



Summer News



FROM The President's Desk

It is said that April showers bring May flowers, but as most of us realize... Summer is elusive this year and right now it feels like June is April, that is late in coming.

There is a lot of very important information to read and digest in this newsletter. I hope you are all enjoying the effort being put forth from all of the contributors.

I'm told that this will be the last newsletter until later this fall. The next meeting on June 19th will also be the last meeting until September. So, come out and support your club by putting in an appearance and hearing the latest news first-hand.

Trevor Holmes, President



Membership 2008

2008 memberships and keys are still available to your friends that may have forgotten.



As always, a gentle reminder that all members and guests must sign in/log in when using the club

facilities. Please use your MEMBERSHIP NUMBER in the sign in books.

All Directors may at any time request to see your valid membership card while utilizing the club facilities, so please carry it on your person while using club facilities.



Archery

Wednesday evening matches are still being held at the range now that the weather is almost co-operating with us. Don't forget your bug spray.



For anyone that submits a LEH for a grizzly bear hunt, be warned.

Excerpts From the Globe & Mail: According to a poll, which was released June 10th, 73 per cent of British Columbians support an end to the trophy hunting of grizzlies, a substantial increase from the 52 per cent who were opposed in 2001, when the hunt resumed after the newly elected Liberal government overturned a moratorium imposed six months earlier by the NDP.

Last year, approximately 430 grizzlies were killed in B.C., with about 300 of them taken by sports hunters and the rest killed as problem bears. The B.C. government has argued the hunt is sustainable.

So all our members are up to speed...the BCWF has provided interviews with the CBC, Wall St. Journal and the Freelance on this issue.

I'm sure there will be more to follow as this issue again heats up!

From BCWF Head Office: It is small wonder that Toronto Mayor David Miller cannot get violent crime under control. He keeps taking aim at the wrong target.

Once again Mayor Miller has set his sights on the law-abiding citizens rather than the drug dealing criminal gangs responsible for the ongoing violence in his city. His proposal to try to regulate the distribution, manufacture, sale, storage and ownership of legal firearms will have no impact on gangs and violence but will have a major impact on those least responsible: Olympic and other competitors, sporting goods businesses who legally sell both firearms and ammunition, at least one major manufacturer, the Toronto tourist and hospitality industry and Toronto taxpayers.

Mayor Miller feels that he is justified in taking aim at law-abiding citizens because he “feels” that legally owned firearms are a major source of the illegal firearms used by criminals. This is despite the fact police studies and Stats Can figures consistently show this to be untrue.

Mayor Miller may feel that the shooting sports have no place in “his” city but the IOC would no doubt disagree. Shooting sports have been a part of Olympic movement since 1896 and there are 27 separate disciplines today. Olympians may be born but they must work their way up through the ranks to become international competitors. The closing of two major ranges will certainly affect competitors on all levels. Where will our future champions come from? Definitely, it will no longer be from Toronto.

A number of the large sporting goods distributors in Canada have the specialized warehouses required by Federal Law for the storage of firearms and ammunition in the Toronto area. All of these will be affected by Mayor Miller’s proposal. A few may chose to close completely; most however will be forced to relocate to more receptive cities.

At least one of Canada’s major firearms manufactures, Para-Ordinance, is located within the area that Mayor Miller proposes to cleanse of all firearms. Para-Ordinance has an international reputation for manufacturing some of the world’s finest handguns. Here again we have a successful business that may well be forced to move. Unfortunately, they would most likely not relocate in Canada and those jobs will go elsewhere.

All of this would happen without any reduction in violence in Toronto or elsewhere, because criminals will continue to do what criminals do. Ignore the law.

It is incongruous that while Mayor Miller is telling the world that Toronto is a dangerous place to be, MacLean’s magazine recently ranked Canada’s most crime ridden cities and found that Toronto ranked far down the list in 26th place. It would appear that the Mayor’s obsession with gaining personal publicity by attacking Canada’s honest and law-abiding firearm owners comes at the cost of damaging the reputation of the city that he is supposed to represent.

Bill C-34 MP’s are about to vote on a piece of ill-conceived legislation that could eliminate the public’s right to fish in tidal waters. Bill C-34, an Act to approve the Tsawwassen Treaty and its’ associated commercial harvest agreements will allocate a significant percentage of the Fraser River fish resources to the Tsawwassen First Nation in perpetuity.

While it might be argued that the Tsawwassen Treaty allocations for food, social and ceremonial purposes under Section 35 of the Constitution Act are overly-generous, the BC Wildlife Federation accepts that these allocations are within the scope of the legislation," said Federation President Mel Arnold. "However, it is the commercial allocations under the treaties' harvest agreements with which we take issue. These commercial harvest agreements, negotiated in secret, provide a guaranteed access to fish independently of, and in priority to, the regular commercial fishery."



Black Powder

Well three weeks and a touch back we wrapped up another Black Powder Rendezvous. For the second year in a row the weather stayed sunny and warm and the snow had finally melted away to just some great humps back in the trees. We had an even better turnout of visitors than last year, over a hundred camping and a shooting line of 55 front stuffers. The base of young

shooters has grown considerably and this is gratifying to see. The grounds were clean, camping for primitive was comfortable and the people as always friendly and jovial. Thanks to Mike Brown and several other Monashee members. The whole event ran as smooth as paint and the comments from all were positive and happy. The food was buffalo and all the salads and sweet things that fill out the empty places on your plate, excellent again. It was agreed that the prizes were top of the line, including several very well made powder horns, some wood furniture and other assorted items. Heather Brown donated an excellent quilt for a bid and it was very well received by the lucky winner. Trophies were handed out for the various shooting and other events and Harold Norris produced a very nice stamped leather medallion for all those registered for both a keepsake and to show they were active in the events. The final event was the black powder shotgun shoot which had about forty shooters this year. The boys from the shotgun section again took good care to throw the clays as high, fast, low and slow as always, just making sure that they taxed us as much as possible. The only future event over the summer that is done on a regular basis will be the Wed. morning shoots down at the Armstrong range starting about 9.30 a.m. nearly every Wed. Contact Harold Norris 546-6820 or John Nissen 549-1564 to confirm the shoot or just show up.



Fish Report

Shuswap Lake Sport Fishing signs have been erected at the Canoe Wharf and Canoe Park. They describe some of the common regulations in effect, such as the single barbless hook, bait restrictions and catch quotas.

As most members are aware, Father’s Day brings in the annual Day of Fishing at the Salmon Arm Wharf. If any members are planning on attending, we remind you that this is a great opportunity to gently let both the kids and

parents know about single barbless hook and bait restrictions while fishing in Shuswap Lake.



Habitat Enhancement and Conservation

Hopefully a work party will be held on Father’s Day, June 15th, at Caribou Lake. All are welcome, young and old. Give Stan a call @ 836-4309 if you plan to come. If we can’t get up to the lake, (snow!) it will just become a great outing. Bring your snowshoes, just in case.



Handgun

The interest has waned or we are too busy. If you would like to arrange any pistol shooting venues, call Don Schmok at 832-3646.



Rifle Range

Wow. Still wet and muddy but lots of die-hards using the range. Hopefully we will get the final grade put on the range soon so that the permanent target stands can be put up.

If you would like to hold any rifle activities, give Tony a call at 833-8944.

We have just received our Renewal of the Shooting Range Approval from the Canadian Firearms Centre.

We are advised by the Chief Firearms Officer that we must ensure that all members are aware of the wording of the approval which reads as follows:

The Rifle Range is approved for all rifle cartridges contained in the template groups “.22 Long Rifle and .223 Remington” and “.308 Winchester”.

This range is NOT APPROVED for the use of rifles discharging .50 calibre Browning Machine Gun.

For all members information the following calibers are the only ones allowed to be discharged on our range at this time:

- .22 Long Rifle HV
- .22 Long Rifle Std. Velocity
- .22 Long
- .22 Short
- .58 Caliber Muzzleloader Ball
- .54 Caliber Muzzleloader Ball
- .44 Caliber Muzzleloader Ball
- .45 Caliber Muzzleloader Ball
- .40 Caliber Muzzleloader Ball
- .36 Caliber Muzzleloader Ball
- .58 Caliber Muzzleloader Ball
- .380 Short
- .25 ACP
- .32 ACP
- .223 Remington
- .22 Hornet
- .220 Swift
- .22-250 Remington
- .223 Remington Magnum
- .30 Remington
- .303 Savage
- .32 Winchester Special
- .35 Remington
- .38-55 Winchester
- .38-40 Winchester
- .30 MI Carbine
- .348 Winchester
- .351 Winchester
- .356 Winchester
- .22 Savage Hi-Power
- .25 Remington
- 7.62X39 Russian
- .30-30 Winchester
- .222 Remington
- .25-20 WCF
- .25-35 Winchester
- .256 Winchester Magnum
- .50-90 Sharps
- .32-20 Winchester
- .44-40 Winchester
- .444 Marlin
- .44 Ball
- .375 Winchester
- .45-70 U.S. Government
- .458 Winchester
- 6 mm Lee Navy
- .30-40 Krag
- .308 Winchester
- .30-06 Springfield
- 7 mm-08 Remington
- 6.5X55 Swedish Mauser
- 6.5X54 Mannlicher-Schoenauer
- 6.5X57 Mauser
- 6.5X57R Mauser
- 6.5X58R Sauer
- 6.5X58 Portuguese Vergueiro
- 6.5X58R Krag-Jorgensen
- 8 mm Mauser (8X57 JS)
- .270 Winchester
- .358 Winchester
- 6.5X61 Mauser
- 7X57 Mauser
- 7X57R Mauser
- 6.5X50 Arisaka
- 6.5X52 Mannlicher-Carcano

- 6.5X53R Mannlicher
- .250 Savage
- .257 Roberts
- .307 Winchester
- .303 British
- .350 Remington Magnum
- .300 Savage



Juniors at the Range

The fifteen year old SAS student had never fired a gun before, but she listened to the advise on site picture and trigger control from Don Schmok. She was a good shooter – keen and coachable. With her 15 classmates from the SAS P.O.L.E. class (Physical Outdoor Leadership Education) Tanya fired a selection of .22 rifles, a 12 gauge pump shogun and a .243 scoped rifle.

Each student in the high school P.O.L.E. class is required to organize some kind of experience for their class mates. Brandon and Alex, both keen hunters and shooters, approached their teacher Trish Martin. With approval from Principal Greg Kitchen, Neil Wuolle headed off to class with the C.O.R.E. deactivated training firearms and bits and pieces of ammunition. The class was keen to learn. In the two classroom sessions they were taught safe handling, how firearms work, laws and regulations, the basics of ammunition, and expectations for the range visit.

The range visit on May 27th was a huge success! With very capable help from Don Schmok, Ed Dunfield, Anne Rizzi, Rob Udy and Jack Stead, the students made the rounds of each station. They were polite, attentive and appreciative of the opportunity. The volunteers had high praise for this group of kids. Don remarked, “What a

neat bunch of kids. I’d come back to help with this anytime.” Thanks also goes to Myron Crown for the great deal on the ammunition, and to the three guys that showed up to shoot during our session - patience and flexibility!



Shotgun News

Wednesday Evening Practice sessions are still being held.

The trap club held their Fun Day on Saturday, June 7th.



Wilderness Watch

If anyone is interested in joining or helping out, please give Carl a call. Meetings are now scheduled for the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the clubhouse.

The annual Wilderness Watch cleanup will be held Saturday, June 14th. Plan to arrive at 8:00 a.m. at the old Forestry building parking lot (BC Access Centre). Roads 110, 111 and 112 are loaded with garbage and junk and we are hoping to get it cleaned up.

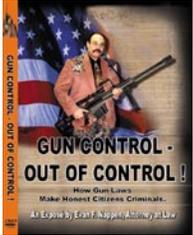
Hats off to the all the volunteers that help clean up this mess left by the ignorant.



Meetings

The next executive meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 9th, 2008 and the next regular members’

meeting will be held Thursday, September 18th, 2008. Meetings are set to commence at 7:00 p.m. Have a great summer.



Gun Issues

Where to start? Let's start with excerpts from the Canadian Firearms Journal...

"We are a nation whose politicians pit urban Canadian against rural, eastern Canadian versus western, law-abiding Canadian against.... Oh year, the law-abiding.

Only a fool believes crime can be prevented by harassing law-abiding citizens. We are NOT the people shooting up the streets of Toronto, or Montreal or Vancouver or Edmonton contrary to the rantings of the likes of Jack Layton, Jean Charest and Stephane Dion.

Understanding the following 3 fundamental truths, thirty-eight American states have enacted "concealed carry" legislation: 1) The Police cannot protect everyone all the time; 2) Criminals always act where the Police are NOT; 3) Firearms in the hands of law-abiding citizens stop criminals and save lives.

Today is a great day to contact your elected representative and remind him or her that you are a law-abiding firearms owner, and that you support the right to own your private property free of government intrusion. Write Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day today and thank him for refusing to impose a handgun ban, and then politely ask him to go one step further. Ask him to state publicly that he refuses to violate the rights of law-abiding gun owners, but will instead continue to go after the violent criminals who are shooting up our cities."

AND

"Under pressure from the Toronto Police Department, Ontario's Chief Firearms Officer has informed a number of citizens who are 75 years of age and possess firearms that their homes will be inspected to ensure compliance with firearms storage regulations. Our fear is that the bureaucrats will do as they always have – tell us one thing, then keep right on harassing us after the attention dies down.

We cannot afford to wait out the next elections. In order for pro-gun candidates to succeed in the next election, they are going to need your vote and your active support. As the election season kicks into high gear, supporters of our firearm freedoms must work together locally and actively volunteer to assist pro-gun candidates' campaigns.

Stephen Harper's minority Conservative government had some success reining in the gun bureaucracy, but they're reluctant to go farther because they perceive the risk of amending the law to be greater than the reward."

SCARED YOU YET?... READ ON....

"Canadian firearms owners will have reason to be concerned when the United Nations meets this summer. Plans are already in place for introducing additional steps to control "small arms and light weapons" (SALW).

When the UN was created in the 1940's, many hoped that it would usher in a better world in the aftermath of WWII. Today, however, that hope has dimmed considerably. The UN now is widely seen for the Frankenstein monster it has become. The UN disappoints even its ardent supporters with its failure to cure itself of its endemic corruption.

The UN promotes a wide variety of initiatives that undermine national sovereignty and civilian firearm ownership. The UN's Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) actively promotes the confiscation and destruction of privately owned firearms, even while it

studiously averts its gaze from failed totalitarian states like Zimbabwe or the history lessons of Rwanda.

One of the justifications former Liberal governments used for imposing firearms registration back in the 1990 was that registration conformed to the UN initiative. Other UN promoted initiatives are marking and tracing initiatives for civilian owned firearms, banning "high capacity magazines" and the banning of semi-automatic firearms. The Conservative government has delayed implementation of the UN Marking plan but has not killed it.

AND LASTLY, A LONG ARTICLE BUT WORTHY OF READING....by Blair Hagen, National VP Communications

A Turning Point

Canada's Firearms Community Faces Important Decisions

In December, the National Firearms Association met with Minister of Public Safety Stockwell Day, to review progress on the firearms portfolio.

Much was discussed. The minister renewed the government's commitment to ending the wasteful long gun registry and reforming firearms laws. The National Firearms Association briefed the minister on its continuing concerns in regards to policies of the firearms bureaucracy, but the minister made it clear that a definitive addressing of these must come in the form of new firearms control legislation, and that the composition of the present parliament makes that a difficult proposition.

The Conservatives have introduced another bill in this parliament to end the Liberal firearms registry, Bill C-24. The opposition Liberals, Bloc Quebecois and NDP have promised to defeat the government's firearms control reform legislation.

The most frequent question I am asked is; "Why is the Liberal firearms registry still in effect?"

The second most frequent question I am asked is; "Will the Conservatives really end the firearms registry as they promised?"

This is being shaped by the current political situation in Canada. I have no doubt that the Conservative government would love to finally be done with the firearms registry, and would also love to introduce legislation and pass into law a Firearms Act that effectively addresses public safety and respects the rights of Canadians to own and use firearms.

But the politics of the last decade in regards to firearms are not finished with us yet, as the Liberals and the other opposition parties use the firearms registry as a symbolic issue, in a vain attempt to define themselves differently from the Conservative government.

After the Conservatives were elected to government in January 2006, the

firearms community had great hopes that they would address their long-standing promise to end the hated Liberal firearms registry.

And for a while, despite their minority in parliament, it did appear that this would be done. The government brought forward Bill C-21 shortly following its election to do just that. Many MPs in the backbenches of the opposition parties seemed reconciled to the fact that the Firearms Act would be re written. A free vote in parliament seemed possible.

But in September 2006, a madman entered Dawson College in Montreal, murdered one person and wounded many others. This re-invigorated the opposition parties' determination to save the failed firearms registry, despite the fact that it very clearly failed to prevent the tragedy in Montreal. Liberal leader Stephane Dion, and other opposition leaders promised to whip the vote on the matter of ending the firearms registry. No opposition member would be allowed to vote the conscience of his constituents, from then on all opposition members were ordered to vote against the government, and to continue

the failed Liberal firearms registry, for no reason other than empty symbolism.

Bill C-21 died on the order paper.

The government has re-introduced Bill C-21 in a slightly altered form as Bill C-24, but it still isn't enough to satisfy the demands of the opposition that the government continues on the same failed road of gun control.

The Liberal, Bloc Quebecois and NDP parties not only demand the firearms registry be refunded, but also that the whole rotten infrastructure be retrofitted, and that even more infringements on your firearms freedom be imposed. There is talk among the opposition parties of more bans on firearms. The Liberal Premier of Ontario and the Mayor of Toronto are demanding a national handgun ban to address the continuing criminal gang violence in Toronto. The Ontario and Quebec governments have ordered their Chief Firearms Officers to step up enforcement against the firearms communities in those provinces.

The Liberal C-68 Firearms Act that was imposed in 1995 facilitates all of this. The Liberal government of the day used its majority in parliament to implement a law so bureaucratically licentious and insidious, that it would require a completely new act of parliament to end its madness, and to reverse that Liberal government's agenda against the lawful ownership of firearms.

The Liberals knew it would require a majority government, with the same kind of mandate from Canadians in order for their agenda of civil disarmament be stopped, and that such governments are rare in Canada.

At this point, a little straight talk is necessary. If this Liberal Firearms Act is allowed to remain on the books, not only will it eventually become entrenched, despite its inherent failures, but it will also allow a future Liberal government to go right back to work on the firearms community where they were forced to leave off in 2006.

That makes National Firearms Association's job in securing your right to lawfully own and use firearms that much more difficult in the future.

There is another federal election coming, perhaps this year. It is plainly apparent that the only way these situations are going to be effectively addressed is through the replacement of the Liberal Firearms Act. The only way that is going to happen is by returning this Conservative government to power in Ottawa, preferably with a majority government. The firearms community has made an investment in the Conservative Party and this Conservative government; let's take it to the next level and the inevitable conclusion necessary to fix Canada's firearms laws.



Helloooo.....

Okay, I know this is getting boring, but yada yada yada.... Send me any changes to your email address... to safishgameclub@hotmail.com

If you have any suggestions of what you would like inserted in the next newsletter, send it to me.

Don't forget to keep your eyes open for upcoming proposed legislation changes that the guys in Ottawa are contemplating. We may see some of it slip in "under the radar".

Don't forget to send your comments, suggestions and ads to the webmaster for inclusion in the club's website.

Thanks everyone
Anne

"The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government."

Thomas Jefferson