



Bill Blair  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON. K1A 0A6 Phone: 1 613 995-0284  
Sent To: Bill.Blair@parl.gc.ca

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Minister Blair

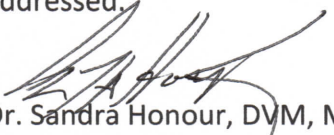
On behalf of the Shooting Federation of Canada, we are asking you to review and amend SOR 2020-96 as the regulation impacts Canada's target shooting sport athletes by banning firearms with bore diameters used in Olympic events and recreational shooting sports.

The Shooting Federation of Canada is the internationally recognized national sport organization that endorses safety in the use of firearms, respect in sport and the Universal Code of Conduct. Our organization is committed to the development of high performance target shooting sport athletes and to the growth of target shooting sports in Canada that can be enjoyed by the old, young, any gender, multiple ethnicities, and athletes with physical disabilities. Your Order in Council restricts these objectives.

We applaud your desire to strategically address violent crime and the use of firearms during a criminal activity. With that end in mind, would it not be better to start by reducing the number of illegal firearms in the country and establishing harsher penalties for those who illegally possess them and use them in commission of crimes? SOR2020-96, while punishing legitimate registered owners of firearms, does not address the problem of the illegal possession of firearms. It confiscates assets of legal firearm owners when the objective is reducing the number of violent and criminal activities using firearms. The emphasis should be on putting stronger penalties against those who illegally possess firearms and those who use them in commissions of crimes.

Previous legislation had a negative impact on our members and hundreds of clubs across Canada and we have lost many athletes, and had to persevere through many club closures. Our ability to develop high performing athletes for future major games (Continental events, World Cups and Olympic Games) is getting harder with each new restrictive legislation about firearms that impacts legal gun owners and ranges. It would help us immensely, if you would review and amend SOR 2020-96 and redirect your efforts to the problem of violent crime.

Please contact us if you would like any further explanation of our concerns are and how they might be addressed.

  
Dr. Sandra Honour, DVM, MSc.  
Volunteer President, Shooting Federation of Canada  
[President@sfc-ftc.ca](mailto:President@sfc-ftc.ca) ; cell 587 982 8610