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Royal Canadian Mounted Police



Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Technical Briefing on Democratic Interference

ISSUE: Foreign Actor Interference Team

CURRENT STATUS:

Recognizing that the 2019 Federal election may be the target of foreign actor interference (FAI), the RCMP proposed the creation of a FAI Investigative Team. Some acts of FAI are criminal in nature – for instance bribery of elected officials or intimidation of a diaspora community. The FAI team will investigate and disrupt this type of criminal FAI activity. It will also support proactive prevention and outreach activities with the public, the private sector and police of jurisdiction.

The FAI Team is being created through the re-allocation of internal resources. The team will consist of individuals in the National Capital Region. It will include a mixture of investigators and analysts. While the FAI Team is an important first step by the RCMP to address FAI, the RCMP would like to expand the number of FAI teams within Canada because the threat continuous to evolve.

SPEAKING NOTES:

- **Foreign actors can interfere in our electoral process in any number of ways – including criminal activity.**
- **As we have a clear mandate to investigate acts of foreign actor interference, through the *Security Offences Act*, we wanted to be sure we were ready to do collaborate with our other partners across the Government of Canada.**
- **That is why we are reallocating resources from other priority areas of our mandate to form a Foreign Actor Interference Investigative Team.**
- **The team will be comprised of investigators and analysts with a broad range of operational experience and expertise.**

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- They will be tasked with investigating and mitigating criminal acts of interference, as well as enhancing our prevention and outreach activities to build public and private sector resiliency.

If pressed on structure of the team/timelines:

- The RCMP is in the process of mobilizing capacity to address FAI.
- Presently, the following RCMP personnel are actively involved in FAI:
 - [] Senior Officer in FPNS to provide oversight of RCMP efforts on the file, engage with other Federal Partners, and to serve as liaison with the SITE;
 - [] Reviewers in Federal Policing National Security (FPNS) providing oversight of investigations and helping coordinate Divisional efforts;
 - [] analyst within the National Critical Infrastructure Team (NCIT) developing awareness products for industry to help build resilience against FAI;
 - Investigative resources from the Integrated National Security Enforcement Teams (INSETs), based on operational requirements; and
 - [] FTEs in Strategic Policy and Strategic Criminal Intelligence, conducting policy analysis on how to improve the RCMP's response to FAI, and helping identify future FAI trends for law enforcement.
- [] RCMP officers have also been tentatively identified to assigned to the FAI team in Ottawa INSET. They will form the bulk of the FAI team.
- The RCMP will gradually assign additional FTEs until fully staffed at [] as the election approaches and as the number of investigations increases. It is anticipated that these resources will be in place by next fiscal year.