

QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE FIREARMS PROGRAM: THE SYSTEM IS WORKING

Claims that the system is without value are simply untrue. The police have said time and time again that the new law and the system provide valuable tools for keeping Canada safe. In spite of the virulent opposition – over 90% of gun owners have been licensed and 90% of guns have been registered. As of 2008, the system is being used by police 8600 times a day and police report many cases where it has been used to prevent tragedies or solve crimes.

Most Gun Owners are Licensed. Most Guns are Registered.

- As of April 2008, 1,871,595 valid firearms licences have been issued representing 90% of gun owners. The licensing procedure ensures all firearms users are qualified to possess or acquire a firearm.
- Over 7.2 million firearms have been registered representing 90% of guns in Canada. Gun registration is essential to making gun owners accountable, helping prevent diversion to the illegal market and assisting police in their investigations.
- 22,140 firearms licences have been refused or revoked by Chief Firearms Officers for public safety reasons between December 1, 1998 and April 2008.
 - 7,490 applications have been refused
 - 14,650 firearms licences have been revoked.
 - Reasons include: a history of violence, mental illness, the applicant is a potential risk to himself, herself or others, unsafe firearm use and storage, drug offences and providing false information.

Canadian Firearms Registry On-line

- Law enforcement officers have queried the Canadian Firearms Registry On-line over 8.4 million times since it was launched on December 1, 1998. In 2008, it is used in average 8,603 times each day
- More than 6,190 affidavits have been provided by the Canadian Firearms Registry to support the prosecution of firearms-related crime and court proceedings. The Canadian Firearms Registry prepared 2,400 affidavits in 2005.
- 1,322,901 firearms have been exported, destroyed, deactivated or have been removed from the Canadian Firearms Information System since December 1, 1998.