

Ministry of Community Safety  
and Correctional Services

Office of the Minister

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JUN 13 2012

Ms. Ulli S. Watkiss  
City Clerk  
City of Toronto  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
13<sup>th</sup> Floor West  
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Dear Ms. Watkiss:

**Re: City Council – Member Motion – MM23.12  
Request to protect the data on non-restricted firearms registered to  
Ontarian owners**

Thank you for your letter of May 14, 2012, informing me of the adoption by the City of Toronto of Member Motion 23.12, a resolution requesting the province to protect the data on non-restricted firearms registered to Ontario owners. I am pleased to respond, and am also responding on behalf of the Honourable John Gerretsen, Attorney General of Ontario.

The Government of Ontario opposes the destruction of all records in the Canadian Firearms Registry related to the registration of non-restricted firearms. We believe this information is an important tool for law enforcement in solving crimes involving long guns.

On February 10, 2012, Minister Gerretsen and I wrote to the Honourable Vic Toews, Minister of Public Safety Canada, the federal minister responsible for this important public safety issue, clearly stating the above views.

Our government has stood by the position that what is necessary is a federal firearms registry, not a provincial firearms registry. A provincial "registry" does not assist in tracing firearms or maintaining records of registration on firearms with respect to clients who are non-residents of Ontario. As such, the Province of Ontario is not creating a provincial gun registry, nor will it be creating such a registry in the future.

Since the *Firearms Act* is federal legislation under the jurisdiction of Public Safety Canada, we urge the City of Toronto to also address its concerns to Minister Toews, at the following address: Parliament Hill, Suite 306, Justice Building, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6.

Ms. Ulli S. Watkiss  
Page two

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,



Madeleine Meilleur  
Minister

c: The Honourable Dalton McGuinty  
Premier of Ontario

The Honourable John Gerretsen  
Attorney General of Ontario

*Secretariat  
Manager Council  
Secretariat Support*