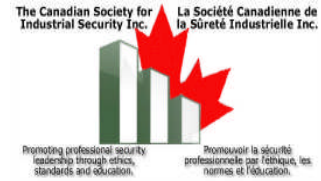


## Background-Body Armour Licensing in British Columbia



In February of this year British Columbia Premier Gordon Campbell announced a seven point program to combat gun and gang violence. One of the proposed components of the plan is a new licensing program for the sale, possession and use of body armour, including criminal record checks plus, the ability to possibly confiscate the body armour from those that do not hold a valid license. This licensing would be restricted to the sale and possession of equipment commonly known as "bullet resistant vests".

Recently two questionnaires were posted on the website of the BC's Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General in order to elicit input from various business sectors, specifically "businesses that offer security services" and those "who manufacture and distribute body armour." The purpose of the questionnaires is to provide an understanding in the use of body armour and to help draft effective regulations. These surveys are now closed.

The Society had been requested by a letter from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General in British Columbia to participate in the survey and our members in the Pacific Region were advised and requested to respond.

Further to this letter the Society contacted the office of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to discuss the possibility of a larger national response on the same subject matter by means of a survey directed to those in the industry rather than to businesses that manufacture/distribute or offer security services. The responses of this survey would be tabulated, a letter stating its findings would be sent the Solicitor General of BC Mr. Kash Heed and shared with the membership. The Ministry advised that they would welcome our input and the results of such a survey.

August 21, 2009.