



Statement

For Immediate Release
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Statement Regarding Trudeau Gun Control Announcement

Salmon Arm, B.C. –Today, Member of Parliament Mel Arnold issued the following statement in response to the federal government’s gun control announcement:

“I hope there will be a day when Canadians will be able to live free of violence, including gun violence. I know this is an objective I share with all Members of Parliament.

“Eliminating violence in our society is attainable and I believe all Members of Parliament would agree that we have a duty to work towards this objective.

“Although, I believe the Prime Minister desires to reduce the amount of violence caused by guns, his decision to forego Parliament’s legislative and democratic channels and utilize an Order in Council to deliver a 2019 campaign promise is, frankly, wrong.

“Yes, Canada is still reeling from a mass shooting that claimed more lives than any before it. We all want solutions- actions to hopefully prevent loss of lives tomorrow and onwards. This is a problem that needs to be solved.

“The reality is, most gun crimes are committed with illegally obtained firearms and nothing that the Prime Minister announced today will solve this problem.

“Today’s announcement should have targeted gangs and those who smuggle, sell or use guns illegally. Instead, the Prime Minister has announced measures that will solely impact Canadians who have met the legal requirements of firearms ownership and follow the law.

“If we are to effectively reduce or eliminate violence in our society, we must first deal with the mental health and addictions crises across Canada. The Trudeau government has failed to increase access to mental health and addiction treatments which are most often at the root of tragedies such as that in Nova Scotia last week.

“Because Canada is in a state of crisis, our Parliamentary process is restricted; our democracy’s mechanisms of accountability have been limited.

“The prevailing crisis is no reason for the Trudeau government to forego the principles of accountability that we all deserve; yet, the government insists on exploiting prevailing circumstances to escape accountability.

“My Conservative colleagues and I will continue to press the government for actions that will deliver the results we all want. This includes support for police anti-gang and gun units, a Firearms Smuggling Task Force to stop illegal imports of guns, support for courts and prosecutors and tougher sentences for violent offenders.

“Additionally, Canadians need our federal government to get serious about expanding access to mental health supports and addictions treatments for all Canadians.”

For more information:

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