

Greetings from Ontario, Canada.

Although I write this article in late November, it won't be published until the Trap and Field January, 2013 edition. We have had some very positive things happen in Ontario (and most of Canada for that matter). The Federal government destroyed all the records of the long gun registry except for records from Quebec which has brought a court action seeking to preserve these records as it intends to set up its own provincial long gun registry. Hopefully that initiative will not succeed. What impact this might have on non-resident Quebecors (firearm owners from outside Canada, or even from other Provinces) is unknown.

It is so much easier transferring long guns. It is still necessary of course to ensure that the recipient of long guns (the transferee) has a valid Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL). The Federal Conservatives pleasantly surprised firearm owners recently by also announcing that they will not be proceeding with the "gun show" regulations. Finally, a Government that looks at some things at least from a common sense perspective. All the gun show regulations would have done is add more regulatory paperwork, bureaucracy and criminal liability when it is not needed. Our Ontario Chief Firearms Officer (CFO) Chris Wyatt has gone on record saying he wants the additional controls in place, but also admits that there have been no problems with gun shows in Ontario to date. He also observed that he sends a representative of his CFO office to every gun show. One concern he expressed was that he might not know about a gun show (the regulation, had it been passed would have made it a legal requirement that his office be notified of every gun show). I guess if he wants to send a CFO officer to a gun show he'll have to find out where and when they are like everybody else.

So, it's another four years of Obama. I want to wish our American friends good luck - you'll need it. Hope to see many of you at some of the satellite grands in the New Year.

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