

Section 1.0 – Use-of-Force	Page 1 of 2
Sub Section 1.1 – Firearms	Effective: January 30, 2012
Subject 1.1.1 – Firearms and Ammunition	Revised effective: January 1, 2017

Definitions

"Ammunition" – a projectile intended for use with a firearm.

"Director" - the director of police services referred to in section 39 (1) of the *Police Act*.

"Firearm" – a barrelled weapon from which any shot, bullet or other projectile can be discharged and that is capable of causing serious bodily injury or death to a person, and includes any frame or receiver of such a barrelled weapon, and anything that can be adapted for use as a firearm (as per section 2 of the *Criminal Code Canada*). A conducted energy weapon is not considered a firearm for the purposes of BCPPS 1.1.1 and 1.1.2.

"Officer" – a constable appointed under the *Police Act* or an enforcement officer appointed under s. 18.1 of the *Police Act*.

"Pistol" – a handgun; a firearm designed to be held in one hand.

Standards

Approved firearms and ammunition

The chief constable, chief officer, or commissioner:

- (1) Must ensure only firearms approved by the director are carried and used by officers.
Approved firearms are semi-automatic pistols with the following specifications:
 - (a) Double/single or double action-only trigger mechanism;
 - (b) Single action trigger force of not less than 1.36 kg;
 - (c) Hammer/firing pin block safety mechanism; and
 - (d) Barrel of not less than 76 mm and not more than 127 mm in length.
- (2) Must ensure the ammunition issued and used in a firearm described under Standard (1) are 0.40 calibre Smith and Wesson or 9 mm factory loaded cartridges with the following specifications:
 - (a) Hollow point bullet design;
 - (b) Bullet weight no less than 9.523 grams (147 grain); and
 - (c) Muzzle velocity between 290 m/second to 396 m/second, when fired in a firearm referred to in Standard (1).

- (3) May authorize, or designate in writing a person who may authorize, an officer to carry for a special purpose a firearm and ammunition of a type other than that referred to in Standards (1) and (2) above.
- (4) Must prohibit officers from carrying a firearm or ammunition other than those referred to in Standards (1), (2), or (3) above.
- (5) Must, on the request of the director, submit a report on all special firearms and ammunition issued and the reason for issuing them if an authorization is made under Standard (3).

Maintenance of firearms

- (6.1) Must ensure that an up-to-date inventory of all the police force's firearms is maintained.
- (6) Must ensure that each firearm in the inventory of their police force is maintained in good working order.

Training, qualification and requalification for firearms

- (7) *Deleted. See BCPPS 1.1.2 Firearms Training and Qualification.*
- (8) *Deleted. See BCPPS 1.1.2 Firearms Training and Qualification.*
- (9) *Deleted. See BCPPS 1.1.2 Firearms Training and Qualification.*

Policies and procedures

- (10) Must ensure policies and procedures are consistent with these *BC Provincial Policing Standards*.