

COMMISSIONER OF CANADA ELECTIONS COMPLAINT

The attached e-newsletter issued by the Canadian Shooting Sports Association (CSSA) on September 23, 2019 was brought to our attention today by a member of the public who received it.

As you can see, the newsletter directly comments on the Liberal Party of Canada's platform position on semi-automatic rifles and other firearms. The newsletter goes on to state that "With the 2019 federal election looming, the CSSA is putting its members' money where its mouth is. We commissioned a series of videos in English and Mandarin with a simple message: if you use or own guns, you must vote in Election 2019."

The newsletter further states that "These commercials are already running of City TV [sic] and the Wild TV Networks..." and "we've also booked hundred of time slots to run them."

A link to all the CSSA commercials is included. This link directs the reader to the following webpage: <https://cssa-cila.org/election2019/>

At this page, there is a heading called "CSSA Television Ads- Vote in Election 2019." A series of nine distinct ads appear.

We have the following concerns with respect to this activity:

1. CSSA does not appear to be a registered third party for the 43rd General Election (<https://www.elections.ca/WPAPPS/WPR/EN/TP>), despite having incurred more than \$500 in regulated expenses for its get-out-the-vote campaign, video production and advertising expenses. This is in contravention of section 353(1) of the *Canada Elections Act*.
2. CSSA has stated that its ads are running on television networks such as Citytv and Wild TV. The ad videos they have posted online do not bear an authorization tag. If the election ads airing on television similarly lack an authorization tag, this is in contravention of section 352 of the *Canada Elections Act*.

INCLUDED DOCUMENTATION

Message from the CSSA:

CSSA to Firearms Owners: Vote!

Election 2019 could determine if Canadians will legally own guns or not.

Does that scare you?

It should.

The Liberal government is already on record saying they will ban semi-automatic rifles, regardless of classification, from hundreds of thousands of licensed Canadian firearm owners.

But, of course, that's just their starting point. Advocacy groups who want to ban handguns and semi-automatic rifles and shotguns are emboldened by big city mayors who, while claiming they want to stop gang violence, focus all their measures on RCMP-vetted firearm owners.

It won't stop violent criminals or gangs, but it gives politicians the thing they crave most: sound bites that make them sound like they're doing something, even when they're not.

With the 2019 federal election looming, the CSSA is putting its members' money where our mouth is. We commissioned a series of videos in English and Mandarin with a simple message: if you own or use guns, you must vote in Election 2019.

These commercials are already running on City TV and the Wild TV networks, where the response from viewers is very good.

We've also booked hundreds of time slots to run them.

But we can't carry the load alone.

We need you to reach out to everyone in your circle of influence and make sure they all vote in Election 2019. This includes your family, your friends, your neighbours and your co-workers.

The future of our community, our culture of safety and our ability to own and use firearms may very well depend upon it.

All of these videos are now live on YouTube. We ask you to share them with everyone on your social media accounts and email them to all your friends.

This is the single, most important message for gun owners across this great nation: Vote in Election 2019.

View all of the CSSA commercials [HERE](#).

Then go and Vote today.

Yes, today. You don't need to wait until October 21st.

You can vote TODAY at any **Elections Canada office**. All you need to know is the name of your candidate and you can vote using a “Special Ballot.”

You can also vote in the advance polls, which take place over the Thanksgiving long weekend. Voting in Election 2019 is far too important to leave to the last minute. Avoid the long lineups on Election Day and vote early, either by Special Ballot at any Elections Canada office or at the Advance Polls on Thanksgiving weekend.

The single, most important message for gun owners and firearm users across our great nation is this:

[Vote in Election 2019.](#)

Support Your Local Candidate

The battle for our firearms community, our culture of safety and our guns will be fought in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). For this reason, it's vital for CSSA members and anyone who loves hunting and sport shooting to volunteer for your local Conservative candidate and help them win their electoral district.

If you are able to devote a few hours per week to help your local candidate get elected, every campaign is hungry for volunteers. We've made it easy for you to find your candidate and volunteer to help them win.

[Greater Toronto Area Candidates Contact Information](#)

CSSA TELEVISION ADS - VOTE IN ELECTION 2019







