

BILL

No. 42

An Act to amend *The Saskatchewan Firearms Act*

(Assented to _____)

HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows:

Short title

1 This Act may be cited as *The Saskatchewan Firearms Amendment Act, 2025*.

SS 2023, c 8 amended

2 *The Saskatchewan Firearms Act* is amended in the manner set forth in this Act.

Section 1-2 amended

3 Section 1-2 is amended:

(a) in the definition of “commissioner” by adding “and includes any deputy commissioner or assistant commissioner designated pursuant to that section” after “section 2-2”; and

(b) by adding the following definition in alphabetical order:

“**owner**” includes the heirs, executors, administrators and other legal representatives of an owner”.

New section 2-2

4 Section 2-2 is repealed and the following substituted:

“Saskatchewan firearms commissioner

2-2(1) The minister may designate:

- (a) an individual as the Saskatchewan firearms commissioner;
- (b) one or more individuals as deputy commissioners; and
- (c) one or more individuals or classes of individuals as assistant commissioners.

(2) The minister may delegate to the commissioner the exercise of any of the powers given to, or the fulfilment of any of the responsibilities imposed on, the minister pursuant to this Act and the regulations and, subject to subsection (3), the commissioner may further delegate to a deputy commissioner or assistant commissioner the exercise of those powers or fulfilment of those responsibilities.

(3) The minister may impose any terms and conditions on a delegation pursuant to this section that the minister considers appropriate, including prohibiting a deputy commissioner or assistant commissioner from exercising any power or fulfilling any responsibility pursuant to the delegation.

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(4) A decision or action of the commissioner, or a deputy commissioner or assistant commissioner, as the case may be, in relation to the exercise or performance of any power or responsibility delegated to the commissioner pursuant to subsection (2) is deemed to be a decision or action of the minister”.

Section 3-12 amended

5 Section 3-12 is amended by striking out “business” and substituting “person”.

Section 3-16 amended

6(1) Subsection 3-16(1) is amended in the portion preceding clause (a) by striking out “Division” wherever it appears and in each case substituting “Part”.

(2) Subsection 3-16(2) is amended by striking out “Division” and substituting “Part”.

Section 3-17 amended

7 Subsection 3-17(2) is amended in the portion preceding clause (a) by striking out “Division” and substituting “Part”.

Section 3-18 amended

8 Section 3-18 is amended:

(a) by renumbering it as subsection 3-18(1); and

(b) by adding the following subsection after subsection (1):

“(2) No person who is subject to an order made pursuant to subsection (1) shall fail to comply with the order”.

Section 3-19 amended

9 Section 3-19 is amended by striking out “Division” wherever it appears and in each case substituting “Part”.

New Divisions 3 to 5 of Part 3

10 The following Divisions are added after section 3-19:

“DIVISION 3

Inspection of Shooting Clubs and Shooting Ranges

“Inspection of shooting clubs and shooting ranges

3-20(1) For the purposes of ensuring compliance with this Act, the regulations and any policies or guidelines of the minister, chief firearms officer or commissioner, a firearms officer or the chief firearms officer may at any reasonable time enter and inspect a shooting club or shooting range that is approved or seeking approval pursuant to the *Firearms Act* (Canada) that is located in Saskatchewan.

(2) For the purposes of conducting an inspection pursuant to subsection (1), a firearms officer or the chief firearms officer may do any of the following:

(a) open any container the firearms officer or chief firearms officer believes on reasonable grounds contains a firearm, ammunition or other related item;

(b) examine any firearm, ammunition or other related item;

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- (c) examine the facilities located at the shooting club or shooting range;
 - (d) require any person to produce for examination or copying any records, books of account or other documents that the firearms officer or chief firearms officer believes on reasonable grounds contain information that is relevant to the enforcement of this Act or the regulations;
 - (e) examine any record mentioned in clause (d);
 - (f) remove any records, books of account or other documents pursuant to this section for the purpose of making copies, and shall:
 - (i) make those copies as soon as is reasonably possible; and
 - (ii) promptly return the records, books of account or other documents from which the copies were made to:
 - (A) the place from which they were removed; or
 - (B) any other place that may be agreed to by the firearms officer or chief firearms officer and the person who produced them;
 - (g) make any inquiries of a person who is in the shooting club or shooting range.
- (3) If a firearms officer or the chief firearms officer conducts an inspection pursuant to subsection (1), the firearms officer or chief firearms officer may provide any information respecting the inspection to the commissioner.
- (4) No person shall resist, obstruct, hinder or interfere with a person conducting an inspection pursuant to this section.

“DIVISION 4

Report by Medical Professional**“Medical and other reports**

3-21(1) In this section, ‘**medical professional**’ means:

- (a) a duly qualified medical practitioner; or
 - (b) any other prescribed category of persons that provides medical treatments or services.
- (2) A medical professional may report to the commissioner, the chief firearms officer or a peace officer the name, address and clinical condition of an individual if:
- (a) the medical professional has reasonable grounds to believe that the individual:
 - (i) holds a valid licence pursuant to the *Firearms Act* (Canada) to possess and acquire firearms; or
 - (ii) has a pending application for a licence pursuant to the *Firearms Act* (Canada) to possess and acquire firearms; and
 - (b) in the opinion of the medical professional, the individual is suffering from a condition that makes it dangerous for the individual to possess and use a firearm.

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- (3) No action shall be brought against a medical professional who makes a report in good faith in accordance with this section.
- (4) Subject to subsection (5), a report made pursuant to subsection (2):
- (a) is privileged for the information of the recipient only;
 - (b) is not open to public inspection; and
 - (c) is not admissible in evidence in any trial, except to show that the report has been made in good faith in accordance with this section.
- (5) The recipient of a report made pursuant to subsection (2) may share the report with a peace officer, the commissioner or chief firearms officer, as the case may be, for the purposes of this Act.

**“DIVISION 5
Firearm Safety Instruction**

“Designation of firearm safety instructors

- 3-22(1)** The chief firearms officer may designate instructors who may give instruction in Saskatchewan respecting the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and administer any test in Saskatchewan for the purposes of that course.
- (2) The chief firearms officer may revoke a designation mentioned in subsection (1) for any reason the chief firearms officer considers appropriate.
- (3) The chief firearms officer may establish or adopt any policies or guidelines respecting the designation of instructors pursuant to subsection (1) and the revocation of designations pursuant to subsection (2).
- (4) The chief firearms officer shall publish any policy or guideline established or adopted pursuant to subsection (3) in any manner the chief firearms officer considers appropriate.
- (5) No person shall:
- (a) give instruction in Saskatchewan respecting the Canadian Firearms Safety Course or administer any test in Saskatchewan for the purposes of that course if the person is not designated pursuant to subsection (1); or
 - (b) fail to comply with:
 - (i) a policy or guideline mentioned in subsection (4); or
 - (ii) any prescribed rules or requirements respecting instructors”.

Section 4-1 amended

- 11 Clauses 4-1(2)(a) and (b) are repealed.**

Section 5-2 amended

- 12 Section 5-2 is amended by striking out “A person” and substituting “Subject to Division 5 of this Part, a person”.**

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Section 5-8 amended

13 Section 5-8 is amended:

- (a) by renumbering it as subsection 5-8(1); and
- (b) by adding the following subsection after subsection (1):

“(2) This Division does not apply to a firearm that has never been owned by an individual”.

New Division 5 of Part 5

14 The following Division is added after section 5-13:

“DIVISION 5
Deemed Seizure

“Deemed seizure

5-14(1) Subject to the regulations, a firearm is deemed to be seized from an owner for the purposes of this Part if:

- (a) as a result of a specified law:
 - (i) an owner who previously had a lawful right to own or possess a firearm no longer has a lawful right to own, possess or use the firearm; or
 - (ii) an owner who previously had a right to transfer ownership of a firearm no longer has a right to transfer ownership of the firearm to other persons having the same category of firearms licence or privileges pursuant to the *Firearms Act* (Canada) as the owner; and
- (b) the owner does not receive full compensation in accordance with Division 2 of this Part within 12 months after the date on which the specified law mentioned in clause (a) comes into effect.

(2) Subject to the regulations, if a firearm is deemed to be seized pursuant to subsection (1):

- (a) the Government of Canada must pay to the owner full compensation for the fair market value of the firearm in accordance with Division 2 of this Part; and
- (b) for the purposes of section 5-4, the owner may request the commissioner to determine the fair market value of the firearm, and section 5-4 applies, with any necessary modification.

(3) This section applies to a specified law that comes into effect before or after the coming into force of this section.

(4) For the purposes of *The Limitations Act*, with respect to an action for compensation pursuant to this section:

- (a) a claim is deemed not to have been discovered before the day on which this section comes into force;
- (b) the act or omission on which the claim is based is deemed not to have occurred before the day on which this section comes into force; and
- (c) the calculation of any limitation period pursuant to that Act is not to commence before the day on which this section comes into force.

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“Storage by commissioner

5-15(1) In this section, ‘**person**’ includes a partnership, association or other organization.

(2) If an owner provides a request to the commissioner for a determination of the fair market value of a firearm pursuant to section 5-14, the commissioner may collect the firearm from the owner and hold it in storage.

(3) If the commissioner collects and stores a firearm pursuant to subsection (2), the commissioner may cause the firearm to be submitted for forensic and ballistic testing, and Division 3 of this Part applies, with any necessary modification.

(4) The commissioner may enter into an agreement with a person for the purposes of collecting and storing firearms on behalf of the commissioner pursuant to subsection (2).

(5) A person who enters into an agreement with the commissioner pursuant to subsection (4) is deemed not to be a seizure agent with respect to any firearm that is collected or stored by the person in accordance with the agreement.

(6) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the commissioner, or a person mentioned in subsection (4), is not required to pay compensation to the owner pursuant to this Act if the commissioner or person takes possession of and stores a firearm in accordance with this section or section 5-16.

(7) Subsection (6) does not diminish or otherwise affect the requirement of the Government of Canada to pay an owner full compensation for the fair market value of a firearm pursuant to section 5-14.

“Receipt of payment and destruction or deactivation

5-16(1) If an owner receives full payment for a firearm pursuant to this Division, the owner shall provide the commissioner with written notice of the payment, in a form approved by the commissioner.

(2) On receiving notice of payment pursuant to subsection (1):

(a) if the commissioner is storing a firearm pursuant to section 5-15, the commissioner may arrange for the destruction or deactivation of the firearm; or

(b) if the commissioner is not storing a firearm pursuant to section 5-15, the commissioner may provide written direction to the owner respecting the destruction or deactivation of the firearm.

(3) An owner who receives a written direction mentioned in clause (2)(b) shall comply with the written direction”.

Section 6-9 amended:**15 Section 6-9 is amended:**

(a) **by adding the following clauses after clause (e):**

“(e.1) respecting the inspection of shooting clubs or shooting ranges pursuant to Division 3 of Part 3;

“(e.2) prescribing other categories of medical professionals for the purpose of section 3-21;

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“(e.3) for the purposes of Division 5 of Part 3:

- (i) respecting the designation of instructors; and
- (ii) prescribing rules or requirements for instructors”; **and**

(b) by adding the following clauses after clause (k):

“(k.1) respecting deemed seizures for the purposes of section 5-14, including:

- (i) prescribing any form, process or procedure for the purposes of that section;
- (ii) exempting any person or firearm from the application of that section;
- (iii) respecting the coming into force of specified laws; and
- (iv) respecting the determination of fair market value for the purposes of that section;

“(k.2) respecting the storage and testing of firearms by the commissioner for the purposes of section 5-15;

“(k.3) respecting the destruction or deactivation of a firearm for the purposes of section 5-16”.

Coming into force

16 This Act comes into force by order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

SECOND SESSION

Thirtieth Legislature

SASKATCHEWAN

BILL

No. 42

An Act to amend *The Saskatchewan Firearms Act*

Received and read the

First time

Second time

Third time

And passed

Honourable Tim McLeod
