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SITE TF SITREP: 20 September 2021

2021 Federal Election – Threat Trend: **STABLE**



This situation report (SITREP) provides information on the operations of the Security and Intelligence Threats to Elections (SITE) Task Force. It is to be used by Assistant Deputy Ministers (ADMs) and Deputy Ministers (DMs) for information and decision-making purposes. Intended for named recipients only. Please share with members of: SITE TF ADMs; SITE TF DMs; Panel of 5

Threat Updates

GAC/RRM

- (U//OUO) 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 17 to 19.
- (U//OUO) Chinese Communist Party media outlets have not published further stories about GE44. Canadian WeChat news accounts have not published further editorials urging Canadians of Chinese heritage to vote for a specific candidate or party.
- (U//OUO) Russian state-media outlet RT published a podcast hosted by George Galloway that discussed GE44 with strong anti-LPC sentiments. Galloway and an RT journalist claimed Canada has changed from a “popular, gentle country” to one that is “playing a controversial role in the world,” citing Canada’s role in Afghanistan and mass graves at Canadian residential schools. Galloway is one of RT’s most popular hosts on social media; however, he has not shared this episode of his podcast on his social media feeds, and it is not clear what level of engagement it is receiving.

RCMP

(U) *Information current as of 19 September 2021, 1500hrs*

- (PB) Threats directed towards Protected Persons continue, with the Prime Minister (PM) remaining the primary target.
- (PB) On 17 September, 2021, posts on Twitter, TikTok, and Instagram were reported for containing violent comments and indirect threats toward the PM.
- (PB) On 16 September, 2021, an individual called the Library of Parliament and made several threats towards the PM and other Members of Parliament and threatened to attack Parliament. The individual also spoke of conspiracy theories.
- (PB) RCMP currently does not possess any information that suggests individuals are overtly advocating for violence on election day. However, a post was made to a Canadian pro-gun Facebook page on 19 September with the title “Election day scene”, which included a meme of what appears to be a female in costume carrying a gun with the caption, “Heading to the polls with a firearm - because I do”. It is likely that polling stations throughout Canada will experience

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disruptions on election day due to a number of factors which includes long wait times at polling stations and the enforcement of rules related to COVID-19 exposure.

Operational Responses and Updates

- (U) No significant updates at this time.
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