August 23, 2010

TO:

Chairs, Canadian police services boards/commissions

FROM:

Ivan Court, President, and Carol Allison-Burra, Vice-President

CAPB

RE:

SEPTEMBER 15, 2010 - CAPB NATIONAL DAY IN SUPPORT OF

THE LONG GUN REGISTRY

We are writing to you pursuant to discussions at the just concluded 21st annual CAPB conference held in Saint John, New Brunswick.

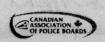
In response to a motion passed at the session on "Legislation and Lobbying" on Saturday, August 21, CAPB will observe Wednesday, September 15 as the "CAPB National Day in Support of the Long Gun Registry".

We are writing to request that your board/commission formally endorse and support this very important event and assist us in our effort to ensure continuation of the long gun registry. To this end, we will appreciate your cooperation in raising public awareness of the positive role that this registry plays in ensuring public safety.

Specifically, we ask that on Tuesday, September 14, you communicate your support of the registry to the media and to other interested organizations in your community. These may include labour, religious, cultural and social service organizations serving your community.

In order to assist you in this public awareness campaign, we will send you in the coming days a package of factual information on the uses, cost and benefits of the long gun registry.

As you may know, CAPB has been working closely and actively in partnership with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and the Canadian Police Association to educate the public on reasons why the long gun registry is an important and cost-effective public safety tool and to convince our federal political representatives that Bill C-391, the private member's bill to repeal the registry should not pass.



Along with our partners in the law enforcement community, we have appeared before the Parliament's Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security to give our message. A majority of the members of this Standing Committee voted against Bill C-391.

It is expected that the bill will come up for a final vote of the Parliament on September 22.

As recently as August 20th, William Elliott, the RCMP Commissioner, remarked publicly that the long-gun registry is "useful" and its use has been "increasing." The RCMP, which is responsible for administering the Canadian Firearms Program, has also stated that the program, as it now stands, costs only a few million dollars annually to administer and not the billions of dollars as has been erroneously claimed.

No reliable evidence has been presented that contradicts the evidence-based, factual information that we and our partners have provided to demonstrate that the long gun registry is useful and cost effective.

We believe that the debate caused by the private members' bill has serious implications, and this is why it should be based on reliable, accurate information.

We ask your assistance in making such information available to the Canadian public by joining us in observing the "CAPB National Day in Support of the Long Gun Registry" on September 15.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Carol Allison-Burra at 613-235-2272.

Thank you for joining us in this important undertaking.

Ivan Court President Carol Allison-Burra Vice-President

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