

(5) A reinstruction and upgrading program for instructors every three years.

These recommendations and acceptance by our Provincial Government shows a sincere interest by those involved to produce the type of person who will not be a detriment to the hunting and shooting groups in Manitoba. We now ask you to consider the point of judgment in fitness. Should it be by an instructor spending hours with a student or a registrar who does not know an applicant?

While the Junior Rifle Clubs are Manitoba based the recent adoption of the program by the Alberta Government and the interest of the province of Saskatchewan has proven this program to be most beneficial to their own firearms training.

Our Junior Rifle program has graduated approximately 24,000 students since its inception in 1953. To the best of our knowledge there have been 2 graduates involved in firearm accidents since that time. We have no knowledge of any prosecution involving the criminal use of firearms by any of our graduates.

These figures, astounding as they may seem, prove that a comprehensive program of education and training by volunteer instructors on a Canada-wide basis would produce the results expected to be obtained by the proposed legislation.

In summation, the Manitoba Wildlife Federation, and our Junior Rifle Committee would recommend to the committee:

- (A) Acceptance of the Canadian Wildlife Federation presentation.
- (B) We ask your consideration re instituting a nation wide system of training beginning at age 12 by volunteer instructors from