



**Blake Richards, M.P.**  
Wild Rose

# Wild Rose Report

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE WASTEFUL LONG-GUN REGISTRY**

A long-time thorn in the side of law-abiding firearms owners will at last be pulled with passage of our Conservative Government's new legislation to scrap the federal long-gun registry.

Our Government fulfilled an election campaign commitment on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> when we introduced the *Ending the Long-Gun Registry Act* in the House of Commons. That day marked the beginning of the end of a misguided, wasteful and ineffective intrusion into the wallets and property rights of farmers, ranchers, hunters and sports shooters in Canada.

The former Liberal Government established the registry that required owners of non-restricted firearms to register their hunting rifles and shotguns. This was done under the pretense of gun control. But rather than focusing on measures that actually reduce crime, they opted to pour \$2 Billion worth of taxpayers' money into targeting duck hunters, farmers and ranchers instead of real criminals.

Our Conservative Government took office in 2006 and immediately introduced interim measures to ease this unnecessary burden, such as fee waivers for renewals and amnesties for unregistered owners. Since that time, we've also introduced three Government bills - and a caucus colleague also tabled a Private Member's Bill - to repeal the gun registry. In each case, Opposition members in the former minority Parliaments banded together to obstruct our attempts to abolish the unjust registry.

The most recent attempt in November 2010 was foiled when several Opposition members who had previously supported scrapping the registry flipped their vote in favour of keeping it.

But things have changed dramatically in the past year. Canadians gave us a majority mandate on an election platform that included a commitment to scrap the registry. And we are following through on that promise.

Once passed, this legislation will repeal the requirement for long-gun owners to register their hunting rifles and shotguns. All records related to the registry of long-guns currently contained in the Canadian Firearms Registry will be destroyed.

Firearms owners will still require a valid firearms license to purchase or possess firearms and to purchase ammunition.

They will also still be required to undergo background checks, pass a firearms safety training course and comply with firearms safe storage and transportation requirements.

The legislation will not affect the registration process for restricted and prohibited firearms and the Canadian Firearms Registry will continue to maintain records on these firearms.

***(Continued on next page)***

Our Government has always been clear; by eliminating the wasteful and ineffective long-gun registry, we can instead focus our efforts and resources on measures that actually tackle real crime and that will make our streets and communities safe.

**For more information, please contact Blake Richards, M.P., at (403) 948-5103**