

**HIGHLIGHTS**  
**AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS SUPPORTING THE *FIREARMS ACT*.**

This chart summarizes the key substantive changes to the regulations supporting the *Firearms Act*. The amendments are coming into force in stages to give affected businesses, individuals and public agencies time to develop or adjust appropriate procedures to comply.

<b>Regulation Name</b>	<b>Key Amendments</b>	<b>Effect of Amendments</b>	<b>Effective or Anticipated In-Force Date</b>
<i>Storage, Display, Transportation and Handling of Firearms and other Weapons by Individuals Regulations</i>	As is currently the case with non-restricted firearms, restricted firearms and prohibited handguns may be shipped to another location in Canada using the most secure method offered by Canada Post that requires a signature on delivery.	It will permit Canadians in communities without access to licensed firearm carriers to ship and receive firearms.  Individuals are required by law to ship firearms in a safe and secure manner to deter loss, theft and accidents.	Immediately
<i>Storage, Display and Transportation of Firearms and other Weapons by Businesses Regulations</i>	Businesses will have the same options noted above for shipping restricted firearms and prohibited handguns  Employees of licensed carriers will not need to be able to communicate at all times while transporting prohibited items.  Licensed carriers will not need to keep records of employees who accompany shipments of prohibited items or the route taken unless the Registrar makes it	This is of particular help to businesses that do not have access to a licensed carrier to transport firearms.  Businesses are required by law to ship firearms in a safe and secure manner to deter loss, theft and accidents.  It recognizes that employees cannot always communicate – for example, if they are in an area where radio signals do not carry well.  Carriers must continue to keep records of the prohibited items that they transport.	Anticipated to take effect spring or early summer 2005

Regulation Name	Key Amendments	Effect of Amendments	Effective or Anticipated In-Force Date
<i>Firearms Licences Regulations (Individuals)</i>	<p>a condition of their licence.</p> <p>The mandatory 28-day waiting period before a Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL) can be issued no longer applies if the applicant holds a valid Possession-Only Licence (POL) or a Minors' Licence at the time they apply for a PAL.</p> <p>There will be a new process for renewing POLs and PALS. Renewal requirements will be the same for POL and PAL holders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some questions and requirements will be removed, such as the need for a photo guarantor and references.</li> <li>- All applicants will need to provide information on current and former spouses and conjugal partners with whom they have lived within the last two years.</li> </ul> <p>Non-residents aged 12 to 17 will be able to obtain a licence to possess non-restricted firearms in Canada for purposes such as hunting under the supervision of a licensed outfitter and target shooting.</p>	<p>It recognizes that a “cooling-off” period for an individual who wants to acquire a firearm is unnecessary if the person is already licensed and subject to continuous eligibility screening.</p> <p>Eliminating some requirements will help to simplify the renewal process. To further protect public safety, spouses and partners of POL holders will be given the same opportunity as spouses and partners of PAL holders and applicants to raise concerns about their own or someone else’s safety when a firearms licence is being renewed.</p> <p>Licensed minors may not bring a firearm into Canada but they will have more flexibility for borrowing one. Although there needs to be some supervision, it does not have to be direct and immediate supervision.</p>	Anticipated to take effect spring or early summer 2005

Regulation Name	Key Amendments	Effect of Amendments	Effective or Anticipated In-Force Date
<i>Firearms Licences Regulations (Businesses)</i>	<p>Businesses will be able to obtain a licence to sell prohibited handguns at retail to grandfathered and properly licensed individuals provided the handguns were reported to the Commissioner of the RCMP as business inventory on December 1, 1998 and have continuously been in the business' inventory since that date..</p> <p>Businesses will be able to apply for a 3-year licence for most activities or a 5-year licence if they only sell non-prohibited ammunition.</p> <p>The intraprovincial, interprovincial and international business carrier licences are being merged into one licence, which will be issued by the Registrar of Firearms.</p>	<p>It provides businesses with more options for disposing of their prohibited handguns.</p> <p>Licences have to be renewed less frequently than the current one-year licence. The fee for a licence is an application fee and does not change even though the licence is for a longer period.</p> <p>It provides more flexibility for carrier companies; it is more efficient for the Government to have one type of carrier licence instead of three.</p>	Anticipated to take effect spring or early summer 2005
<i>Firearms Registration Certificates Regulations</i>	As a general rule, all registration applications must be accompanied by proof that an approved verifier has confirmed the classification and description of the firearm. If a firearm has previously been verified, this requirement will apply only if a firearm's description has changed since the last registration certificate was	Verification helps to protect the integrity of the registration data.	Anticipated to take effect spring or early summer 2005

Regulation Name	Key Amendments	Effect of Amendments	Effective or Anticipated In-Force Date
	<p>issued or the Registrar has questions about the information in the registration database</p> <p>The Registrar will need to be notified of certain firearm changes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Changes to a converted automatic;</li> <li>- Changes that make a firearm no longer a firearm;</li> <li>- Permanent or long-term (30+ days) changes to the type, action, calibre or gauge or a registered firearm.</li> </ul> <p>A firearms identification number (FIN) does not need to be put on a firearm that a licensed business imports temporarily for a lawful purpose.</p>	<p>It expands the types of firearm modifications that need to be reported to the Registrar to maintain accuracy of registration database.</p> <p>It will simplify the registration of temporary imports.</p>	
<i>Conditions of Transferring Firearms and other Weapons Regulations</i>	<p>Departments and agencies of a municipal government are being included in the definition of a public agency</p> <p>Transfers of non-restricted firearms will not require approval from a provincial Chief Firearms Officer.</p>	<p>It will allow firearms to be sold or given to a municipal government</p> <p>It will speed up the processing of transfer applications. A CFO must still approval transfers of restricted and prohibited firearms. The Registrar will protect public safety by confirming the transferee's license eligibility before</p>	Anticipated to take effect spring or early summer 2005

Regulation Name	Key Amendments	Effect of Amendments	Effective or Anticipated In-Force Date
<i>Firearms Fees Regulations</i>	<p>Individuals who have had a licence for less than three years will only have to pay half price for a new Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL) if, for example, they upgrade from a Possession-Only Licence (POL) to a PAL or from a PAL for non-restricted firearms to a PAL for restricted firearms.</p> <p>Fees for Authorizations to Import and Authorizations to Export are being repealed.</p> <p>The fee for a Non-Resident Firearm Declaration will be reduced from \$50 to \$25.</p> <p>The fee for the new, merged carrier licence will be the fee currently in place for an intraprovincial carrier licence (\$125)</p> <p>Businesses that pay a licence fee under the <i>Explosives Act</i> for the wholesale selling and manufacturing of ammunition will not also have to pay a licence fee for those particular activities</p>	<p>registering the firearm to the new owner.</p> <p>It increases the number of licence holders who are eligible for a fee reduction.</p> <p>These fees were never brought into force.</p> <p>It supports Canadian sports shooting and tourism by making it less costly for non-residents to bring firearms into Canada for lawful purposes such as hunting or target shooting.</p> <p>It will result in a fee reduction for carriers who transport firearms and other regulated items across provincial or national borders.</p> <p>It ensures that businesses will only pay one fee for one activity. They will still need a licence under both Acts.</p>	<p>Anticipated to take effect spring or early summer 2005</p>

Regulation Name	Key Amendments	Effect of Amendments	Effective or Anticipated In-Force Date
<p><i>Gun Show Regulations</i> The original regulations were never brought into effect.</p>	<p>under the <i>Firearms Act</i>.</p> <p>The regulations will apply to <b>all</b> shows where firearms are displayed, sold or offered for sale</p> <p>Sponsors will not need to hold a firearms business licence to sponsor a gun show, but they will need approval from the CFO and to notify local police.</p> <p>Gun show sponsors will not need to provide evidence of Canadian citizenship or the ability to carry on business in Canada.</p> <p>The requirement to provide a list of exhibitors and a floor plan to the CFO prior to the show has been repealed.</p>	<p>Some exemptions in the current regulations have been repealed</p> <p>The existing licence requirements for those who possess, sell or purchase firearms at a gun show are deemed satisfactory to protect public safety.</p> <p>It allows more flexibility for non-residents to sponsor a show. Sponsors remain subject to CFO approval.</p> <p>The existing licence requirements for those who possess, sell or purchase firearms at a gun show are deemed satisfactory to protect public safety..</p>	<p>Anticipated to take effect September 1, 2005</p>
<p><i>Public Agents Firearms Regulations</i></p>	<p>The coming-into-force date has been deferred from January 1, 2005 to September 30, 2005..</p> <p>An agency will be able to obtain more than one public agency identification number (PAIN).</p> <p>An agency will only need to report protected firearms (e.g. found or seized</p>	<p>It gives public agencies such as police forces and government departments more time to report their inventory in accordance with the revised requirements.</p> <p>It allows large agencies to track their firearm inventories (e.g.: by region or location) more efficiently.</p> <p>It streamlines procedures and reduces the need for double reporting of firearms that</p>	<p>Anticipated to take effect September 30, 2005</p>

Regulation Name	Key Amendments	Effect of Amendments	Effective or Anticipated In-Force Date
<p><i>Importation and Exportation of Firearms Regulations (Individuals)</i> (Only provisions applying to temporary imports by non-residents are currently in place. Like the provisions for Canadian residents, these have been changed.)</p>	<p>firearms) if the firearms remain in their possession for 72 hours or more.</p> <p>Non-residents will have the option of obtaining a pre-processed non-resident firearm declaration to present to a customs officer at the point of entry. Once confirmed by a customs officer, it will have the effect of a temporary licence and registration certificate for up to one year.</p>	<p>are only temporarily in the agency's possession.</p> <p>It will save non-residents and CBSA staff time at the point of entry by allowing some background checks to be done in advance. Non-residents will continue to have the option of having a declaration form processed at the point of entry, but this declaration will only be valid for 60 days, with the option of one free 60-day renewal.</p>	<p>Anticipated to take effect spring or early summer 2006</p>
	<p>When bringing a firearm into Canada, non-residents will need to indicate the date they expect to take it back out.</p>	<p>It will reinforce the non-resident's responsibility to export the firearm and deter them from illegally leaving firearms in Canada.</p>	
	<p>Simplified requirements for Canadian residents will include, for example, eliminating the requirement to declare in writing the re-import of firearms that have temporarily been exported. They will merely need to show their licence and registration certificates for their firearms.</p>	<p>It reduces red tape, fosters greater efficiency at customs and makes compliance easier.</p>	
	<p>The requirements for an Authorization to Import will be extended to include firearm slides, cylinders, bolts, breech blocks and barrels in addition to</p>	<p>It will enable Canada to meet its international commitments to deter the smuggling and illegal trafficking of important firearm parts.</p>	

Regulation Name	Key Amendments	Effect of Amendments	Effective or Anticipated In-Force Date
<p><i>Importation and Exportation of Firearms Regulations (Businesses)</i> (These regulations were deferred pending amendments to streamline them.)</p>	<p>firearms.</p> <p>An export permit issued by the Minister of International Trade Canada under the <i>Export and Import Permits Act</i> will be deemed an Authorization to Export under the <i>Firearms Act</i>.</p> <p>The requirement of a bar code with a description of imported or exported goods is being repealed. A bill of lading will be required.</p> <p>Businesses will be able to wait until firearms have been imported into Canada to provide a serial number to the Registrar. A description would still need to be provided in advance.</p>	<p>Responsibility for issuing export permits will remain with International Trade Canada. This measure ensures that exporters will only have to apply for one permit to export firearms.</p> <p>It will simplify requirements for businesses exporting or importing firearms.</p> <p>It recognizes that businesses often do not know the serial numbers of firearms within a shipment are until they receive the firearms.</p>	<p>Anticipated to take effect spring or early summer 2006</p>



Regulation Name	Key Amendments	Effect of Amendments	Effective or Anticipated In-Force Date
<i>Firearms Marking Regulations</i>	<p>The regulations set out specific requirements for permanently stamping or engraving information of newly manufactured or newly imported firearms. They specify what markings will be required, the minimum size of the markings and where markings will need to be placed.</p> <p>There are exemptions for certain temporary imports, including firearms being “specially imported” by a licensed business or brought to Canada by a non-resident for lawful purposes.</p>	<p>These are new regulations that enable Canada to meet its international obligations under the <i>Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime</i> and the <i>Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials</i>.</p>	April 1, 2006.