

Statement on Gun Control

On Friday March 7th, the Associate Minister of Public Safety Rachel Bendayan, who has demonstrated unwavering commitment since her appointment to advancing public safety and reducing gun violence, announced several critical measures, including an Order in Council prohibiting 179 new models of military-style weapons, marking a near-complete ban on existing assault weapons in Canada. This decisive action builds on the government's ongoing efforts to ensure that firearms designed for the battlefield have no place in our communities.

Additionally, the implementation of half of the key measures contained in Bill C-21, adopted 15 months ago, represents a significant step forward in addressing domestic violence. These measures include the revocation of firearms licenses within 24 hours if there are reasonable grounds to suspect domestic violence or stalking, providing a crucial safeguard for vulnerable individuals. The government has also reaffirmed its commitment to advancing other promised measures, though we note with regret that Phase 2 of the buyback program, aimed at removing prohibited assault weapons from private ownership, appears to be at risk of being sidelined, particularly in the context of an imminent election.

While the National Council of Women of Canada welcomes the concrete progress announced, we also recognize the loss of several measures remain unimplemented due to the lack of enabling regulations. This includes provisions within Bill C-21 that are not yet in force. We urge the government to prioritize the full implementation of these measures to ensure comprehensive protection for all Canadians. See: [Gun Control | ncwcanada](#)

The council remains steadfast in its commitment to ending violence in all its forms, particularly gender-based and domestic violence. We believe that these steps, though incomplete, are vital in creating safer communities and protecting the most vulnerable among us. We call on all stakeholders to continue working

collaboratively to ensure that these measures are fully realized and that no further delays compromise the safety and well-being of Canadians.

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