

## Police chief backs gun registry as a public safety tool

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Prince Albert Police Chief Dale McFee said he would leave the politics to the politicians in response to a fiery report alleging Canadian chiefs of police backing of the gun registry is politically motivated.

McFee, backing the registry, said it is a useful tool in helping to identify locations of firearms.

"My concern is about public safety and that certainly is the concern of the Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police," said McFee.

A news release under Saskatchewan MP Garry Breitkreuz's name alleged that the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police is a "politically motivated," cult-like lobby group whose views on the gun registry "are tainted ... because their endorsement can be bought."

Brant Scott, Breitkreuz's parliamentary assistant, was blamed for the release and resigned Wednesday.

And according to a story by The Canadian Press, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said the registry is "wasteful" and "ineffective" and that the Conservative government was working to get it abolished.

The opposition parties accused Harper of hiding behind the aide who wrote the story to avoid responsibility for a disgraceful insult to police chiefs.

McFee reiterated that the gun registry is backed because any tool police can use in the implementation of public safety is welcome.

With files from The Canadian Press