Beat: Politics

No Provincial Funding for Gun Buyback

From Nova Scotia Government, Part 1

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Brian Teepell/USPA 24 News - According to Nova Scotia's Premier, the province will not provide any funding for the gun buyback program.

Nova Scotia's premier has confirmed that the province will not contribute financially to Ottawa's gun buyback program.

Premier Tim Houston's statement follows the signing of an agreement between Halifax Regional Police and the federal government earlier this week to participate in the Assault-Style Firearms Compensation Program.

The program was initiated following the federal prohibition of over 2,500 makes and models of firearms referred to as assault-style by the government. Houston was questioned about HRP's decision during an appearance on The Todd Veinotte Show. "It's illogical, to be honest," he stated. "There are numerous alternatives for officers to contribute to community safety; this program is not among them."

Houston went on to call the program well-intentioned but misguided.

“What we said is that no provincial money will go towards any of these programs. So if somebody thinks we’re going to give them provincial money to participate, not going to happen, and Halifax Regional Police should know that as well.”

Meanwhile, HRP Chief Don MacLean stated on Tuesday that while he acknowledges most gun owners lack malicious intent to misuse their firearms, he believes Halifax would benefit from reduced gun presence in communities.

Gun owners are required to declare their intent to participate in the program by March 31,2026, according to Halifax Regional Police.

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