To Whom It May Concern:

The Federal Government has renewed its promise to strengthen gun control by allowing municipalities and communities to ban handguns, as well as promising to ban "military style" firearms and implement a firearms buyback program.

This mandate has sparked debate amongst communities throughout Canada. Leaders are taking positions on firearms while ignoring the root causes of violent crime, instead taking aim at law abiding Canadians. Not only is this approach distracting from taking real action, but it also creates a false sense of security through a plan that has very little potential in reducing violent crime.

As a law abiding gun owner, I am extremely opposed to the current government's decision to use scare tactics and misleading studies to ban firearms based on the way they look instead of working with educated user groups to find a better solution. I urge the Government to reconsider their current direction and instead focus on evidence based methods to curb gun violence. Pledging millions for a firearm buyback program will not address or decrease violent crime. Instead, money should be invested into supporting police initiatives, targeting social issues, gangs, poverty and addressing the root causes of crime. Stronger penalties for straw purchases and illegal firearm imports should be another main area of focus.

I am a firm believer in the safe use of firearms and firearms education. I believe there are better solutions to address the issue of violent crime in Canada. Changing the conversation to find a real and productive solution to crime that puts good use to tax dollars and redirects focus from law abiding citizens to gangs and criminals, is essential and needs to be immediate.

I am urging you to take action. Violent crime and gun violence is not coming from law abiding gun owners - the most vetted group of citizens in the Country. I am simply asking you as my representative to listen to the legal, educated and responsible gun owners and redirect valuable resources into finding an actual solution to gun violence in Canada.

Sincerely,