefits charges and Development Charges to facilitate responsible growth.
4. Requested the Province of Ontario to amend Bill 23 to preserve Toronto's ability to require a green development standards checklist (Toronto Green Standard) for a complete planning application.
5. Requested the Province of Ontario to amend the Planning Act to enable the implementation of Inclusionary Zoning across the City and incorporate definitions of affordable housing that respond to low and moderate household income.
6. Requested the Province of Ontario to amend the definition of "Affordable Housing" to follow the City of Toronto's "Official Plan Amendment 558 - Updating the Definitions of Affordable Rental and Ownership Housing", as approved by City Council on November 9, 2021.
7. Requested the Province of Ontario to enact a Regulation to permit the use of conditional zoning, pursuant to Section 113 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006.
8. Requested the Province of Ontario to delay the implementation of refunds for development applications in light of the significant changes to the Planning regulations and internal City processes regarding development.
9. Requested the Provincial government to provide funding and funding tools to the City, matching the amount of revenue lost through development charges, community benefits charges, and Section 42 of the Planning Act in Bill 23 to ensure the services needed to facilitate responsible growth continue to be delivered.
10. Requested the Province of Ontario to rescind the proposed changes to the Greenbelt to protect environmental features that support biodiversity, natural spaces, recreation trails, agricultural land, and watersheds that sustain all residents of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.
11. Requested the Province of Ontario to retain the existing roles and responsibilities of the regional conservation authorities.
12. Requested the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to change the effective date of the Refund of Fees for official plan amendments, zoning by-laws and site plan control applications contained in Bill 109, from January 1, 2023 to July 1, 2023.
13. Requested the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to postpone enacting regulations under Schedule 4 of Bill 23, which would grant the Minister authority to impose limits and conditions on municipalities' regulation of demolition or conversion of rental units, until such time as there has been focused consultations with municipalities as part of the development of Minister's regulations to ensure municipalities can continue to require replacement rental housing and support impacted tenants.
14. Requested the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, through a majority vote, to withdraw Bill 23.

Yours truly,



for City Clerk

S. Przedziecki/mm

Attachment

Sent to: Premier, Province of Ontario
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Province of Ontario
Leader of the Official Opposition, Province of Ontario
President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario MPPs
Ontario Municipalities

c. City Manager

City Council

New Business - Meeting 1

CC1.2	ACTION	Amended		Ward: All
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Update on Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022

City Council Decision

City Council on November 23 and 24, 2022, adopted the following:

1. City Council request the Province of Ontario to extend the commenting period on Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 to at least January 31, 2023 to enable time for consultation, consideration of alternative options and thorough analysis of both short and long-term impacts.

2. City Council request the Province of Ontario to:

a. not proceed with any changes that reduce municipal development charges, community benefit charges or parkland dedication, including:

i. removing housing services from development charges;

ii. retroactively phasing in development charges over a 5 year period on top of City Council's previously adopted two-year phase-in that was mutually agreed upon with the development industry;

iii. discounting rates for purpose built rental units;

iv. adding new exemptions;

v. introducing caps to the development charges determined date and instalments interest rates;

vi. extending the development charges historic service level caps from 10 to 15 years;

v. removing growth studies and land acquisition costs from development charges recovery; and

vi. reducing caps to parkland dedication by-laws;

b. instead of the above-noted changes, create a provincial incentive program provided directly to developers or homeowners through targeted grants, rebate and other financial incentive programs; and

c. alternatively, create a municipal compensation fund to compensate municipalities for the impacts of Bill 23 on municipal growth funding revenues.

3. City Council request the Province of Ontario to amend Bill 23 to preserve the City's Green standard, Rental Replacement Policy, parkland provisions, community benefits charges and Development Charges to facilitate responsible growth.
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10. City Council request the Province of Ontario to rescind the proposed changes to the Greenbelt to protect environmental features that support biodiversity, natural spaces, recreation trails, agricultural land, and watersheds that sustain all residents of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.
11. City Council request the Province of Ontario to retain the existing roles and responsibilities of the regional conservation authorities.
12. City Council request the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to change the effective date of the Refund of Fees for official plan amendments, zoning by-laws and site plan control applications contained in Bill 109, from January 1, 2023 to July 1, 2023.
13. City Council request the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to postpone enacting regulations under Schedule 4 of Bill 23, which would grant the Minister authority to impose limits and conditions on municipalities' regulation of demolition or conversion of rental units, until such time as there has been focused consultations with municipalities as part of the development of Minister's regulations to ensure municipalities can continue to require replacement rental housing and support impacted tenants.
14. City Council request the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, through a majority vote, to withdraw Bill 23.
15. City Council direct the City Manager make public the impacts of Bill 23 on specific capital projects which will not proceed in each Provincial and Federal Riding.

16. City Council direct the City Solicitor and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to report to the Planning and Housing Committee on guiding policies to assist City Council in gauging planning importance when considering requests that City Council initiate a Toronto Local Appeal Body appeal.

17. City Council request the City Solicitor and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to report to the Planning and Housing Committee with a legal strategy to challenge the Province of Ontario's potential removal of Section 111 of the City of Toronto Act, and explore alternate means to protect rental units from demolition and conversion.

18. City Council direct the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to commence a public information campaign to inform all City residents of the impacts of Bill 23 and the changes to neighbourhoods, prevailing built forms, housing, civic engagement, the greenbelt, climate change, affordable housing, rental protection, community infrastructure, parks, heritage and cost of living that it may bring about.

19. City Council forward this item to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Leader of the Official Opposition, all Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration.

Summary

On October 25, 2022 the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, introduced Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 in the Ontario Legislature.

Bill 23 proposes extensive changes to the policy-led planning and development system under which municipalities in Ontario work. Details and preliminary analysis of the implications of Bill 23 were shared with the Mayor and City Councillors on November 3, 2022 (see Attachment 1).

Bill 23 passed 2nd Reading on October 31, 2022 and was referred to the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy (Standing Committee) for review. The Standing Committee has held two days of public hearings to date (November 8, 2022 in Markham and November 9, 2022 in Brampton), and is scheduled to hear two more on November 16 and 17, 2022 in Toronto.

The Chief Planner, along with supporting staff, is scheduled to depute to the Standing Committee at 1:00 pm on Thursday, November 17, 2022. A livestream of the public hearing will be made available on the Ontario Legislative Assembly website at this link: <https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/video/committees-room-no-1>.

Staff are also preparing written comments for submission to the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee is scheduled to conduct a clause-by-clause review of Bill 23 on Monday, November 21, 2022, during which amendments to the bill may be proposed, considered and voted upon.

Staff will provide a supplementary report outlining City staff's submission to the Standing Committee and the Environmental Registry of Ontario posting regarding Bill 23 and the results from the Standing Committee's consideration of the bill in advance of the November 24, 2022 meeting of City Council.

Background Information (City Council)

(November 16, 2022) Report from the City Manager and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning on Update on Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (CC1.2) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-230055.pdf>)

(November 3, 2022) Attachment 1 - Interim City Manager's FYI Briefing Note to Mayor and Members of Council - Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-230056.pdf>)

(November 22, 2022) Supplementary report from the Interim City Manager, the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning on City Staff Comments on Proposed Bill 23 - More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (CC1.2a) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-230130.pdf>)

Attachment 1 - City of Toronto Comments on Proposed Bill 23 (submitted to the Environmental Registry of Ontario and Ontario Regulatory Registry November 22, 2022) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-230131.pdf>)

Attachment 2 - Chief Planner Presentation Notes to the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy (November 17, 2022) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-230132.pdf>)

Communications (City Council)

(November 21, 2022) Letter from Geoff Kettel and Cathie Macdonald, Co-Chairs, Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA) (CC.Supp) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156534.pdf>)

(November 22, 2022) Letter from Andria Babbington, President, Toronto and York Region Labour Council (CC.New) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156573.pdf>)

(November 23, 2022) Letter from Jason Ash, Chair, Leaside Towers Tenants Association (CC.New) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156570.pdf>)

(November 22, 2022) Letter from Les Veszenyi and Angela Barnes, Co-Chairs, Mimico Lakeshore Community Network (CC.New) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156571.pdf>)

(November 22, 2022) Letter from Maureen Kapral, President, Lytton Park Residents' Organization (CC.New) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156572.pdf>)

(November 24, 2022) Letter from Walied Khogali, Regent Park Neighbourhood Association (CC.New) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156578.pdf>)

(November 24, 2022) Letter from Henry Wiercinski, Vice President, Annex Residents' Association and Sue Dexter, Board, Harbord Village Resident's Association (CC.New) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156579.pdf>)

(November 24, 2022) Letter from Jin Huh, Executive Director, Social Planning Toronto (CC.New) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156581.pdf>)

(November 24, 2022) Letter from Mike Mattos, President, Judith Hayes, Vice President, and Rick Ciccarelli, Executive Board Associate, Mount Dennis Community Association (CC.New) (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156542.pdf>)

Township of Nipissing Recreation Committee Meeting
Minutes
 14 Blake St. Heritage Park – Livestream Township YouTube Channel

Date: Oct 3, 2022

Start Time: 7:00

Present: James Scott, Shawn Hughes, Kathy Shaw,, Andrew Barry, Steph Duchesne, Chris Johnson, Teri Reidt

Regrets: Liz Moore Zoom: Shelly Foote

Absent: Ron Phillips

1. Meeting Called to Order James Scott
2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: None
3. Acceptance of Agenda: Steph Duchesne, Kathy Shaw
4. Acceptance of Previous Minutes: Chris Johnson,
5. Business Items from Previous Meeting:
 - I. **Halloween**
 - Looking for donations – letter will be sent out
 - Both Fire Halls will host children
 - Volunteers needed 5:30
 - II. **Bottle Drive**
 - Bear Creek is full
 - Dishwasher worked well with a pre-rinse
 - Saturday 11 am Wolfe Lake to be collected
6. **New Business**
 - I. **Winter Carnival**
 - Event to be held possibly at community center
 - Events to be determined – snowshoeing, Bonfire, crafts outside
 - Warm up space inside community center offering hot chocolate, chili, hot dogs etc
 - We will reach out to other fire departments and talk about a chilli cook off – buy and chilli and vote for your favourite
 - Skating afterwards at the rink
 - Reach out to snowmobile club to use trail and put up a caution kids at play sign
 - II. **Park Benches, garbage cans, recycling**
 - Rough pricing – picnic tables \$2300 , Benches \$1200, Recycle bins \$2400 -- \$3400
 - Shawn Hughes to reach out to look into brands used at his employer
 - Preference James & Shelly Composite
 - Whatever we start with we stay with bike racks and do we need them?

- **Soccer Equipment**

- Nets need to be taken down or dismantled and store for the winter
- Will ask Museum if we can use space there
- Must be completed before December – all equipment and tools in the rink shack need taken care of

- 7. **Next Meeting** Undetermined
- 8. **Adjournment** Shawn Hughes, Andrew Barry

Township of Nipissing Recreation Committee Minutes

November 29, 2021

Start Time 19:00 at the Nipissing Community Centre COVID Precautions in place

- **Present:** James Scott, Liz Moore, Ron Phillips, Kathy Shaw, Shawn Hughes, Chris Johnston, Steph Duchesne
- **Regrets:** Andrew Barry, Shelly Foote
- **Absent:** Kerry Kloiber

1. **Meeting called to order:** 19:02

2. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:** None

3. **Acceptance of Agenda:** Ron Phillips & Shawn Hughes

4. **Acceptance of Previous Minutes:** administrative correction Kathy Shaw & Chris Johnston

5. **Business items from Previous Meeting:**

I. **Bat boxes:** James Scott to look at in 2022

II. **Automatic lights for Fitness Centre:** Quote provided by TSF Electric to provide and install 3-way motion occ sensors for the hallway into the fitness centre. Estimate with HST \$390.38. Chris Johnston & Shawn Hughes Carried

III. **Grants:** No further updates at this time.

6. **New Business**

I. **Budget review:** James Scott would like to look at pricing for new tables for the Community Centre, Ideas will be brought forward at the next meeting.

Research on new sign for Heritage Park. Lead Will Bateman

II. **Halloween review:** Event went good around 70 treat bags were given out.

III. **Christmas Run update:** Firefighters are taking the lead on this event, at this time there are 69 children & 34 families signed up, 23 sponsors donated support.

IV. **Event review:** Jan 2022 no event will be planned.



The Corporation of the Township of Nipissing

45 Beatty Street
Nipissing ON P0H 1W0
Telephone 705-724-2144
www.nipissingtownship.com

Feb 21st Family Fun Skate at outdoor rink: hot chocolate, Fire, Music, finish the night with fireworks, 6:00-9:00 Lead James Scott, Fire Department

Mar 19th Paint Night: Community Centre & virtual options more details to come for next meeting. Lead Shawn Hughes

Apr 16th Easter Egg Hunt: Planning will start in new year Lead to be announced.

May 21st Trunk Sale/Yard Sale: Day for a yard sale where people can come and sell their items, 10'x10' space, small fee for the space, Nipissing Community Centre, Nipissing Museum, & Commanda Community Centre are the location being looked at. More planning in new year. Lead James Scott & Ron Phillips

All events will be advertising on outdoor signs, Facebook, Township Website.

7. **Bottle drive update:** Committee member, Firefighter's & volunteers have picked up the empties two times now.
8. **Next Meeting:** January 10.2022
9. **Adjournment:** 8:36pm Liz Moore & Ron Phillips

Meeting will be held at the Township of Nipissing Community Centre, 2381 Highway 654.

Kris Croskery - Hodgins

From: Charlene Watt (Deputy Clerk) <deputyclerk@armourtownship.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 9:30 AM
To: Allyson Pedwell (deputyclerk@mcmurrichtownship.ca); Beth Morton; 'Brenda Fraser'; Brenda Paul; Caitlin Haggart; Charlene Watt (Deputy Clerk); Cheryl Marshall; Don McArthur; Erica Cole; John Theriault (Clerk-Treasurer Administrator); Judy K; Kerstin Vroom; Kris Croskery - Hodgins; Leanne Crozier; Michelle Hendry (Michelle.Hendry@whitestone.ca); Nancy Austin; Nancy Field; Nicky Kunkel (clerk@burksfalls.ca); Tammy Wylie
Subject: Supporting Resolution Request: Oppose Bill C-21
Attachments: How Bill C-21 Turned from Banning Handguns to Hunting Guns.pdf; Township of Armour Resolution - Bill C21.pdf

The Council of the Township of Armour is tremendously concerned about the proposed amendments to Bill C-21.

Originally put forward to the Canadian public and debated in the House as a bill that dealt with handguns and red flag laws, the amendments sought by the government expand it to ban all commercially available semi-automatic centrefire rifles and many shotguns. This definition includes millions of individual firearms, owned by over a million licensed Canadians, none of which have ever committed any sort of violent crime. We know this because doing so would already trigger an automatic firearms prohibition due to the Continuous Eligibility Screening Program that runs daily criminal background checks on all licensed gun owners.

This is the largest change to Canadian firearms ownership regulations since the creation of the very Firearms Act itself, and expands an existing two-year-old gun ban that's coincided with the worst increases in gun violence in recent memory. In fact, seven years of ever-increasing gun regulation has had no demonstrative impact on Canada's violent crime or even gun crime rates whatsoever, while negatively impacting millions of Canadian gun owners' lives and, most importantly, pulling billions of dollars away from chronically underfunded programs that would have larger, positive public safety outcomes, from at-risk youth supports, to mental health facilities, to shelters, to addictions and counselling supports in the community. I'm sure you can think of at least a dozen.

The government's latest amendment would ban many hunting rifles, shotguns, even antique cannons that are in municipal parks. In an 11th hour amendment, a Liberal committee member slipped in a 400-page schedule of long guns to be criminalized. There is a long tradition of Canadian hunters using what were once military rifles to hunt. The .303 Lee-Enfield, used in both the First and Second World Wars, was once the standard Canadian hunting rifle, and remains common, particularly in the North. First Nations leaders say the amendments to criminalize long guns infringes on First Nations and treaty rights to hunt and harvest.

The Council of the Township of Armour requests a supporting resolution from your Council. Please examine this bill and the amendments being sought and consider opposing it. It does not address the criminal use of firearms nor the criminal possession of firearms.

Sincerely,

Charlene Watt

Deputy Clerk, Dipl.M.M.
Township of Armour
PO Box 533, 56 Ontario Street
Burk's Falls, Ontario P0A 1C0
Telephone: 705-382-3332
Fax: 705-382-2068
Website: www.armourtownship.ca

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CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

RESOLUTION

Date: December 13, 2022

Motion # 15

WHEREAS Bill C-21 and the proposed freeze on the sale and transfer of handguns is not in any way, shape or form an effective way to combat gun crime as it will not combat the illegal possession and cross border smuggling and transporting of firearms;

AND WHEREAS Bill C-21 also attacks Indigenous Rights and Freedoms, the Ontario Hunting Community, and Ontario's local economy;

AND WHEREAS these regulations disproportionality target law-abiding firearms owners who are already among the most vetted in Canadian society, are subject to daily screening, and are statistically less likely to commit crimes than those who do not hold firearms licenses;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada should be focusing its resources on effective means of fighting gun crime;

AND WHEREAS in 2019, it was reported that Canadians spent over two billion dollars on firearms, ammunition, and accessories specifically for sport shooting in one year;

AND WHEREAS the federal government has introduced Bill C-21, which includes sections prohibiting the majority of replica firearms, such as Airsoft guns, and embedding in legislation Order in Council P.C. 2020-298 of May 1, 2020 which prohibits and limits the possession of firearms listed therein;

AND WHEREAS Bill C-21 will criminalize hundreds of thousands of law-abiding Canadians for possessing legally obtained firearms;

AND WHEREAS Bill C-21 will financially devastate thousands of Canadians reliant on the sale of firearms for all or part of their income;

AND WHEREAS hunting has a longstanding history in Canada, for both Indigenous and non-indigenous Canadians, and needlessly revoking citizens' firearms erases and discounts our history and traditions;

AND WHEREAS the vast majority of gun crimes are committed with illegally obtained firearms, and confiscating firearms from law abiding citizens does nothing to stop dangerous criminals and gangs who obtain their guns illegally.

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Armour, calls upon the Government of Canada to:

- Stop targeting law abiding citizens for possessing legally obtained firearms, protect the rights and freedoms of Canadians by ensuring firearms legislation is based on evidence not ideology, and withdraw Bill C-21;
- Direct resources to border security to better combat gun smuggling;
- Direct the focus on punishing the criminals to improve public safety;
- Direct resources to combatting the prevalence of Ghost Gun manufacturing; and
- Establish common sense firearms laws that protect legal firearms owners.

FURTHERMORE, that the Township of Armour hereby directs the Clerk to forward this resolution to the Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, the Federal Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Bill Blair, the Federal Minister of Public Safety, Marco Mendicino, the NDP Public Safety Critic, Alistair McGregor, the Bloq Public Safety Critic, Kristina Michaud and our local MP, Scott Aitchison.

Moved by:

Blakelock, Rod	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandt, Jerry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Haggart-Davis, Dorothy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ward, Rod	<input type="checkbox"/>
Whitwell, Wendy	<input type="checkbox"/>

Seconded by:

Blakelock, Rod	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandt, Jerry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Haggart-Davis, Dorothy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ward, Rod	<input type="checkbox"/>
Whitwell, Wendy	<input type="checkbox"/>

Carried / Defeated

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest by:

Recorded vote requested by:

Recorded Vote:

Blakelock, Rod

Brandt, Jerry

Haggart-Davis, Dorothy

Ward, Rod

Whitwell, Wendy

For

☐☐☐☐☐

Opposed

☐☐☐☐☐

How Bill C-21 turned from banning handguns to hunting guns

The government's latest amendment would ban many hunting rifles, shotguns, even antique cannons

Evan Dyer · CBC News · Posted: Dec 05, 2022 4:00 AM ET



Benelli guns are displayed at an exhibition in Germany. Many Benelli models would be prohibited under a new amendment to government firearms legislation. (Michaela Rehle/Reuters)

Confusion was on the agenda at a parliamentary committee last week after the Liberal government brought in last-minute amendments to its contentious gun control legislation.

The proposed changes to Bill C-21 were tacked on by Liberal MP Paul Chiang after it had passed second reading — drawing complaints from opposition MPs who accused the government of sneaking in changes that would expand the scope of prohibited weapons to include hunting rifles.

The amendment adds long guns to the banned list in four different ways. First, it has a clause that would effectively ban any rifle or shotgun that could potentially accept a magazine with more than five rounds, whether or not it actually has such a magazine. Critics say that includes many rifles designed for hunters, not soldiers.

The list also names guns that fall afoul of two rules nominally intended to ban powerful military weapons such as .50-calibre sniper rifles and mortars. One rule bans long guns that can generate more than 10,000 joules of energy, and the other bans guns with a muzzle wider than 20 millimetres. Critics say those rules would ban everything from antique blunderbusses to the Nine O'clock Gun in Vancouver's Stanley Park.

- **Gun bill amendment is 'nonsense,' say Ottawa-area hunters**

Lastly, the amendment prohibits, by name, a large number of semi-automatic firearms that do not have detachable magazines and don't meet the definition of an "assault-style firearm," or infringe the other two rules, but which the government wants to ban anyway. They include a number of long guns in wide use by Canadian hunters.

CBC News asked to speak with Paul Chiang about the amendments but was told he was travelling and unavailable.

Will the 'Plinkster' be banned?

~ Resolution ~

That's not entirely clear.

"The Mossberg 702 .22 Plinkster long rifle. Will that hunting and target-shooting rifle be prohibited as a result of C-21 legislation?" Conservative MP Bob Zimmer asked at the parliamentary committee.

"No," replied Murray Smith, technical specialist with the government's Canadian Firearms Program. "The model 702 Plinkster is a conventional 22-calibre hunting rifle. It's unaffected by what's in C-21."

But in fact, the Plinkster ("plinking" refers to shooting tin cans) is one of hundreds of common hunting rifles and shotguns individually listed for prohibition in the amendments.

The exchange captured some of the confusion caused by the amendment. But the amendment itself is clear: if adopted and passed into law, the .22 Plinkster would become a prohibited firearm.

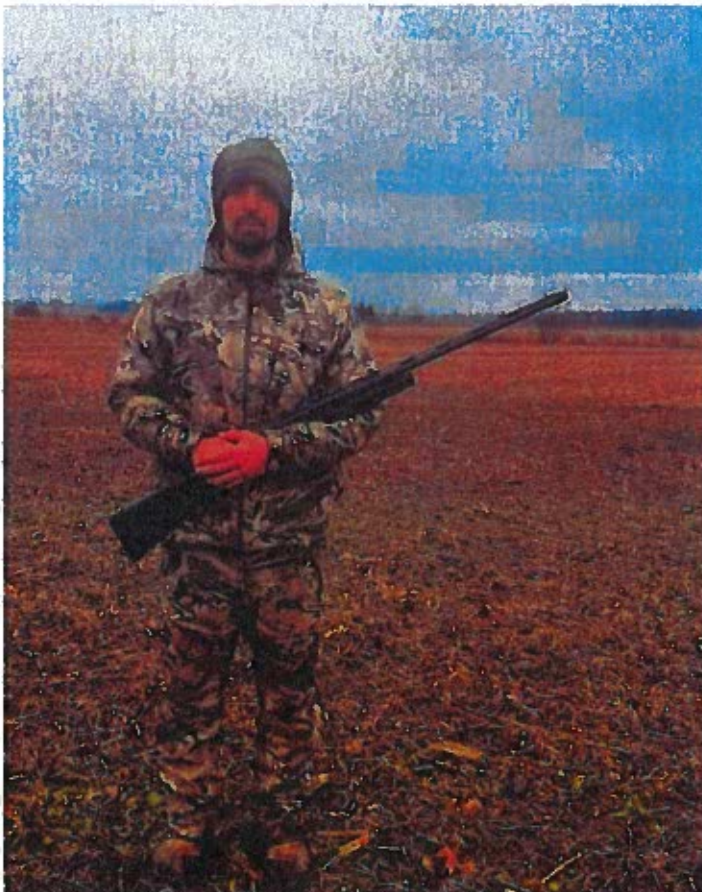
What do the opposition parties have to say?

Conservative MP Rachel Dancho called it "an attack on hunters."

"The arbitrary criteria that the Liberal government has snuck into their legislation at the eleventh hour without democratic debate does not make these firearms any less of a hunting tool," she said.

While Conservatives have long opposed some Liberal gun control measures, this time the NDP also balked.

"The amendment came out of nowhere," said NDP MP Charlie Angus, whose riding covers a vast swath of northern Ontario that includes many remote First Nations. "This was a handgun bill. We suddenly saw this other legislation that has a lot of people who are legitimate gun owners worried. I think they overreached."



cp0031 • Follow

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Montreal Canadiens goalie Carey Price posted a picture of himself on Instagram with a semi-automatic hunting shotgun and a message that said, in part, 'I am not a criminal or a threat to society.' (Carey Price/Instagram)

And after Montreal Canadiens goalie Carey Price weighed in on the matter, Bloc Québécois Leader Yves-François Blanchet lamented on Twitter that the bill had convinced Price "and so many others that gun control's goal or effect is to hurt hunting."

The National Police Federation (NPF) described Bill C-21 overall as a missed opportunity to reduce gun crime.

"Bill C-21 does not address criminal activity, illegal firearms proliferation, gang crime, illegal guns crossing the border or criminal use of firearms," it said in its written submission to Parliament.

And on the prohibition of legally-held firearms, "the NPF would caution that it diverts extremely important personnel, resources, and funding away from addressing the more immediate and growing threat of criminal use of illegal firearms."

The House speaks to gun control advocate Heidi Rathjen, co-founder of the gun control group PolySeSouvient, about whether controversy over a proposed amendment to the government's firearms legislation might put in jeopardy her thirty-year-long quest to have assault rifles banned.

Rathjen defended the rule that bans rifles that generate over 10,000 joules. "We're talking about .50-calibre military weapons that can pierce military equipment and structures," she said.

But the rule would also ban some very expensive elephant and buffalo rifles that would more likely grace collectors' display cabinets than be used for hunting.

"Many of these old firearms date back to before the 1900s," says Tony Bernardo of the Canadian Shooting Sports Association. "Some of these guns are worth a half-million dollars or more. Many of them are single shots or they're double-barrelled, and the finest examples of the engraver's art."

Bernardo says crime will not be reduced by using taxpayers' money to buy and destroy those expensive relics, though he's quick to add that there is no mention of compensation in Bill C-21.

The bill has also been challenged by historical and reenactment groups, who say their antique cannons and artillery pieces pose no threat to public safety.

"Many of our veterans actively participate in period outfits as re-enactors to demonstrate the workings of the ordnance at formal salutes, displays, reenactments and the like," the Royal Canadian Artillery Association wrote to the committee studying C-21, saying the bill will make their activities a crime.

A new government proposal will make more firearms illegal in Canada, adding many shotguns and semi-automatic rifles to the banned list.

Perhaps the most controversial part of the amendment is that it proposes banning hundreds of guns that don't fit the government's new "assault-style firearm" definition.

One such is the Benelli auto-loading shotgun, which doesn't have a detachable magazine, and has never been used by any military. Auto-loading shotguns are heavily used in such traditional hunts as the Cree goose hunt in James Bay, and the Newfoundland turr hunt. They are sometimes preferred by female hunters and those with smaller frames because they have softer recoil than other shotguns, Mendicino said.

Another is the SKS semi-automatic rifle, which Rathjen says was not in the original "assault rifle ban" in 2020 because "if a weapon was not a modern design, it was exempt." The SKS, designed in 1945, lacks

features common to modern military rifles such as the AR-15. But the government has now decided it wants it banned.

There is a long tradition of Canadian hunters using what were once military rifles to hunt. The .303 Lee-Enfield, used in both the First and Second World Wars, was once the standard Canadian hunting rifle, and remains common, particularly in the North.

And today, says Bernardo, the SKS is "abundant."

"There are, by our best estimates, somewhat over a half a million SKS rifles in circulation in Canada," he told CBC News.

Because the SKS is currently in the non-restricted (and therefore unregistered) class of firearms, the government does not know who owns them. Consequently, it has no way of informing them individually that they will be in violation of a law that carries penalties of up to 10 years in prison.

Bernardo says the SKS is particularly common among Indigenous and sustenance hunters in remote areas who may only realize they have fallen afoul of new laws when they are arrested.

"The consequences of this are absolutely huge and, quite frankly, totally uncalled for."

Moreover, according to testimony by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and other police representatives at the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU), both the freeze on handgun sales and buy-back of so-called assault firearms are misdirected and this money would be better spent tackling illegal guns in the hands of criminals rather than collecting hundreds of thousands of lawfully-owned firearms. Again, most guns used in violent crime in Toronto are smuggled. Border guards testified that due to gaping holes in Canada's border security, guns could easily slip through unless new technology and new funding were provided. Available statistics strongly support these testimonies.

Millions of Canadians own firearms and use them for socially beneficial purposes including hunting, protecting lives, property or target shooting. Hunting and firearm businesses alone contribute more than \$5.0 billion to Canada's economy and support more than 45,000 jobs. Hunters are the largest contributors to conservation efforts, contributing hundreds of millions of dollars to secure conservation lands and fund projects to manage wildlife.

The Trudeau government believes attacking "guns" will win votes and put the Opposition parties on their back feet. Public opinion polls show that "gun control" is popular among voters in large urban centres, with the strongest support found among voters who know the least about firearms or gun laws. Focusing on guns rather than violent criminals lets Ottawa pose as a protector of public safety while doing very little about actual gun crime.