

## 4. PERMANENTLY DEACTIVATED PUBLIC MONUMENTS

The definition of 'weapon' and 'firearm' in Schedule 2 (Dictionary) of the *Weapons Act 1990* will be amended so that a 'public monument' will not be considered a weapon or a firearm.

New Section 6C (effective 2 April 2012) of the *Weapons Act 1990* defines a public monument as any of the following which has been made permanently incapable of being discharged, and is permanently displayed in a public place for memorial or commemorative purposes:

- Machine gun;
- Submachine gun;
- Firearm capable of firing 50 calibre BMG cartridge ammunition;
- Rocket launcher;
- Recoilless rifle;
- Antitank rifle;
- Bazooka;
- Rocket propelled grenade type launcher;
- Mortar; or
- Artillery piece

The item is permanently displayed only if the item is displayed in a manner that prevents its removal by an unauthorised person. A public place includes a place that can be seen from a public place.

Examples:-

- permanently deactivated WWI artillery permanently displayed in the foyer or grounds, open to the public, of an RSL club
- a permanently deactivated Bofors anti-aircraft gun mounted on a concrete platform in a public park.

The effect of these amendments is that a weapon that fits the requirements of a public monument does not require licensing, registration or storage requirements.

