



Proposal to Regulate the Sale, Possession and Use of Body Armour in British Columbia

Questionnaire for Manufacturers and Distributors of Body Armour in B.C.

To help us understand the sale, possession and use of body armour in B.C., we would like to learn more about the industry.

To complete and submit the questionnaire you may:

1. E-mail
 - a. You may fill in the questionnaire at your computer and click the 'Submit Questionnaire' button at the end of the questionnaire. This method works best if you are using e-mail program that is actually installed on your computer (such as Microsoft Outlook), or
 - b. If you are using a web-based e-mail program (such as MSN Hotmail or Google Gmail), save the completed questionnaire and 'manually' attach the questionnaire to an e-mail message addressed to betty.down@gov.bc.ca
2. Mail or Fax
 - a. Fill in the questionnaire at your computer and print the completed questionnaire. Mail or fax the completed questionnaire to the address below, or
 - b. Print the questionnaire and fill in by hand (please print clearly, use dark ink). Mail or fax the completed questionnaire to the address below.

This questionnaire should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

DEADLINE – Friday August 14, 2009 at 4:00pm

Mailing Address:

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Policing and Community Safety Branch
PO Box 9285 Stn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria BC V8W 9J7

FAX: 250 356-7747

E-mail: betty.down@gov.bc.ca

If you have any questions or need help with this questionnaire, please contact:

Betty Down, Senior Policy and Legislation Analyst

Phone: 250 387-0269

Toll Free: call Enquiry BC, Vancouver – 604 660-2421 / Elsewhere in BC – 1 800 663-7867

. . . and ask to be transferred to 250 387-0269

Section 1 – General Information

On February 13, 2009, the Premier announced a 7 point plan to combat gang and gun violence. One proposed component of the plan is a new licensing program for the sale and purchase of body armour, which will include criminal record checks. Most importantly, it will provide for the possible confiscation of body armour from those that do not hold a valid licence.

You are invited to provide feedback on the proposal to regulate the sale, possession and use of body armour in BC. Licensing would be restricted to the sale and possession of equipment commonly known as “bullet resistant vests”.

The issue of protecting citizens and police from the effects of gang violence is a high priority of our Government. The unregulated use of body armour is a factor that leads to extreme violence which may involve the use of firearms. Government’s particular concern is that innocent bystanders and police may be grievously injured or even killed in violent firearms related incidents involving gang members who feel invincible because of the body armour they are wearing.

The proposed regulation of body armour is a complex issue as there are some people who, because of their profession find themselves under threats of violence and have a legitimate need to wear body armour. This, of course, includes police and other enforcement agencies that are required to wear body armour to execute their duties but also include other people who legitimately require body armour for protection or for personal employment i.e. armoured car guards and security guards and security consultant workers.

Section 2 – Questions pertaining to the sales of Body Armour

1. Are you a:

- a. Manufacturer
- b. Distributor
- c. Other (please specify) _____

2. Provide the estimated number of body armour units you have sold to any of the following groups in the past year.

	Number of Units
Distributors	
Law Enforcement	
Canadian Military	
Corrections	
Sheriff's	
Armour Car Guards	
Security Guards	
Security Consultants	
Private Citizens	
Other (specify)	

3. Do you have internal policies which restrict the sale of body armour to any group?

Yes No

If Yes, please provide details or attach a copy of policy to this survey:

4. Do you retain a record of the following information pertaining to a sale:

	Yes	No
Surname	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Given Name	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Address	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Telephone Number	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E-mail Address	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Piece of identification	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date of Birth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Product Description	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lot number	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serial number	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Body armour can be built into clothing to be indistinguishable from regular articles of clothing like a suit jacket or t-shirt. Do you manufacture or sell this type of body armour?

Yes No

6. If you answered Yes to the previous question, do you sell this garment to any of the following groups:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Yes | No | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Distributors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Law Enforcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Canadian Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sheriff's |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Armour Car Guards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Security Guards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Security Consultants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Private Citizens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (specify) _____ |

Section 3 – Types of Body Armour

7. A broadly accepted standard for rating the level of protection provided by a piece of body armour is the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), Ballistic Resistance of Body Armour. If you use the NIJ standard, please identify which of your customers are the primary purchasers for the following levels of protection. For example, the primary purchaser of Level IV body armour may be the Canadian military.

	Level IIA	Level II	Level IIIA	Level III	Level IV	Other
Distributors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sheriff's	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Armoured Car Guards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Security Guards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Security Consultants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private Citizens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 4 – General Questions

8. a. Do you sell body armour to private citizens?

Yes No

b. If Yes, do private citizens purchase body armour for the following purposes? Check all that apply:

Motorcycle Riding

Rodeo Riding

Travel to Dangerous Destinations

Hunting

User of Force

Firearm Training Instructor

Other (please specify):

9. Do you provide a disposal service to clients for body armour?

Yes No

If Yes, please provide details:

10. How do you dispose of your company's body armour?

Comments

11. Do you have any additional comments you would like to add?

If you have any additional information you would like to share with us (i.e., company procedures), please send the information along with this questionnaire. Thank you very much for your feedback.

Optional Information:

May we contact you?

Yes No

If Yes, please provide:

Your Company Name: _____

Contact Information: _____

Phone Number: _____ Date: _____

The Ministry will use the information you provide in accordance with the
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act