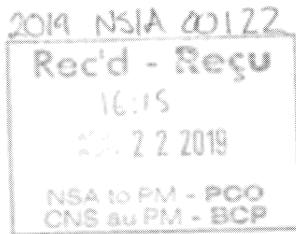


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Canadian Security
Intelligence ServiceService canadien du
renseignement de sécurité

Director - Directeur

CCM # 33949
TOP SECRET//CEO
For Information**MEMORANDUM TO THE MINISTER****UPDATE ON THREAT TO DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS THREAT REDUCTION MEASURES – FOREIGN INTERFERENCE ACTIVITIES****SUMMARY**

- [redacted] threat reduction measures have been approved to be carried out by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) in order to counter foreign interference activities directed against Canada's democratic institutions and processes in advance of the 2019 Federal Election.
- The risk associated with these approved measures has been assessed [redacted] in each case. The Service is engaging with other Government of Canada stakeholders, as appropriate, in order to de-conflict respective activities and keep partners informed.

BACKGROUND:

Foreign interference poses a significant and ongoing threat to Canada's democratic institutions and processes and thus to its national security and interests. [redacted]

The Service has taken a number of steps over the past year to focus its investigative efforts and assessment capacity to better inform Government of the threat and coordinate its activities to counter foreign interference with other government partners. This includes [redacted] creating the Security and Intelligence Threats to Elections (SITE) Task Force in partnership with the Communications Security Establishment (other members include the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Global

P.O. Box 9732, Station "T", Ottawa, Ontario K1G 4G4

C.P. 9732, Succursale "T", Ottawa (Ontario) K1G 4G4

Affairs Canada (GAC)). SITE acts as a coordinating body through which information on threats to democratic institutions as well as information on measures taken by SITE members to counter these threats, are effectively communicated and coordinated across Government.

As part of our work to counter foreign interference, the Service is working to ensure we are effectively using all of our tools, including our threat reduction authorities, to protect the 2019 Federal Election from any attempts at foreign interference. As you know, the Service has a mandate to take measures, where reasonable and proportionate, to reduce threats to the security of Canada, including foreign interference. To this end, I wish to inform you of [redacted] threat reduction measures, detailed below, which the Service is conducting in order to reduce the threat posed by foreign interference activities to Canada's democratic institutions and processes.

DISCUSSION:

THREAT REDUCTION MEASURES REGARDING FOREIGN INTERFERENCE [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] foreign interference activities [redacted] against Canadians and Canadian democratic institutions represent a significant and ongoing threat to the security of Canada. [redacted]

[redacted]

To reduce the threat posed by foreign interference activities, [redacted] threat reduction measures have been approved further to which the Service is [redacted]

[redacted]

THREAT REDUCTION MEASURES REGARDING FOREIGN INTERFERENCE

[redacted]

The Service has reasonable grounds to believe that [redacted] foreign state actors [redacted] [redacted] have demonstrated through their respective actions the intent to carry out foreign interference activities against Canadian democratic institutions [redacted]. These activities are not specific to the 2019 Federal Election but pose a threat to Canada's democratic processes, and are expected to carry on afterwards.

To reduce the threat posed by such foreign interference activities to Canada's democratic institutions and processes, [redacted] threat reduction measures have been approved further to which the Service [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

GAC was consulted as part of the Service's foreign policy risk assessment of the proposed measures, as in every case, and concurred with the Service's proposed measures. The Service is also de-conflicting with other Government partners prior to the invocation of these threat reduction measures, including SITE partners as well as the Commissioner for Canada Elections.

NEXT STEPS:

While continuing to operate under its own mandated authorities, the Service will continue to inform SITE, as a coordinating body, of all threat reduction measures it intends to carry out against threats to Canada's democratic institutions.

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-4-

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The Service's Communications Branch will remain apprised of all of these threat reduction measures and their invocation in order to develop a proactive public engagement strategy, which may be required in the event that these measures become public knowledge. CSIS has also engaged with the Privy Council Office (PCO) in this same regard, as the coordinator of elections-related communications for the Government.

CSIS will continue to advise you of future significant updates related to measures undertaken to address threats to Canada's democratic institutions and processes.

As always, if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to let me know.



David Vigneault

cc. National Security and Intelligence Advisor
Deputy Minister, Public Safety Canada
Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs
Chief, Communications Security Establishment
Commissioner, Royal Canadian Mounted Police

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