



Mayor Peter J. Kelly
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Mr. Tony Bernardo
Canadian Institute for Legislative Action
7 Director Court, Unit 106
Vaughan, ON L4L 4S5

Dear Mr. Bernardo,

Thank you for your letter of April 17, 2008 regarding the recent decision of the Atlantic Mayor's Congress regarding the illicit importation, sale and violent use of handguns.

This issue was brought to our attention by correspondence from Mayor David Miller of Toronto. As you indicated, Mayor Miller is calling for a complete ban on handguns. The Atlantic Mayor's Congress is not calling for a total ban.

The Atlantic Mayor's Congress has been very concerned about violent crime for some time. The aspect of Mayor Miller's initiative that we particularly focused on is the illegal importation and 'black-market' sale of handguns that are ultimately used in violent crime.


The Atlantic Mayor's Congress recognize and support the legitimate use of firearms in law enforcement and the regulated use of firearms for sport and recreation in Canada.

Through correspondence we have asked the Prime Minister and Minister Stockwell Day to immediately put in place effective controls to intercept and stop the illegal importation of handguns and to initiate extraordinary measures to apprehend those with illegal handguns in their possession.

We feel this is in the interests of all Canadians including those who make legitimate use of handguns in law enforcement or for regulated sport and recreational use.

I hope this clarifies our stance with respect to this issue.

Respectfully, I remain


Peter Kelly