



Newsletter

March 2009

C-301: Breitreuz's Bill to Abolish the Long Gun Registry

The battle to repeal the Long Gun Registry has begun again. On February 9th, a bill to repeal the registry was introduced by Yorkton-Melville MP Garry Breitreuz. (I am one of the seconders of this bill.)

Getting Breitreuz's Private Members' Bill passed into law will not be an easy fight. Repealing the gun registry will require 154 votes and the Conservatives have only 143 members. We need the votes of at least 11 Opposition MPs. Preliminary vote counts indicate that we have more than the 11 votes necessary.

However, even if we get 154 votes in favour of Breitreuz's bill, there will be a fierce fight in committee and later in the Senate to have the legislation made into law.

So what can you do to help repeal the long gun registry? There are a number of things that will help:

Write our Saskatchewan senators (three Liberals and three Conservatives). Liberal senators may be prepared to vote against their leadership on this issue because senators are usually freer from the party line in their voting habits. The vote in the Senate over the repeal of the long gun registry will be very tight because neither the Liberals nor the Conservatives will have a majority in the Senate by this autumn.

Write to the three English Canadian party leaders. Write to the Prime Minister so he keeps the repeal of the gun registry a priority. Write to Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff and demand that he give his caucus a free vote on MP Breitreuz's Private Members' Bill to repeal the long gun registry. Write to NDP leader Jack Layton and demand that he give his MPs a free vote too. Both Layton and Ignatieff support the long-gun registry. Both leaders would probably bring it back if they were in government. So, we need a handful of their MPs to vote their consciences and support the Conservative legislation.

The battle against the long-gun registry has been going on for over 10 years now. Billions of your tax dollars have been wasted. Law abiding hunters and firearms owners are being treated as potential criminals in the process. Victory is in sight, however. We can win on this legislation and we can win in this Parliament.

Please contact the Party leaders and Senators mentioned above. Help get the long gun registry repealed. My staff will have all the contact information if you need assistance.

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email, please let us know at trostb@parl.gc.ca

Brad Trost MP, 505b Nelson Rd. Saskatoon SK S7S 1P4 Ph: (306)975-6133

Meet your
**MEMBER OF
PARLIAMENT**
BRAD TROST



Join Brad for coffee on Thursday, April 9th

8:30 a.m.—10 a.m.	Middle Lake Hotel Restaurant
11:30 a.m.—1 p.m.	Annaheim Hotel Restaurant
2:30 p.m.—4 p.m.	Leroy: D's Country Kitchen

Brad wants to
hear from you!

Quick Facts For Conservatives

In 1995, the Department of Justice Canada said that the gun registry would cost \$2 million net. Justice Canada estimated in 2000 that it would spend over \$1 billion on the long gun registry. Now the cost is \$2 billion and counting.

Conservatives and thousands of long gun owners, regardless of political affiliation (including hunters and members of shooting sports organizations) know that it is “a waste of time and money to lay a piece of paper beside every gun in the country,” as MP Breitkreuz noted in a recent press release.

The Canadian taxpayer was not told how much the long gun registry actually cost. “The costs incurred by the provincial and territorial agencies in enforcing the legislation were not reported. In addition, costs that were incurred by firearms owners, firearms clubs, manufacturers, sellers, and importers and exporters of firearms, in their efforts to comply with the legislation were not reported.” (Report of the Auditor General to the House of Commons; December 2002; Chapter 10, p. 6)

Statistics Canada also released a report in 2008 called *Firearms and Violent Crime*, which confirmed that there is no link between firearms and violent crime. MP Breitkreuz has a detailed analysis of this report on his website: www.garrybreitkreuz.com MP Brad Trost’s website is: www.bradtrost.ca



If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email, please let us know at trostb@parl.gc.ca

Brad Trost MP, 505b Nelson Rd. Saskatoon SK S7S 1P4 Ph: (306)975-6133