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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 09.
- RRM Canada assesses the majority of English and French-language content originated from recognizable Canadian news sites.
- A *Global Times* [editorial commented](#) on the CPC's platform in an article titled: "A campaign platform that "almost wants to break diplomatic relations with China"! Is the US about to get another loyal dog?"
  - The author notes that if "the CPC comes to power, its policy is likely to be more hard-line and arbitrary compared to Trudeau's", that "it is not likely to sever diplomatic relations" but would likely "cooperate more actively with the U.S. to contain China at all levels"
  - The author does not urge Canadians of Chinese heritage to vote for a particular candidate or party
  - The editorial does not mention a long-running rumor that O'Toole would "ban WeChat"
- *Today Commercial News*, a Chinese-Canadian newspaper that publishes the *People's Daily* overseas edition in Canada, [posted a WeChat](#) story that a bill introduced by the CPC's Kenny Chiu would require "all individuals or groups with ties to China" to register as agents of the Chinese government. The story urges users to "spread the word" about Chiu's bill that "suppresses the Chinese community."

**Scan performed at:** 9:00PM, September 09, 2021

**Scan covers:** 9:00AM September 09, 2021 – 9:00PM September 09, 2021.

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

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Highest engagement numbers for English-language media on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit<sup>1</sup>

Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
<a href="#">Anti-logging protest becomes Canada's biggest ever act of civil disobedience</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>The Guardian</i>	6.8K	935	7.4K	15.2K
<a href="#">Jagmeet Singh seen as most competent and trustworthy leader by Vote Compass users</a>	Sep. 9, 2021	<i>CBC News</i>	0	215	5.2K	5.4K
<a href="#">'IT'S WHAT WE HAVE TO DO': Liberal candidate says housing tax coming</a>	Sep. 9, 2021	<i>Toronto Sun</i>	2K	2K	405	4.4K
<a href="#">BREAKING: Trudeau calls Rebel News 'disinformation' responsible for stoking 'anger' in Canada</a>	Sep. 9, 2021	<i>Post Millennial</i>	3.9K	154	0	4.1K
<a href="#">Canada election: Trudeau says Rebel News needs to 'take accountability' for increasing polarization</a>	Sep. 9, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	0	13	3.9K	3.9K
<a href="#">BREAKING: Trudeau's debates commission REFUSES to accept our journalist's negative COVID test</a>	Sep. 9, 2021	<i>Rebel News</i>	3K	492	0	3.5K
<a href="#">Canada Election: Trudeau Pelted With Stones on Campaign Trail</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>Breitbart</i>	2.9K	77	175	3.1K
<a href="#">Rex Murphy: It's a hollow election without national purpose</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>National Post</i>	2.5K	411	120	3.0K
<a href="#">CTV National News: Election violence</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>CTV News</i>	2.7K	5	0	2.7K
<a href="#">Erin O'Toole is the most Liberal leader the Conservatives have ever had</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>Globe and Mail</i>	1.5K	193	828	2.5K

<sup>1</sup> 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 Reddit<sup>2</sup>

Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
<a href="#">Trudeau est «inquiétant» selon Legault, qui espère un gouvernement minoritaire conservateur</a>	Sep. 9, 2021	<i>Journal de Quebec</i>	2K	248	13	2.3K
<a href="#">Application du passeport vaccinal: tolérance zéro à compter du 15 septembre, prévient Guilbault</a>	Sep. 9, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	2.3K	19	0	2.3K
<a href="#">Le Québec serait mieux servi par un gouvernement minoritaire, dit Legault</a>	Sep. 9, 2021	<i>Radio-Canada</i>	2.1K	31	45	2.2K
<a href="#">Un candidat embarrassant pour Justin Trudeau dans Laurentides-Labelle</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	1K	137	15	1.2K
<a href="#">La violence contre Justin Trudeau fait craindre le pire</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	1K	18	0	1.0K
<a href="#">La Vérif : les chefs ont-ils dit toute la vérité pendant le débat?</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>Radio-Canada</i>	861	47	0	908
<a href="#">Le parti de Maxime Bernier lié à l'attaque aux pierres contre Justin Trudeau?</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	803	26	0	829
<a href="#">Caucus libéral   L'ex-ministre Gaétan Barrette souhaite un retour à la Santé</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>La Presse</i>	699	38	84	821
<a href="#">Livres brûlés au Canada : la chercheuse à l'origine du mouvement aurait menti sur ses origines</a>	Sep. 9, 2021	<i>Valeurs</i>	693	76	0	769
<a href="#">Canada : Des livres brûlés dans des écoles, dont Tintin et Astérix au nom du "respect des premiers autochtones"</a>	Sep. 8, 2021	<i>Radio Classique</i>	647	10	0	657

<sup>2</sup> 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", "Annemie 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 <sup>3</sup>	Date	Account	Total views <sup>4</sup>
竞选纲领“几乎会导致与中国断交”！美国又要多一条忠狗了吗？ (Campaign platform “almost wants to break diplomatic relations with China”! Is the US about to get another loyal dog?)	Sep. 9, 2021	Buyidao / Global Times (state media)	36.7K
突发！特鲁多被石头击中.....事发后却“因祸得福”？！ (Sudden! Trudeau was hit by a rock ... is this a blessing in disguise?)	Sep. 9, 2021	Canada Talks	27.9K
竞选纲领“几乎会导致与中国断交”！美国又要多一条忠狗了吗？ (Campaign platform “almost wants to break diplomatic relations with China”! Is the US about to get another loyal dog?)	Sep. 9, 2021	CHN Li Yi	8.8K
31次提到中国！保守党“几乎”要和中国断交！ (Mentions China 31 times! The CPC “almost” wants to break ties with China)	Sep. 9, 2021	York BBS	6.1K
请广传！保守党国会议员赵锦荣提「外国势力注册」法案打压华人社区 (Please share! CPC MP Kenny Chiu is calling for a “Foreign Influence Registry Act” that would crack down on the Chinese community)	Sep. 9, 2021	Canada TCN News	4.6K
疯了！为大选保守党放绝招，特鲁多也慌了！若当选，加拿大人餐厅吃饭政府掏钱！外出旅游政府也给买单…… (Crazy! Trudeau is in a panic over the CPC’s election tactics! If elected, the government will pay for Canadians to eat in restaurants! They’ll also pay for travel...)	Sep. 9, 2021	This is Vancouver	3.3K
吓到惨华人！演讲 31 次提华！没想到，保守党对华态度竟如此强硬！ (Scaring Chinese to death! A speech mentions China 31 times! Who would expect the CPC to be so tough on China!)	Sep. 9, 2021	GTA Life	1.5K
联邦自由党拉票又撒钱，大温教师吐槽真相 (the LPC is campaigning and throwing out money, a Vancouver teacher spits out some hard truths)	Sep. 9, 2021	Westca.com	550
联邦大选辩论激烈，特鲁多发怒高呼：我是魁北克人！乐高力挺保守党 (During an intense leaders’ debate, Trudeau shouts out: I am a Quebecer! Legault backs the CPC)	Sep. 9, 2021	News Beimei	460
保守党突然承诺：餐馆吃饭政府埋单 50%，连续 1 个月，人人发钱\$150 旅游 (The CPC suddenly promises the government would pay 50% of your restaurant bill, and that would everyone would get \$150 for monthly travel expenses)	Sep. 9, 2021	Edojia	365

<sup>3</sup> Article titles translated by RRM Canada

<sup>4</sup> 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 09 originated from recognizable Canadian, French and Belgian media outlets.
- The topics with the most user engagement for the reporting period include:
  - A *Guardian* article about old-growth logging protesters at Fairy Creek participating in Canada's "biggest ever act of civil disobedience" received considerable user interest (over 15K engagements). The article was mostly shared by U.S. and U.K.-centric environmental news groups.
  - A number of niche (*Rebel Media*) and mainstream outlets (*Global News*) covered the LPC leader's comments to Rebel Media during the Leader's Debate scrum.
  - Premier Legault's comments that QC would be better served by a minority government received considerable user interest (over 6.5K engagements).

#### User engagement with Sinophone online media

- With the exception of a high-engagement editorial from the *Global Times*, the most-viewed stories on WeChat for September 09 originated from recognizable Chinese-Canadian WeChat news accounts.
- *Buyidao*, a popular *Global Times* WeChat account that publishes anonymous editorials, posted an article about CPC leader Erin O'Toole's proposed China policies. The editorial notes:
  - If the "CPC comes to power, its policy is likely to be more hard-line and arbitrary compared to Trudeau's"
  - That if the CPC "of course, is not likely to sever diplomatic relations" but would likely "cooperate more actively with the U.S. to contain China at all levels"
  - The CPC has "its flexible side" and that Stephen Harper dropped his promise to boycott the 2008 summer Olympics, and then went on to visit in China on an "ice-breaking trip"
  - The author does not urge Canadians of Chinese heritage to vote for a particular candidate or party
- *Today Commercial News*, a Chinese-Canadian newspaper that [signed a cooperation agreement](#) with the *People's Daily* to publish its overseas edition, posted a WeChat story that a bill introduced by the CPC's Kenny Chiu would require "all individuals or groups with ties to China" to register as agents of the Chinese government.
  - The story urges users to "spread the word" about Chiu's bill that "suppresses the Chinese community"
  - In a [Business in Vancouver article](#) on September 8, Chiu said a WeChat message that claimed any individual "attending events hosted by the Chinese consul general" would be added to Chiu's proposed Foreign Influence Registry Act"

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- The *Today Commercial News* article received considerable user interest (4.7K page views) and a number of disparaging comments towards Chiu, including “does anyone know his address? Leave it here” and “race traitor.”
- Canadian WeChat news account York BBS carried a Global Times story that O’Toole and the CPC “almost wants to break diplomatic relations with China.” York BBS credits the quote to a Hill Times interview with Jocelyn Coulon, however, the content of the article is very similar to a September 8 Global Times article.
- The author adds:
  - the CPC’s platform contains “many references that are unacceptable to most Chinese people” including the “idea that China is committing genocide against the Uyghurs” and “greater cooperation with Taiwan”
  - The CPC’s request for China to release the two Michaels is “a challenge to the Chinese people!”

#### User engagement with Russophone online media

- There were no high-engagement posts from Canadian Russian-language media outlets for the September 08 reporting period
- Topics of interest in global Russian-language media include:
  - [RT published](#) a story on Suzy Kies stepping down from the LPC’s Indigenous People’s Commission following an investigation that she lied about her Indigenous ancestry. The article received some user interest (78 total engagements).
  - RT [published an op-ed](#) by UK professor Frank Furedi on an Ontario school board’s decision to remove library books that featured racist or controversial content. The article does not mention GE44, and received little user interest (28 total engagements).

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