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RRM CANADA DAILY BRIEF

Key findings:

- RRM Canada did not observe any significant indicators of foreign state-sponsored information manipulation in its monitoring of the broader Canadian digital information ecosystem during the period of September 07.
- RRM Canada assesses the majority of English and French-language content originated from recognizable Canadian news sites.
- CPC media and officials continue to comment on Minister Garneau calling the arrest of the two Michaels arbitrary detention.

Scan performed at: 8:00PM, September 07, 2021

Scan covers: 9:00AM September 03, 2021 – 8:00PM September 07, 2021.

Platform used: Buzzsumo, Crowdtangle, Tweetdeck, WeChat, Weibo, Douyin

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Highest engagement numbers for English-language media on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit¹

Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
Trudeau says he was hit by gravel, condemns rock throwing as 'unacceptable'	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	7.2K	48	0	7.3K
John Ivison: Trudeau drops the sunny ways and treads into dangerous territory	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>National Post</i>	3.8K	693	119	4.6K
Justin Trudeau hit by stones on campaign trail	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>BBC News</i>	2.6K	42	281	2.9K
Trudeau swarmed again in Ontario, protestors throw gravel and debris at prime minister	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>Post Millennial</i>	2.5K	5	0	2.5K
Justin Trudeau pelted with gravel by protesters at campaign stop	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>CNN</i>	1.9K	125	2	2.1K
MALCOLM: How Trudeau is losing the support of voters	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>True North News</i>	1.9K	101	0	2.0K
BREAKING: Trudeau says he will not allow 'anti-vaxx mobs' to interfere with campaign	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>Post Millennial</i>	1.6K	1	0	1.6K
Protestors throw gravel at Trudeau, news media at Ontario campaign stop	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>CityNews Toronto</i>	1.3K	8	0	1.4K
LILLEY: Safety doesn't come first in Trudeau's approach to gun crime	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>Toronto Sun</i>	453	628	123	1.2K
Justin Trudeau Hit With Gravel at Anti-Vax Protest	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>Business Insider</i>	950	24	0	974

¹ Engagement numbers reflect the stated reporting period. RRM Canada uses the following keywords to determine which news stories among Canadian English-language media outlets receive the most engagement: "Canada", "Canadian Election" OR "Canadian Federal Election" OR "44th General Election" OR "GE44", "Bloc Quebecois" OR "Yves Blanchet" OR "Yves-François Blanchet", "Erin O'Toole" OR "Conservative Party of Canada" OR "The Conservatives", "Annamie Paul" OR "Green Party of Canada" OR "The Greens", "Trudeau" OR "Justin Trudeau" OR "Liberal Party of Canada" OR "The Liberals", "Maverick Party", "Maxime Bernier" OR "PPC" OR "People's Party", "New Democratic Party of Canada" OR "NDP" OR "Jagmeet Singh"

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Highest engagement numbers for French-language media on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit²

Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
Des écoles détruisent 5000 livres jugés néfastes aux Autochtones, dont Tintin et Astérix	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>Radio-Canada</i>	0	2.5K	1.3K	3.9K
Justin Trudeau encore pourchassé par des manifestants antivaccins	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>La Presse</i>	2.4K	93	30	2.6K
Trudeau souhaite protéger les entreprises qui exigeront un passeport vaccinal	Sep. 6, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	1.8K	10	0	1.8K
Ce que veut dire vivre avec le virus	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	1.7K	18	0	1.8K
La réforme de Québec sur la langue française contestée	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	681	184	32	897
Trudeau «ne veut pas reculer» face aux manifestants antivaccins	Sep. 6, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	842	7	0	849
Dans la tête de Justin Trudeau	Sep. 7, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	568	116	0	684
Armes d'assaut : les volte-faces conservatrices suscitent confusion et inquiétudes	Sep. 6, 2021	<i>Radio-Canada</i>	427	41	1	469
Élections fédérales: la question des armes d'assaut colle à Erin O'Toole	Sep. 6, 2021	<i>Le Devoir</i>	462	2	0	464
Le Bloc réclame une « réforme en profondeur » de l'assurance-emploi	Sep. 6, 2021	<i>La Presse</i>	306	12	0	318

² Engagement numbers reflect the stated reporting period. RRM Canada uses the following keywords to determine which news stories among Canadian French-language media outlets receive the most engagement: "Canada", "Élections fédérales" OR "Élections Canada", "Bloc Québécois" OR "Le Bloc" OR "Yves Blanchet" OR "Yves-François Blanchet", "Erin O'Toole" OR "Les conservateurs" OR "Parti conservateur du Canada", "Trudeau" OR "Justin Trudeau" OR "les libéraux" OR "Parti libéral du Canada", "Nouveau Parti démocratique" OR "Le NDP" OR "Le NDP du Canada" OR "Jagmeet Singh", "Annamie Paul" OR "Parti vert du Canada", "Maxime Bernier" OR "Parti populaire", "Le Parti maverick"

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Highest engagement numbers on WeChat

Article Title ³	Date	Account	Total views ⁴
<u>突发！特鲁多被碎石击中</u> (Breaking! Trudeau struck by rubble)	Jan. 7, 2021	<i>Global Times</i> (party media)	100K
<u>特鲁多因祸得福！自由党民调一夜反超！3 巨头手表大 PK，劳力士 IWC 闪瞎眼</u> (Trudeau blessed by disaster! LPC polls improve overnight! 3 big watches square off! Blinding others with an IWC Regulateur)	Jan. 7, 2021	<i>Superlife</i> (local media)	9.1K
<u>特鲁多遭抗议者围堵 被碎石砸中</u> (Trudeau was surrounded by protesters and hit by debris)	Jan. 7, 2021	<i>People's Daily</i> (party media)	6.9K
<u>杜鲁多又撒钱了！承诺推出一项巨额福利：\$4 万免税额度，买房更容易！</u> (Trudeau is giving out money again! Promises of huge benefits: \$40K tax credits, buying a house is easier!)	Jan. 7, 2021	<i>51.ca</i> (local media)	6.4K
<u>突发！特鲁多遭袭</u> (Breaking! Trudeau is attacked)	Jan. 7, 2021	<i>Ca-1Canada1</i> (local media)	5.3K
<u>为了竞选拼了！承诺 20 元最低工资 10 天有薪病假</u> (Singh is working so hard for the campaign! Promising a \$20 minimum wage, and 10 days paid sick leave)	Jan. 7, 2021	<i>Dushi-ca</i> (local media)	1.5K
<u>加拿大总理被小石头砸中肩膀！</u> (Canadian PM was hit by a small stone on the shoulder!)	Jan. 7, 2021	<i>51.ca</i> (local media)	1.3K
<u>罕见！特鲁多竞选时遭愤怒抗议者扔碎石击中</u> (Rare! Trudeau is hit by angry protesters throwing rocks during the campaign)	Jan. 7, 2021	<i>Super Canadian</i> (local media)	1.0K
<u>【最新】特鲁多在竞选中遭愤怒抗议 被石头击中！三党公布对华政策 首重国安监督人权</u> (Latest: Trudeau hit by rocks during the campaign. The 3 parties unveil their China policies, focus on security and human rights)	Jan. 7, 2021	<i>Canada Today</i> (local media)	1.0K
<u>聚头条 特鲁多及自由党的支持率再度领先，塔利班组建阿富汗新政府</u> (Latest: Trudeau and the LPC lead again in polls, as Taliban forms new government)	Jan. 7, 2021	<i>Toronto News</i> (local media)	450

³ Article titles translated by RRM Canada

⁴ Total engagement numbers reflect the article's page views; WeChat does not calculate the number of comments an article receives

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On our radar

User engagement with French and English-language online media

- The majority of French and English-language stories shared on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit for September 07 originated from recognizable Canadian media outlets.
- The topics with the most user engagement for the reporting period include:
 - News stories about spectators throwing rocks at the PM at an LPC campaign event in London, ON received considerable user interest on all major platforms (over 17K engagements overall).
 - A Quebec Catholic School Board's decision to remove 5,000 children's books that portray First Nations peoples in racist or stereotypical portrayals received considerable user interest on all major platforms (nearly 4.0K engagements).

User engagement with Sinophone online media

- Following comments by Minister Garneau that the two Michaels were "arbitrarily detained" and that Canada "strongly condemns the lack of a transparent legal process", Chinese Communist Party (CCP) media published a statement from PRC ambassador Cong Peiwu that the Minister's remarks were a "gross interference in China's judicial sovereignty and a serious violation of the spirit of the rule of law."
 - RRM Canada reported that the statement could be found on WeChat, but can now confirm that it was published across all major Chinese platforms (Weibo and Douyin) during the same time interval on September 06.
 - On Weibo, CCP newswire service *Xinhua* [published a hashtag](#) called #The PRC Embassy in Canada counters the erroneous statement made by the Canadian Foreign Minister #. (#驻加拿大使馆就加外长错误声明发表谈话#)
 - The hashtag briefly trended on the platform. According to Weibo's in-site analytics, the hashtag was seen over 821K times.
 - A similar hashtag published by the *People's Daily* also trended on the platform, and was viewed 46M times.
 - Users who click on the hashtag are brought to a Weibo landing page to see Cong's full response to Minister Morneau's remarks
 - The response was shared by some of Weibo's most subscribed CCP media accounts, including *Xinhua News* (86M followers) and *Reference News* (21M followers).
 - Many of the posts included the following statement from Cong: "Nationality is not a 'talisman' to escape legal sanctions; China is a country governed by the rule of law, and anyone who violates the law in China will certainly be sanctioned by Chinese law."
 - Cong does not comment on GE44, or name any other parties or candidates in his statement.
- Most of the most-viewed stories on WeChat for September 07 originated from recognizable Chinese-Canadian WeChat news accounts.
- An apparently false rumor that CPC leader Erin O'Toole would "ban WeChat" if elected has not been re-shared by WeChat news accounts since September 02.

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- The *Global Times* and the *People's Daily* reported on the PM being struck by rocks at an LPC rally. The writers did not add any color commentary to the report, and did not discuss any other candidates or parties.
 - The GT WeChat account is the most subscribed on the platform, and the article received high levels of user interest (100K+ views).

User engagement with Russophone online media

- There were no high-engagement posts from Canadian Russian-language media outlets for the September 07 reporting period
- Topics of interest in global Russian-language media include:
 - An [article](#) about Canada lifting travel restrictions for fully vaccinated individuals.
 - An [article](#) from a Russian “grey news site” that notes the volume of mortgage loans issued in Canada has exceeded the size of the economy
 - A Russian [tabloid story](#) reporting on recent developments in Dagestan
 - An [investigatory report](#) by Ukrainian media looking at who the Ministry of Defense awards personal pistols to and why
 - A Ukrainian [media report](#) about the dismantling of two monuments in Russian-occupied Crimea
 - There is also some reports from Russian state media looking at GE44-related news stories, such as coverage of spectators throwing stones at the LPC leader

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