

CANADIAN FIREARM SAFETY COURSE



What is the Canadian Firearm Safety Course?

The Canadian Firearm Safety Course (CFSC) is a one-day course for youth ages 12 and up. It focuses on the importance of safe storage, display, transportation, handling and safe use of non-restricted firearms. The one-day course consists of the Vital Four Acts of Firearms Safety and Prove Pointers. During the course you are educated on different types of hunting firearms, their proper ammunition and other legal responsibilities as a firearm user and owner. At the end of the course, participants must complete and pass a written and practical test to obtain their safety course certificate.

After you have completed the CFSC you can apply for a Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) or a Minors License if you are under the age of 18. A PAL will allow you to purchase your own firearm and ammunition. A Minors License allows you to borrow a firearm. Once a minor turns 18, they can apply for PAL.

Program Topics:

- The vital four ACTS and PROVE
- Evolution of firearms, major parts, types and actions
- Basic firearms safety practices
- Ammunition
- Operating firearm actions
- Safe handling and carry procedures
- Firing techniques and procedures
- Care of non-restricted firearms
- Responsibilities of the firearms owner/user
- Safe storage, display, transportation and handling of non-restricted firearms

Why Is the CFSC important?

Firearm Safety Practice is important to have because it promotes safety and the well being of an individual and their community. The course teaches you to follow safety

procedures and cautions that will ensure the safety of yourself and others. Taking the CFSC can prevent accidents that may occur when a firearm is not safely being handled or safely stored.

Planning a Course in Your Community



To have CFSC in your community, there are a few steps you must take before the course begins.

Funding

Embrace Life Council (ELC) provides funding for firearm safety courses in communities across Nunavut. You can contact ELC at 867-975-3233 or email embracelife@inuusiq.com to request for funding. A “Guidelines for Organizing, Delivering, and Reporting CFSC” and reporting template will be given.

The funding/budget covers fees for:

- Instructor- \$150/participant max. 12 participants (6 participants during the covid-19 pandemic)
- Meeting space rental
- Course material- for pens, paper, posts, etc.
- Snacks and refreshments

The instructor will be given a report template and will have to submit a completed form to ELC within 30 days of training.



Find a Qualified Instructor in Your Area

A qualified instructor is someone who was trained with the RCMP to facilitate firearm safety. You may know someone in your community who is a qualified instructor. If you don't know of one, you can find an instructor by calling or visiting your local RCMP detachment. You can also contact the Embrace Life Council office at 867-975-3233 or email embracelife@inuusiq.com to get a list of instructors closest to your community.

Supplies and Equipment

A qualified instructor may or may not have supplies and equipment to facilitate a course. Every RCMP detachment in Nunavut has a Firearm Safety kit with dummy firearms and dummy ammunition for instructors to use if they do not have their own. Contact your local RCMP detachment and let me know you are planning a course and will need the kit.

Reserve a Safe Space

The CFSC can be completed in an indoor and outdoor setting, just as long as it is safe and reserved for the course. The following spaces to work with can be:

- Community Centre
- Culture Centre
- Classroom
- Boardroom
- Cabin

The space does not have to be limited to these options; you can hold a CFSC in your own space and also any space that will fit all participants for them to practice safely.

Advertise and Promote

You want to know who in the community is interested in taking the CFSC. You can reach out to the community by:

- Social Media Posts
 - Facebook
 - Instagram
- Local radio/ CBC radio
- Posters
 - Co-Op or Northern
 - Youth Centre
 - Junior and Senior High school
- Personal interests and contact

Signing Up for a CFSC

Create a document with an outline about the course and blank sections to collect basic information from the participants. You will need:

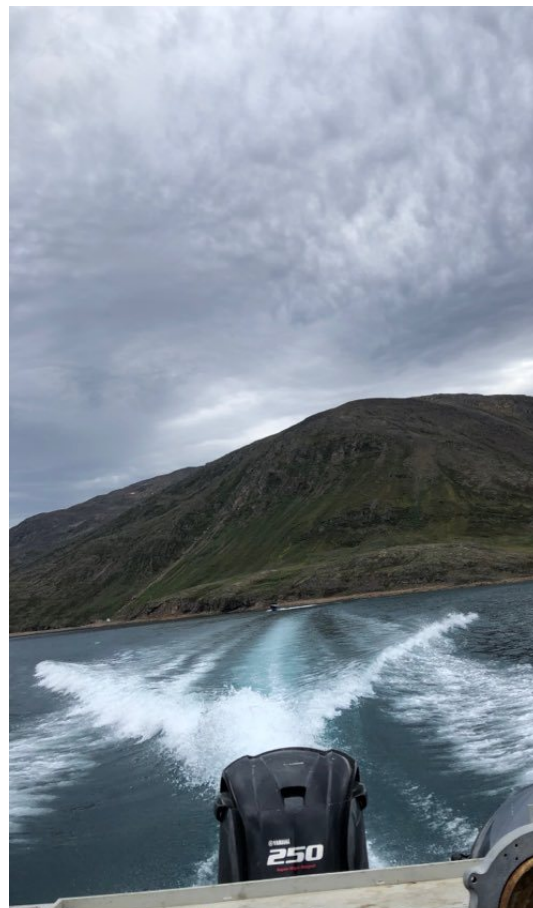
- Info about course/program
 - Title
 - Dates
 - Location
 - Course outline
- Participants information
 - Legal name
 - Contact (number and email)
 - Emergency contact (in case participant cant be reached or an accident)
 - Medical conditions/allergies (if snacks and refreshments are provided)

Extra Activities

The CFSC is only a one-day program, but it can be expanded with extra activities for participants to have more learning outcomes and experiences. Activities that are not listed on the CFSC budget plan provided by ELC cannot be funded by ELC. There are other organizations and businesses that will be able to provide funding for the extra activities in the program. The activities can be:

1. Day trip and hunting!

- Book a trip with a local hunter or an outfitting business to take participants out on the waters or land to:
 - Practice using firearm in a hunting/camping environment
 - Loading firearm with ammunition and firing
 - Handling while travelling/transferring vehicles
 - Safely storing firearm when unattended
- Snacks and meals



- Proper equipment for participants to keep warm, clean and safe (if participants cannot provide for themselves).
 - Life jackets (boating),
 - Outdoor clothing
 - Cleaning necessities-toilet paper, hand sanitizer



2. Build safety boxes! Have participants build their own firearm safety cabinet!

- Hire a local skilled person in carpentry or carpenter
 - Expand on carpentry skills with participants
 - Demonstrate the importance of keeping firearm safe and secured
- Supplies and equipment used to safely build and/or assemble
 - Plywood, nails/screws, electric screwdrivers and saws, door installing tools, padlock, and safety equipment. Optional paint and primer, etc.
- Construction space at a local garage or open outdoor area

3. Handing out Trigger Locks!

Your local RCMP detachment has free trigger locks for the community. Get the participants to practice locking their firearm trigger and have a safe place to keep them. If a firearm is misplaced or taken from the safety cabinet, the trigger lock prevents the trigger from being pulled on its own or by another person.

Covid-19 Restrictions

There are instructions and restrictions to follow if you are holding a CFSC during covid-19.

- Six participants per one instructor. (12 normal class size)
- CFSC space must be large enough or participants to be two meters apart

- Equipment and supplies must be wiped down with disinfectant wipes before training and after each individual handles firearm
- Masks are not needed unless instructor decided they are mandatory
- Hand sanitizer must be available for beginning and during the training
- The practical text will be completed one-on-one while maintaining a two meter distance.
- Instructors must contact the Safety Training Coordinator at least five days in advance to advise of the time and location of their next course. The Safety Training Coordinator will monitor course on a discretionary bases to make sure the required protocols are being followed.
- Participants must fill-out a “Government of Canada Self-Assessment Tool (Appendix A)” form and provide the form to the instructor before class. All answers must be “No” to allow the student to participate.

Youth 19-25 CFSC

Iqaluit, July 29-31

Causeway Iqaluit Point, Fishing Area

Day 1, CFSC

- Course presentations
- Lunch
- Hands-on firearm safety practice
- Written test

Day 2 Boating

- Boating and Hunting trip in the bay
- Firearm practice if there are seals
- Firearm safety handling on land

Day 3 safety cabinet

- KCM maintenance and construction garage
- Built wooden safety cabinets