

NEWS RELEASE



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NTI Supports the Abolition of Long Gun Registry

(September 15, 2010 – Cambridge Bay, Nunavut) Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. Acting President James Eetoolook today called on MPs to vote in favour of abolishing the Firearms Registry when the issue comes before the House of Commons on September 22nd.

“NTI fully supports the safe use of firearms,” said Eetoolook, “But the *Firearms Act* does not take account of the realities of life in Nunavut. Firearms are essential tools used by Inuit to hunt for food and provide for our families.”

“Trying to impose bureaucratic registration and licensing procedures designed for southern Canada interferes with the ability of Inuit to use firearms for hunting, but does nothing to enhance safety of police or the public in Nunavut.”

The *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* guarantees to Inuit the right to hunt without any form of license or permit. Since July, 2003, an interim injunction issued by the Nunavut Court of Justice has halted the enforcement of the registration and licensing provisions of the *Firearms Act* against Nunavut Inuit who use firearms for hunting purposes.

NTI believes that firearms legislation should be adapted in Nunavut to provide for a regime that reflects the reality and works in Nunavut.

Eetoolook asked Nunavummiut to call Nunavut MP Leona Aglukkaq to express their concerns with the firearms registry and to encourage her to support its abolition.

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