# The World Is Run By Those Who Show Up

How to Influence the Electoral Process in Canada

Tips and Tools to Save Our Community,
Our Culture and Our Guns

A free PDF quick-action guide to accompany the Canadian Gun Owners Guide to Election 2019

This Version: Sept. 3, 2019

Latest updates: VoteGuns.ca

## What You'll Find Inside

- Tools, Tips, How To's, plus Do's and Don'ts of personal political action.
- Specific and concrete actions to have your vote count at the polls, and have your voice count with candidates and elected politicians.

# Why You Need This Guide

- One of two men will be prime minister after Election 2019, Justin Trudeau or Andrew Scheer. The former wants to take your guns, the latter doesn't.
- Trudeau's Liberal Party plans the biggest round of gun seizures in Canadian history if they win the October 2019 election, starting with 200,000 rifles/shotguns owned by PAL/RPAL holders.
- Scheer's Conservative Party is the only political party capable of forming government that opposes bans and can stop the Liberals.
- The actions in this guide will help us prevent a Liberal government and help us elect a Conservative government in October 2019.
- This guide also gives important steps and actions to take after the election.

# Do One Thing Now

- If you follow through on one idea from this book, you're doing more than most.
- It can be really simple.
  - ☑ sign up as a campaign volunteer (1 min) and show up
  - ☑ make a phone call (2 min)
  - ☑ send an e-mail (15 min)

# Did someone forward this PDF to you?

Sign up for election Updates and Alerts: VoteGuns.ca

# Actions (1): During the Election

#### 1. Vote to Save Your Guns

#### Vote Conservative, Except In the 100 Ridings Where You Shouldn't

Your most basic and most important decision is which party to vote for in the October 2019 election. A lot of gun owners assume everyone should vote for the Conservative Party. **This could be a grave mistake.** It will cost us our community, our culture, our guns and more of our rights.

#### Vote for the strongest non-Liberal party in your riding.

- Vote Conservative in the 238 ridings where the Conservatives can win.
- Vote NDP, Bloc Québécois or Independent in the 100 ridings where the Conservatives can't win.

Get the voting recommendation for your electoral district in the Canadian Gun Owners Guide to Election 2019. More info on the last page of this guide.

## 2. Talk to Your Family and Friends

Share info with family and friends so they know what's at stake in Election 2019. Help them understand how this election will determine the future of civilian firearm ownership in Canada.

Election 2019 is about much more than our guns. It's about respect for our culture and our community. It's about the health of our democracy and how a government treats its citizens.

#### Share this PDF with anyone who might benefit.

If you are in a gun club or a target range, organize a meeting to discuss the election and what it means for the future of your club and your members.

- Does everyone know the Liberals plan massive gun bans?
- How many members would your club/range lose if bans are imposed?
- How long could your club/range survive?

## 3. Vote Early In Election Month

#### 'Election Day' Is Dead. Long Live Election Month!

In the past, we all had to vote on a single "Election Day." You needed a special reason to vote on any other day. Today, Elections Canada makes it easy to vote during Election Month before the last day. Avoid the last day if you can.

#### Vote As Soon As You Can

- Ensure your vote is counted.
- Avoid long lineups on the last voting day.
- Avoid last-minute obstacles, like being sick, stuck at work or a flat tire.

#### Where and When to Vote in October 2019

- Vote at Advance Polls in your riding, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.:
  - ☑ Friday October 11
  - ☑ Saturday October 12
  - ☑ Sunday October 13
  - ☑ Monday October 14 (Thanksgiving)
- Vote at any Elections Canada office once the election is officially called in mid-September. Show your ID and vote. You can be in and out in five minutes.
- Last Day to Vote: Monday October 21
- More options and details at Elections Canada: <u>Elections.ca</u>

Remember valid ID + proof of current address!

(e.g. valid driver's licence)

## 4. Help Your Candidate Win

#### Volunteer, Donate

Once you know the party to vote for in your electoral district to save your guns, help them get elected. Sign up to volunteer on their campaign and show up. Donate.

- **Volunteer in Your Riding.** Campaign teams need drivers, canvassers, phoner callers, greeters, and other helpers.
  - ☑ Can you donate an afternoon to join a canvassing party and hand out flyers or install lawn signs?
  - ☑ Can you help on the last Election Day (October 21) to drive people to the polls?
  - ☑ Can you help as a "scrutineer" at a polling station to supervise the vote count and make sure everybody follows the procedures and nobody cheats?
- **Volunteer Alone or With a Friend.** You can go alone or with a friend or a group. You might make new friends or meet the man and/or woman of your dreams.
- **Volunteer Close or Far.** Some people like to volunteer close to where they live, some people prefer to volunteer far away. You decide.
- **Donate to your local campaign.** When you donate to your local candidate, 100% of your donation stays there to work for you. When you donate to the party nationally, only 10% comes back to your riding.

Note: You don't have to talk about guns or shooting when you volunteer on a campaign.

#### 5. Visit VoteGuns.ca

Sign up for updates and alerts: VoteGuns.ca

# Actions (2): After the Election

## The World Is Run By Those Who Show Up

Election 2019 is a beginning, not an ending. A lot of people think voting in the election is the be-all and end-all of political action. It's not. No matter who wins, we must show up and (politely and firmly) hold their feet to the fire.

No matter who wins, we need to be more active in our communities, associations, media, businesses, political parties, and with our elected officials at all levels of government.

If we want to change popular attitudes toward firearm users, we need to be better at sharing the value and benefits of hunting and shooting with the people around us.

#### Show Up, or Perish

The unfortunate reality of being a firearm user today is that if we don't bother to show up, we're handing our future to political opponents who want to eliminate us. If we do show up, we can create a future that respects and values our existence.

Each of us can show up in a way that honours our own values, style and preferences. Here are a few ideas for how to show up in politics.

#### Show Up at the Shooting Range and Bring New Shooters With You

Invite people shooting, especially your municipal, provincial and federal politicians.

- Put a giant smile on your guests' faces as they hit bullseyes.
- Let them experience the reality of our community and our culture of safety, responsibility and good citizenship.
- Help them get their PAL/RPAL. Help them get guns.

#### **Show Up for Your Member of Parliament**

Fixing Canada's gun laws is both critical and urgent, and changing the culture will take decades. After the election we need to show up for our Conservative MPs and government ministers in at least two ways:

- Support their work and attend their events.
- Hold them accountable for fulfilling their election promises.

#### **Show Up for Your Riding Association**

Every major political party has an Electoral District Association (EDA) in every riding. In between elections, they organize events, raise funds and connect with other voters.

Some EDAs are strong, well run, well funded, with hundreds of members who recruit top-notch candidates. Many EDAs are a mess and barely alive. All of them could use you on the board of directors or as a volunteer, depending on your commitment and availability. At the very least, you should get on their mailing list.

The people on the riding association play a key role in selecting the candidate will hopefully become the elected representative for that riding.

A strong executive will help recruit good potential candidates and help them win. If you're on the executive, it doesn't mean your candidate will run on a pro-gun platform or be an ambassador for gun owners. That's up to them and the party.

But if they aren't familiar with the shooting community, you might provide a valuable resource and reality check. Or at least help prevent them from saying things about guns that hurt their chances of getting elected.

Volunteering for your candidate and/or the EDA is a good way to boost your credibility and influence.

Who is your candidate (and perhaps future member of parliament) more likely to listen to and trust: a stranger they met once for 20 seconds at the summer BBQ, or someone they've known for years who was critical to their election victory?

#### **Show Up By Running for Office**

You can show up by running as a candidate yourself.

#### **Show Up Your Way**

These are just a few ways to get involved in politics, but politics might not be your thing. Wherever you are, whatever you do, you can play a role by standing up and speaking out in a way that is authentic and appropriate to your audience and the context.

# 3 Things You Should Never Do

These are great ways to spend time, if so inclined, but they are not effective political action.

- Petitions
- Form letters
- Social media

## 3 Things You Should Always Do

- Reach out to your local municipal, provincial and federal representatives.
- Work with gun clubs, shooting ranges to spread the good will of our community.
- Make our community part of your community. Invite neighbours, community groups like Rotary, Toastmasters, Chamber of Commerce, religious groups, teachers, schools, professional associations, local business owners and staff, family day at the range, Ladies Day at the range, etc.

Every gun club can raise \$100 twice a year for local charities.

# About the Authors

The two of us wrote

- The Bill C-71 Book (Amazon Bestseller)
- Canadian Gun Owners Guide to Election 2019 (Released in September 2019)

Christopher di Armani worked in the movie industry for 18 years where, among other duties, he taught actors how to handle firearms properly. He is also a former CFSC/CRFSC firearm safety instructor, is Black Badge certified in IPSC and is an IDPA safety officer instructor. He published Canadian Rights and Freedoms Bulletin, and created the "Katey's Firearms Facts" series on YouTube, which helped raise over \$230,000 for a constitutional challenge of the Firearms Act. He and his wife live in the mountains about three hours from Vancouver.

**Nicolas Johnson** is the editor of TheGunBlog.ca, Canada's leading gun-rights media. He ran as a political candidate in 2014 and has volunteered on several campaigns since then. He previously worked as a reporter and editor for Bloomberg News in Europe and Asia, followed by a stint at The Globe and Mail in Toronto. He lives in Toronto.

# Canadian Gun Owners Guide to Election 2019

The book shows every gun owner in every riding who to vote for in Election 2019. The authors analyzed every election result for every party in every riding for the past five elections, plus the latest opinion polls and projections.

Buy it on the following online retailers:

- Amazon.ca
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