

# CANADIAN SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION / CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

TEAM CSSA SPECIAL REPORT - March 27, 2015

## A VICTORY FOR THE LAW ABIDING:

### The Supreme Court of Canada rules on the Quebec long gun registry.

In a long awaited decision, the Supreme Court of Canada has ruled 5-4 on the side of Quebec's firearms owners and has stated the Quebec long gun registry data must be destroyed. This is a monumental victory for trustworthy firearms owners in the province and heralds the final stroke for the failed \$2 billion registry.

All three Quebec SCC judges in the minority.

"Quebec's position that cooperative federalism prevents Canada and the provinces from acting or legislating in a way that would hinder cooperation between both orders of government has no foundation in our constitutional law and is contrary to the governing authorities from this Court," the majority said. "The principle of cooperative federalism does not prevent Parliament from exercising legislative authority that it otherwise possesses."

The case, which was sparked by Quebec's demands that the federal government hand over the registration data collected for almost two million guns, has generated widespread controversy across Canada. The case calls into question the right of the federal government to pass federal legislation, Quebec asserting that the registration data actually belongs to Quebecers despite the exorbitant collection costs being paid for by all Canadians.

CSSA Executive Director Tony Bernardo says, "We have seen history created this day. With this decision, the Supreme Court of Canada has freed Quebec's firearms owners from the yoke of registration. The CSSA extends our congratulations to our Quebec members and to all lawful firearms owners in the province."

"The Quebec government has repeatedly stated its desire to start its own gun registry. The CSSA does not believe that the government of Quebec will be bold enough to flush so much money down the toilet. It's time for Quebec's politicians to ante up or stop the rhetoric." Bernardo adds.