



BC Crime Prevention Association

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My friends and I were wondering if you could limit the purchase and possession of firearm only to law enforcement and licensed hunters of game in specific locations. It doesn't make sense for any other persons to possess any firearm, because there should be no need for them to use it. Guns only have one purpose and that is to kill.

We believe this will greatly cut crime rates in Vancouver, for, as you may already know, the deadliest crimes almost always involve guns. By taking the gun factor out, Vancouver police will have a much easier time catching the bad guys and innocent civilians have less fear that they could be unintended victims.

Sincerely,

Chris & friends

Thank you for your enquiry.

There are already laws in place to prohibit people like gang members from possessing handguns. (Part III of the Criminal Code of Canada, Sections 84 to 117.15 covers most aspects of gun possession, illegal possession of firearms and exemptions for certain groups.) See: <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/C-46/>

Only law enforcement, military personnel, armed guards, gun collectors (the main groups) are allowed to possess handguns – the rest are not. Bear in mind that the new Violence Suppression Team is focusing on gang activity, checking gang members and taking guns off the streets.

The degree of force a homeowner is permitted by law to use to defend his property is covered in Section 40 of the Criminal Code.

As this is federal legislation, we recommend that if you are seeking changes to the laws governing firearms, or indeed any other section of the Criminal Code, that you contact your local Member of Parliament and/or contact the Department of Justice, Ottawa.

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