



You Can Help Prevent Firearms Injuries and Deaths

Every year firearms contribute to thousands of injuries and deaths across Canada. Although random crime accounts for some of them, the majority are injuries, accidents, suicides and homicides that happen in people's own homes.

Did you know?

According to the Canadian Firearms Program, each year in Canada there are:

- Almost 1,400 firearm-related deaths; and
- Over 1,100 hospitalizations resulting from firearm-related injuries

www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca/media/difference_e.asp

And New Brunswick has one of the highest rates of firearm deaths of all of the provinces. In 2006 there were

- 27 firearm suicides (29% of all suicides)
- 2 firearm homicides

Over 40% of the domestic homicides in New Brunswick between 1990 and 2008 were firearms related. The New Brunswick Silent Witness Project reports:

- 14 domestic homicides using firearm – all the victims were women
- In 9 of these domestic homicides, the partner committed suicide with the firearm
- 13 of these cases involved hunting rifles or shotguns – one was a handgun

www.silentwitness.ca



These injuries and deaths ARE preventable.





Help Reduce Gun Death and Injury...

If you have firearms in the home, be sure to

- Take a firearms safety course
- Store your guns unloaded and locked away, or made inoperable
- Keep ammunition locked away or in a separate place from the guns
- Use safe practices when handling and transporting your guns



If you have firearms and children, be sure to

- Never leave your gun unattended when you are cleaning it or using it
- Tell your children
 - about the risks of firearms
 - never to pick up a firearm
 - never to touch a firearm at the home of a friend, family or neighbour



If you know someone who is depressed

- Ask the question that might save a life - **Is there a gun?**
 - If somebody tells you they are suicidal
 - If somebody is experiencing abuse by a spouse or partner
 - If there is a youth in the home who may be depressed
- The best prevention is **NOT** to store your gun in your home, especially if you live with children or youth.
- If you think someone is at risk because of the presence of a firearm contact
 - Your local police or RCMP
 - Chimo Helpline - 1-800-667-5005
 - Canadian Firearms Program - 1-800-731-4000



This Safer Families...Safer Communities Fact Sheet is published by:



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To learn more on this topic, you can contact the following local organization(s):

