



ALBERTA
JUSTICE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Acadia*

Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki
Commanding Officer
RCMP K Division
11140 - 109 Street
Edmonton AB T5G 2T4

Dear Deputy Commissioner Zablocki,

As you are aware, the Federal Government has announced that it plans to implement a program designed to confiscate lawfully acquired firearms from citizens in Alberta. This stems from the decision to ban over 1500 models of semi-automatic rifles, simply because the “style” of the firearms was deemed to be aesthetically displeasing.

We are disturbed by reports that federal civil servants have decided to deploy the RCMP to confiscate firearms under the buyback program. Alberta taxpayers pay over \$750 million dollars per year to fund the RCMP as our provincial police service. We expect that those dollars not be wasted to pay for a confiscation program that will not increase public safety.

Pursuant to the *Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA)*, the RCMP cannot be required to perform duties or provide services that are inappropriate to the effective and efficient delivery of police services in the Province (Article 2.3). Requiring the RCMP to implement the confiscation program runs contrary to the PPSA.

Also further to the PPSA, the Commanding Officer of the RCMP in Alberta is to implement Alberta’s objectives, priorities and goals, and deploy personnel and equipment to reflect these priorities (Article 7.0). I am writing to formally advise you that the confiscation program is not an objective, priority or goal of the province or the Provincial Police Service (Article 6.0), and nor is such deployment “... appropriate to the effective and efficient delivery of police services...” as per Article 2.3(a).

Despite taking this step, I remain concerned that the Federal Government will direct the RCMP K-Division to serve as confiscation agents. To prevent this from happening, I am disputing such direction or intention to take such direction, as outlined in Article 23.0 of the *Provincial Police Service Agreement*.

Sincerely,

Honourable Tyler Shandro, KC
Minister of Justice and Solicitor General