

to reduce firearm misuse.

It is often said that gun owners are overly sensitive about gun registration. Perhaps they are, but there are good reasons for their fears. Certainly the belief of gun owners that gun registration leads to confiscation is no more unrealistic than the belief that we should impose gun registration on millions of Canadians at great expense to all Canadians because there is only a pious hope that it might do some good.

Fortunately, the view of this Association on registration per se is shared by many informed observers, including the Honorable Otto Lang, former Minister of Justice, and M. L. Friedland, who completed a study in August of 1975 for the Solicitor-General on Options for Gun Control.

To say that the Alberta Fish and Game Association is opposed to universal firearm registration is not to say we do not favour new initiatives in gun control that will have the effect of lessening misuse of firearms, both accidental and criminal. Our members have a vested interest in reducing the number of incidents that give rise to the outcries for registration which outcries cause such concern to our members.

It is the belief of the Alberta Fish and Game Association, however, that the requirement of registration of sporting firearms in Canada would simply require good citizens to comply with irritating, time consuming, expensive and useless regulation. The Alberta Fish and Game Association does not accept the proposition that registration of rifles and shotguns would reduce certain types of manslaughter or murder such as those arising from domestic quarrels, property disputes and the on-set