

Killing gun registry puts lives in danger

The Ottawa Citizen March 26, 2010

Re: Tories extend amnesty on long-gun registry, March 19.

Licensing gun owners and registering rifles and shotguns has been recommended by several inquests including those into the deaths of the Kasonde children in Ottawa, the Vernon massacre in B.C. and the murder of Arlene May in Collingwood, Ont.

Licences provide screening and records of gun owners, registration is essential to track the guns they own and to reduce the chances that licensed gun owners will give their guns to unlicensed individuals.

It also supports criminal investigations as the conviction of two men as accessories to the murders of four RCMP officers shows.

This law went all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada. And the Supreme Court justices agreed that the registration provisions are needed for the licensing provisions to work.

The major police organizations across this country also agree as does virtually every public safety group.

The federal Conservatives are playing to the gun lobby and disregarding public safety. Lives have been saved by the gun registry. Eliminating the gun registry will put lives in danger.

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