

ATA Article for December 2015

Greetings from Ontario, Canada

I write this article in late October, shortly after the Federal election that saw the Liberals capture a majority government. This was a surprise to many including myself. What this means is that all federal power within its allocated jurisdiction rests exclusively with the Prime Minister's office. There are no effective checks and balances such as in the U.S.A. which has Congress, Senate and the Executive Branch (vetoes and super vetoes). In Canada our Senate is supposed to be the Chamber of Sober Second Thought but it is a toothless tiger and able at best to delay legislation.

While the judicial system in both Canada and U.S.A. will deal with matters on primarily constitutional issues a lot of water flows under the bridge before cases are argued and decisions rendered. The problem in Canada is that the Federal government has unfettered jurisdiction on firearm related matters under two basic constitutional authorities – criminal law powers and “peace, order and good government”. Firearm owners in Canada have no equivalent to the U.S. “2<sup>nd</sup> amendment right to bear arms”. We are at the mercy of the legislators who often pander to the anti-gun crazies and the biased liberal media. The Liberals have vowed (for starters) to turn over to the R.C.M.P. complete authority to determine what firearms will be placed on the “prohibited” list, restricted list, etc., etc. The new government will be in power for four years and hopefully firearm meddling will be low on their agenda. This should be the case since they will be preoccupied for a long time in raising taxes, running a 10 billion dollar deficit each year to pay for run-away spending programs and legalizing marijuana.

One issue that is common to both U.S. and Canadian firearm owners is that the U.N. has an aggressive agenda to disarm civilians. Our Liberal government is likely to be in lock-step with them. Our firearm organizations will do their best to resist but will never be able to counter as effectively as the NRA (ILA).

Enough for now about politics. If you have flexibility in your 2016 shooting schedule and live south of the Canadian border, please consider one or more ATA tournaments in Canada. The purchasing power of your greenback is enhanced by 25 to 30% or more. Great targets, great clubs and personnel and bargain prices to boot? Think about it. I did an article a while back on how you can bring firearms into Canada [April 2014].

Hope to see many of you soon.

Paul Shaw

Ontario Delegate