



THE RIDGEDALE ROD & GUN CLUB

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 54, Stn. Matsqui, Abbotsford, BC V4X 3R2

Office and Bookings: 604-826-0552 **Web:** www.ridgedale.net

Range: East END of Harris Road (35655), Abbotsford, BC

Archery • Pistol • Rifle • Black Powder • Trap • Fishing

Newsletter July 2021

How Important Are Your Firearms to You?

Firearms legislation is being introduced at all levels of government. In the following, Dr. Gary Mauser takes a closer look at BC Bill 4.

Bait and Switch - BC Bill 4 Misses the Target

Hunters and target shooters are endangered. The shooting sports are being strangled by increasingly arbitrary regulations. The police abuse licensing to treat law-abiding PAL holders in the same way as criminals. The BC NDP government has a long list of gun restrictions it wants to implement.

The BC government recently rushed Bill 4 (the Firearm Violence Prevention Act) into law claiming it was an attempt to deal with drug and gang violence. Unfortunately, this poorly designed bill misses its target. Instead of initiating programs to divert youth from being seduced into a gangster lifestyle, or taking serious steps to lock up violent thugs in prison, Bill 4 introduces a patchwork of measures that snare duck hunters, sport shooters, fancy cars, boys' toys, even physicians and social workers.

By confusing duck hunters with gang bangers, Bill 4 will cause greater problems for honest citizens than for gun-toting thugs. Two of the most appalling problems with Bill 4 leap out at anyone who goes beyond the government media releases and reads the bill itself. (**Bill 4: Third Reading** - <https://tinyurl.com/5fy57bf5>)

First, Bill 4 authorizes the impoundment and eventual confiscation of any vehicle that police claim has been used to transport illegal firearms or to flee police. Not convicted, just accused. This reverses the important legal principle of being considered innocent until proven guilty and forces the owner to prove his innocence. And that's not all, the police are allowed to designate the firm that will hold the impounded vehicle until trial. Since trials usually occur years after charges are laid, impoundment virtually guarantees confiscation. By allowing police to confiscate property in this way, Bill 4 invites police corruption, as similar legislation did in Ontario.

Second, Bill 4 shields health professionals (and social workers) from civil liability who tell police that they suspect a client would use a firearm or imitation firearm to "threaten or intimidate another person." Currently, physicians are permitted to warn police when aware of that a patient poses a "serious, imminent danger posed by a patient ... [if] the patient had made specific threats." But Bill 4 lowers the bar to a shocking level: all that is needed to call police are just vague threats or "feelings" of intimidation if a firearm, or even an "imitation firearm," is involved.

Plus, Bill 4 expands the list of people exempt from civil liability charges to include other health professionals and social workers. The result is that, by removing civil liability, Bill 4 invites false, even malicious, complaints, against innocent people.

Why did the government dream up such a mish mash of a bill? That's difficult to say. The BC government has not provided any evidence that demonizing firearms in this way will reduce suicide rates or family violence.

Gary Mauser, PhD

Justice for Gun Owners

Sign up to stay up to date – <https://justiceforgunowners.ca/newsletter-sign-up/>

BCWF Calls for Bill 4 to Be Tabled

BCWF's Bill Bosch wrote to Premier John Horgan to request the government immediately table Bill 4 – the Firearm Violence Prevention Act. First Nations and key stakeholders have not been consulted about the impact this legislation will have on their organizations. BCWF Recreational Sports Shooting Chair Doug Bancroft is meeting with the Deputy Minister and staff of the B.C Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General on Monday, March 22, 2021. The BCWF is assertively following up with Minister Farnworth and opposition critics. Read BCWF President Bill Bosch's letter at <https://tinyurl.com/7d4pcp64>

For ongoing updates, background and actions to take on Bill 4, and federal, municipal and provincial gun legislation, go to <https://tinyurl.com/3fpnmyne>

Range

Use and Hours

Under normal circumstances, the range is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. or until dusk. During the current pandemic, please check our website at <http://ridgedale.net/news/rrgc-reopen> and the calendar <http://ridgedale.net/full-calendar> before heading for the range.

Guest Policy: Till further notice, we don't allow guests during regular opening hours. However, guests may attend events, provided there is a discipline chair supervising. You can bring the same guest twice a year to shoot.

- **Pistol Night** **Monday evening, starting at 5:30 p.m.**
- **Trap** **Tuesday evening, starting at 4:00 p.m.**
- **Archery** **Thursday evening, starting at 5:30 p.m.**

Grounds & Maintenance

Archery Platforms Completed

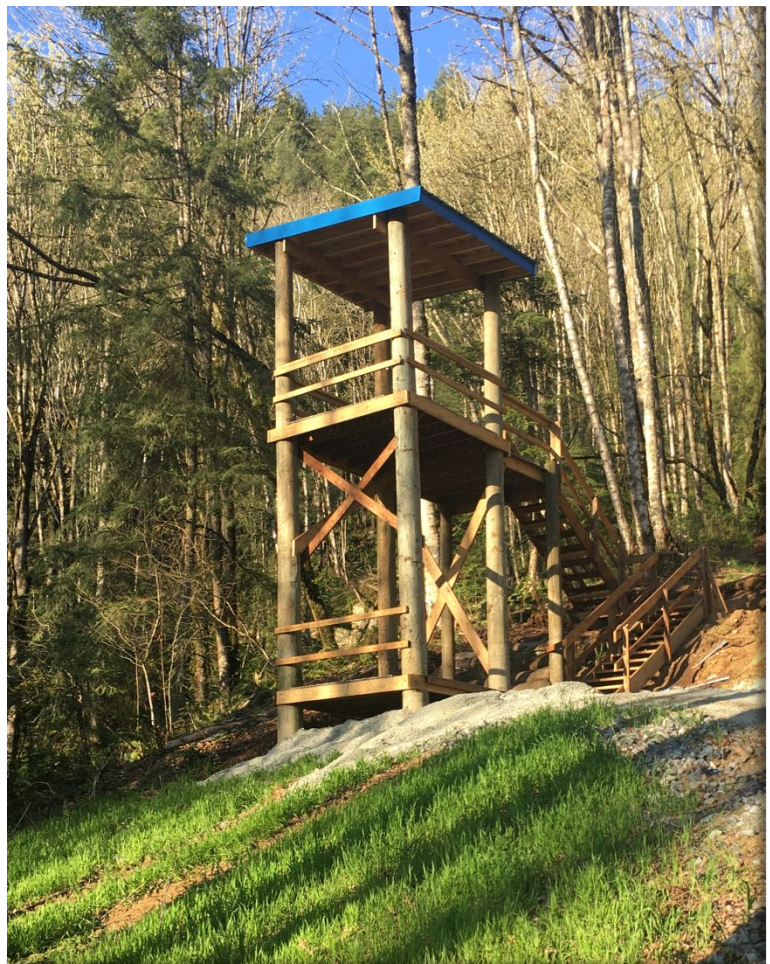
For many archers, shooting from a tree stand or ground blind is more difficult than shooting from the ground. With the platforms completed you now can re-create typical hunting scenarios and prepare for hunting success.

The second archery shooting tower is now completed. It's in a beautiful location, offering opportunities for many different shots.

The first deck is at ground level, the second one is 16 feet above the first. The landing for the stairs offers a third deck; a great spot for junior shooters! That puts the roof at 28 feet of the ground.

With the two new archery stands Ridgedale now has a first-class 3D archery trail. Likely one of the best in the province.

Photo: Dave Graham



Bar & Ladies Washroom Make-over

The bar area and the ladies' washroom got a much-needed make-over with new cabinets. Looks a lot nicer, wouldn't you say? Photos: Dave Graham



'Wall of Fame' Cleaning

2nd Vice-President Al Fadden cleaning the wall at the upper parking lot. You'd never think it was that dirty.

Photo: Dave Graham



Pistol

Holster Qualification Course

Cost \$ 40.00.

Saturday, August 14, 2021. Starts 10:30 AM sharp!

Our Pistol Section is putting on a Basic Skills Development Course for Pistol and Revolver Holster Qualification.

This is a great opportunity to learn basic holster skills, allowing you to use a holster on the pistol range in accordance with range safety regulations.

Bring your own hip holster. Gun must fit snugly and should not move in holster when you'd be jumping up or down. Participants will be failed if these requirements are not met.

You will need a minimum of 50 rounds. Attendance of class room session and live shooting on range are required. Total time is 4 to 5 hours.

As space is limited to 14 members, do not delay signing up!

For information and registration, contact Pistol Chair Pat Hales at pistol@ridgedale.net



Fishing

Before heading out to your favourite fishing spot, make sure to familiarize yourself with the 2021-23 Provincial Freshwater Fishing Regulations Synopsis. <https://tinyurl.com/95kwnk2r>

If you haven't had a chance to go fishing yet, now is the time to get out and try your luck at one of the recently stocked lakes. Below are some resources you may find useful.

BC Angler Resources

Map of Stocked Lakes – Where to Fish

<https://tinyurl.com/y6c4fyjf>

How to Fish

<https://www.gofishbc.com/Blog.aspx>

BC Recreational Fishing Licence

<https://tinyurl.com/y455qt4v>

GoFishBC YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/gofishbc>

Salmon notices - Department of Fisheries and Oceans

<https://tinyurl.com/y202vte2>

Guidelines for Angling Activities during COVID-19

<https://tinyurl.com/wbeocfz>

Remember, when fishing, you are legally required to produce your fishing licence and government-issued photo ID (e.g., Driver's Licence or BC Services Card) upon request of an officer.

Questions?

Email officeadmin@ridgedale.net or call (604) 826-0552 during office hours :

Tuesdays

July 6, 13, 20, 27 (11:00 am to 3:00 pm)

Thursdays

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (11:00 am to 2:00 pm)

→ The email addresses of the Executive and Section Chairs can be found at <http://ridgedale.net/contact>.

Support our Supporters

