

## Mayor of Montreal

June 25, 2008

Mr. Stephen Harper  
Prime Minister  
Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A2

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I am writing to you today in order to join my voice with that of Toronto Mayor, David Miller, to ask your government to intervene to help ban handguns in our cities.

As you are aware, in the past few years, Montreal has been the stage for several tragic events, perpetrated with the use of firearms. The cost of this violence is, and remains, too great and we must address this issue. With the exception of the police, there is no valid reason to have a firearm in a city. As a result, a zero tolerance policy should be applied to crimes committed with these types of weapons.

It is clear that a serious control of handguns must be accompanied by a coherent and effective struggle against street gangs and violence in cities.

In the same vein, the Federal Government should increase its efforts, to develop a plan of action to fight against the illegal entry of firearms, including handguns, into Canada.

As is the case with the populations of Toronto and Canada, the Montreal community expects the different levels of government to ensure the safety of our cities and that they take all necessary measures. The Canadian police community, through the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and the Canadian Police Association have, for several years, supported such a request.

I thank you for your attention to this request from the City of Montreal which links itself to that of the City of Toronto.

Yours truly,

Gerald Tremblay