

# How Accurate Are The Canadian Firearms Registry Records?

On December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2001 an NFA member called the Canadian Firearms Centre at 1-800-731-4000 and asked for a list if all firearms owned by him as of that date. He gave call centre employee his name, license number and postal code.

Much to his surprise, he was told that he did not own any firearms. He explained to the lady that her information was obviously incorrect, and would she please check again.

She did, with the same results. She then asked for the postal code of his previous address. He gave her the postal code, and after a brief wait, the voice replied happily that he owned a total of four firearms, apparently all non-restricted rifles.

Again, our NFA member explained that this was in error, and that she should check again. After yet another wait, she replied that she could find no other firearms registered to him.

“So, how do I find out the actual list of firearms registered to me, since you obviously cannot find the correct information?” he asked.

“You will have to file an Access To Information Request, sir.”

“Would you please mail me the correct form to use for this request?”

“I am very sorry sir, but I cannot send you the form. We do not have any. I can tell you the number of the form and where you should mail it to though.”

And she did. After obtaining a form from the internet, our NFA member filled it out and mailed it off. As of February 8, 2002 he is still waiting for a response to that request.

## **What Every Firearms Owner Should Do**

1. Every person who owns one or more firearms, registered or not, should file an access to information request with the federal government to see exactly what they think he or she owns.
2. Copies of the access to information request should be forwarded to Canadian Alliance MP Garry Breitkreuz. If/when you receive a response, a copy of that should also be forwarded to Mr. Breitkreuz. He is the Alliance MP who is championing the cause of firearms owners. This information can help him bring the insanity of the government’s firearms registration system to light.

Two copies of the ATI Request Form are attached to this letter. Simply fill in the blanks, and mail them to the addresses below. You must send both, as the CFC does not have any information on firearms registered under the RCMP’s old F.R.A.S. (green slip system). Send another two copies of your requests to Reform MP Garry Breitkreuz.

Under current law Access To Information legislation, the government has 30 days to respond to your request. If they have not responded to you within the required time, write them again (with copies to MP Breitkreuz), asking for the results if your inquiry.

Where To Send The ATI Requests		Reform MP Garry Breitkreuz
Privacy Co-Ordinator Access To Information and Privacy Office East Memorial Building 284 Wellington Street, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Ottawa, ON K1A 0H8	Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superintendent Christian Picard 1200 Vanier Parkway Ottawa, ON K1A 0R2	Garry Breitkreuz – MP House of Commons, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  No postage is required when mailing to a Member of Parliament

**Send your Access To Information Requests today.  
It takes only a few minutes and two stamps to find out  
what firearms the government thinks you own.**



## Access to Information Act

# Access to Information Request Form

For official use only

### Step 1

Determine which federal government institution is most likely to have the information you are seeking. Decide whether you wish to submit an informal request for the information or a formal request under the *Access to Information Act*. If you wish to make an informal request, contact the appropriate institution. The address can likely be found in *Info Source* publications which are available across Canada, generally in major public and academic libraries, constituency offices of federal Members of Parliament and most federal government public enquiry and service offices.

### Step 2

To apply for information under the *Access to Information Act*, complete this form or a written request mentioning the Act. Describe the information being sought and provide any relevant details necessary to help the institution find it. If you require assistance, refer to *Info Source (Sources of Federal Government Information)* for a description of program records held by the institution or contact its Access to Information Coordinator.

### Step 3

Forward the access request to the Coordinator of the institution holding the information. The address is listed in the "Introduction" to *Info Source*. Enclose a \$5.00 money-order or cheque payable to the Receiver General of Canada. Depending upon the type or amount of information being sought, you may be asked to authorize further charges.

### Step 4

When you receive an answer to your request, review the information to determine whether you wish to make a further request under the Act. You also have the right to complain to the Access to Information Commissioner should you believe that you have been denied any of your rights under the Act.

#### Federal Government Institution

Canadian Firearms Registry

#### Provide details regarding the information being sought

Please provide me a list of all restricted, non-restricted and prohibited firearms registered to me (including registration certificate numbers) as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2002.

My P.A.L. / P.O.L. or FAC # is \_\_\_\_\_.

The Canadian Firearms Centre was unable to locate any records matching my request, and suggested my only recourse to get the correct list was to file this ATI request.

Please process my request under the PRIVACY ACT. My request is for personal information only, therefore the \$5.00 fee does not apply.

#### Method of access preferred

Receive copies of originals

Examine originals in government offices

#### Name of applicant

\_\_\_\_\_

Street, address, apartment

\_\_\_\_\_

City or town

\_\_\_\_\_

Province

\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number

\_\_\_\_\_

This request for access to information under the *Access to Information Act* is being made by

a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or another individual present in Canada, or

a corporation present in Canada

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_



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#### Federal Government Institution

RCMP F.R.A.S.

#### Provide details regarding the information being sought

Please provide me a list of all restricted, non-restricted and prohibited firearms registered to me in F.R.A.S. (including registration certificate numbers) as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2002.

My P.A.L. / P.O.L. or F.A.C # is \_\_\_\_\_.

The Canadian Firearms Centre was unable to locate any records matching my request, and suggested my only recourse to get the correct list was to file this ATI request.

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Government of Canada  
Gouvernement du Canada

Canada