



July 13, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, MP  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Langevin Block  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A2

**VIA Email**

Dear Prime Minister:

**Re: Bill C-21 – Changes to the Criminal Code and the Firearms Act**

On behalf of the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass, we are writing to express our concerns with respect to Bill C-21 to make changes to the Criminal Code and the Firearms Act. With respect to the provision to allow municipalities to create handgun bylaws, which would place conditions on federal firearms licenses relating to handgun use, storage or transportation within municipalities that have passed such bylaws, Council has passed the following motion at the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of Municipal Council in opposition to the Federal Bill C-21:

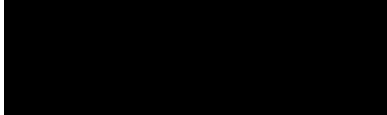
**16-2021-06-08:** *Councillor Sygutek moved that the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass is opposed to the adoption of any bylaws restricting the possession, storage, and transportation of legally obtained handguns, and that Administration write a letter to Prime Minister Trudeau with similar information as provided by Kingsville, Ontario which will be copied to all Alberta municipalities, MP Shannon Stubbs, MP John Barlow, and to the Leader of Official Opposition Erin O'Toole. Carried*

With the Province of Alberta sending Bill 211 to Royal Assent on April 29<sup>th</sup>, our Provincial government is ensuring that Municipalities are not saddled with trying to find the resources to impose or enforce gun control by creating inconsistent bylaws between jurisdictions. As most Municipalities across our province are rural in nature and would be faced with the same problems in attempting to enforce legislation of this nature, we are anticipating that the sentiment will be the same across most jurisdictions and hope that those municipalities in opposition will make their position known to the Federal Government as well.

We are also concerned that Bill C-21 is only targeting citizens that have licenses, not criminals that have already obtained firearms illegally and would never comply with a municipal bylaw. This will create a very confusing system that could result in an otherwise law abiding citizen, now being sentenced to two years imprisonment or permanent license revocation for unknowingly being in contravention of a bylaw in a community with different bylaws.

We thank you for your kind attention in this matter and request that the federal government will reconsider these changes to the Criminal Code and Firearms Act.

Sincerely,



Mayor Blair Painter  
Municipality of Crowsnest Pass  
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cc: All Alberta Municipalities  
MP Shannon Stubbs  
MP John Barlow  
Erin O'Toole, Leader of the Official Opposition