

Findings from Other Jurisdictions

The jurisdictions listed below were identified as having attempted to regulate the sale or possession of knives. However, jurisdictions have had varying degrees of success when trying to regulate specific types of knives, and the international jurisdictions in particular have very different regulatory environments. Many Canadian municipalities do not regulate the possession of knives, and none were identified as regulating the sale of knives.

Jurisdiction	High Level Findings
Calgary, Alberta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City of Calgary has a bylaw that prohibits the visible possession of knives in a public place. • Calgary does not regulate the sale of knives.
Brandon, Manitoba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City of Brandon has a bylaw that prohibits the visible possession of specific types of knives, with exceptions for some practical uses, transport, or religious / cultural purposes. • Brandon does not regulate the sale of knives.
United Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In England, Wales, and Scotland the Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act 1959 prohibits the importation, sale, hire, lending, or gift of certain types of knives including any knife that opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring, or other device, and any knife released from a handle or sheath. • In England and Wales, the Criminal Justice Act 1988 prohibits the carrying of knives in public places, with some small exceptions. • In Scotland, the Criminal Law Act 1995 prevents the carrying of offensive weapons as well as pointed or bladed articles in a public place without lawful authority or reasonable excuse. • In Scotland, there is also a requirement for retailers to have a “Knife Dealers Licence” if a business wants to sell knives, swords, or weapons with blades or sharp points. This does not include “knives for domestic use”. • In data published by the UK parliament, it shows that knife crime has not decreased significantly over the years, even with multiple legislative amendments.
Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan has strict knife laws, and permission is required if someone wants to have a knife over 15 centimetres for home ownership.

Attachment 5

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knives for outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, camping, etc. are not restricted, but they must be transported in a manner that is not readily accessible.• Regulation has generally been successful; however, Japan is vastly different from Canada in both structure and society. The social buy-in of these laws is both cultural and historical.
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