

For Public Release



Rapport de repérage des médias sociaux: du 23 septembre 17h au 27 septembre 12h 2021

Social Media Monitoring Report: September 23, 5pm – September 27, 12pm, 2021

Observations principales / Key observations

- Volume: **(Last period average: 598; Previous 7 days average: 1.68K posts/day; Writ-period average: 1.67K posts/day)**
- Claims of electoral fraud and election rigging remain one of the main topics in the environment. Much of these are highly partisan in nature and focus on the early release of electoral results.
- News related to the CPC candidate accusing China of foreign interference is still producing reactions online. Many users agree that it is likely that there was foreign interference in this election, despite volumes of Chinese content on social media being lower than those observed during GE43.
- Although they are not creating high volumes of reactions in the environment, accusations of voter suppression against the First Nations and Inuit are still observed, usually in reactions to news articles on the topic.

Sujets principaux – Environnement numérique externe / Key topics – External Digital Information Ecosystem

- [Concerns about state level interference](#)
- [Allegations that EC is corrupt/GE44 was rigged](#)

Nombre de mentions - Trames narratives principales / Number of mentions - Leading narratives

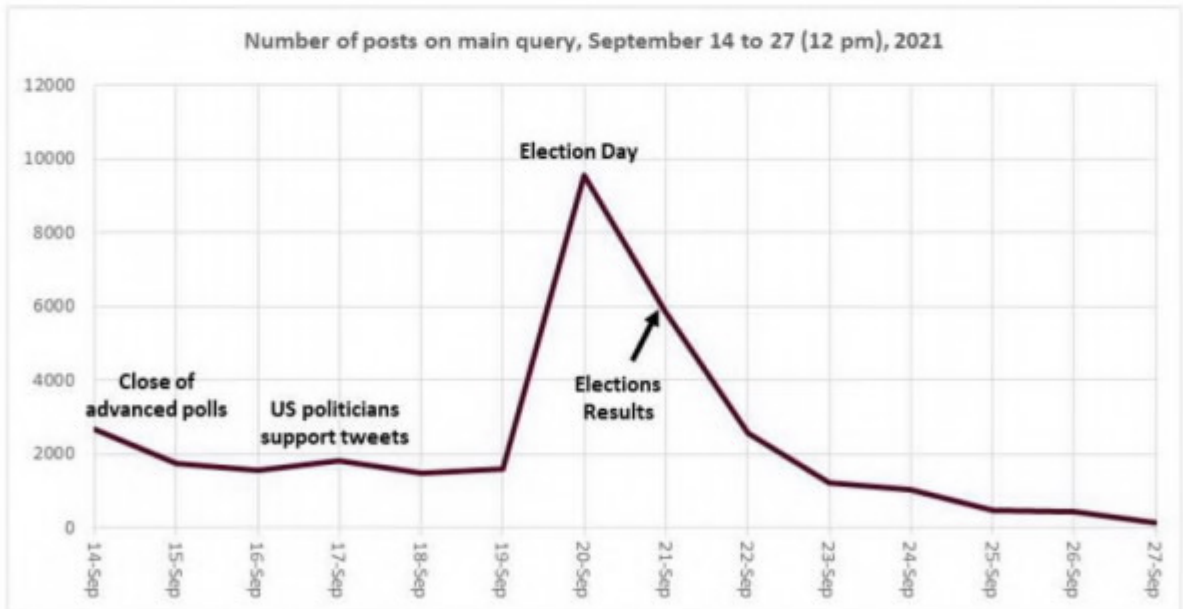
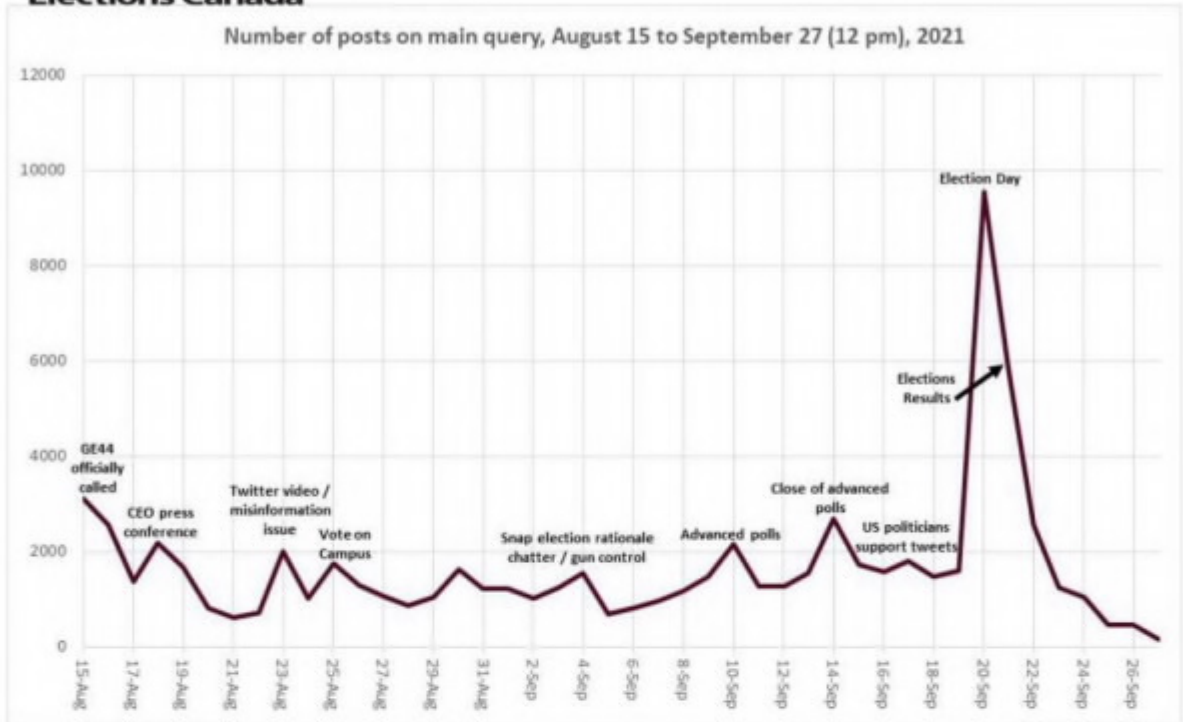
Narrative	September 23-27 (12 pm)	September 22-23 (5pm)	September 21 – 22 (5pm)	September 20 (9PM) – 21 (5PM)	September 19 (5pm - 20 (9pm)
Vote by mail	16	33	36	60	81
Machine voting	7	26	21	22	30
Voter ID	2	11	16	23	43
Rigged / fraudulent elections	21	45	49	59	48
EC corrupt / partisan / incompetent	24	38	196	43	69
Voting with pencils	0	5	5	9	16
Masks in polling places	3	5	34	21	45

These are approximations based on keyword mentions in collated content

Volume de messages portant sur Élections Canada/Volume of posts about Elections Canada

Sur nos comptes officiels / On our official accounts	
Sujets principaux, interactions avec l'auditoire / Key topics of interactions with our audience	Présence des sujets provenant de l'externe / Topics stemming from the external infosystem
(56/713) Vote by mail (52/713) Campaign sign vandalism (44/713) Voter suppression	(28/713) Foreign interference (14/713) EC is corrupt/Fraud/GE 44 rigged

For Public Release



Éléments sous observation / On the radar

Access to vote for Indigenous and Inuit communities

Recent articles from the CBC, including “Nunavut residents raises concerns over Elections Canada signs in English, French, but not Inuktitut,” and “As Elections Canada looks into First Nation voting errors in Ontario, pressure

For Public Release



heats up to get answers,” have brought concerns about access to the vote for Indigenous and Inuit communities to a wider audience. While the articles discussed the language on signs, errors on VICs, and a reduced number of polling locations, the online discussion brought accusations of voter suppression and allegations of corruption. One user wrote “Canada suppressing indigenous voters? This shouldn’t be a surprise to anyone!” while another claimed their polling location opened “hours” late and the staff denied a request to keep it open later.

Influential content creator Alexis Cossette-Trudel claims GE44 was “likely rigged” in recent video

In a September 26th Rumble video about the Arizona audits, social media personality Alexis Cossette-Trudel shared his concerns about the integrity of GE44. He claimed that the PPC was leading in around 100 electoral districts at the beginning of election night and that the party’s support had disappeared by the end of the evening. He stated that it is “statistically impossible to start off with 100 seats and end the night with 0”. He then claimed that the LPC strategy to call a snap election was to obstruct the PPC, resulting in having not enough staff in polling stations to verify the ballot counting process. He finally expressed hope for the PPC leader to pursue actions similar to Trump’s to contest the results. The video gathered large engagement for the platform, but the vast majority of the 160 comments were about the AZ audit.

🔄 Concerns about state level interference				
Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Zivo: Canada needs to talk about China’s apparent election interference – National Post (Total shares: 402/ Total engagement: 2.8K) • Conservative candidate raises alarm about foreign interference from China in election – True North (Total shares: 386 / Total engagement: 2.6k) • Did pro-Beijing groups decide Canada’s election? – National Post (Total shares: 248 / Total engagement: 1.1K) 				
Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights				
Recent news articles about candidate Kenny Chiu’s claims of foreign interference in GE44 have been generating noticeable engagement online. To many users, it seems “obvious” that there is foreign interference in Canadian elections. Many also linked this to the last US presidential elections. Reactions to this news were largely negative. During this period, we noticed debate and accusations that the candidate was trying to justify his loss. Some users took this topic to support claims of electoral fraud and GE44 being rigged. At this point EC monitors have seen considerably less political activity on Chinese platforms than during the previous GE, but much higher levels of suspicion towards China.				
Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts				
Engagement	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
1.1K	1M, r/Canada	Reddit user, 83.8K karma	Adam Zivo: Canada needs to talk about China's apparent election interference *Sample comments* Reddit user 1: If china pumped money and resources into manipulating our election, jokes on them, nothing changed. Or maybe that was the plan all along (453 reactions) Reply 1: The article cites a guy losing his election because of it [...] (195 r)	Sept. 26

For Public Release



			<p>Reddit user 2: yes, china got what it wanted this election (21 reactions)</p> <p>Reply 1: It's not magic, they aren't in contol they just attempted to influence the result. (3 reactions)</p> <p>Reddit user 3: I wonder how many of you who are content to brush this off because of the Conservatives would feel if it impacted your preferred party? I voted NDP this time around, and I'm very concerned with foreign interference in our elections. CSIS has already advised that Chinese agents have infiltrated a significant number of our media, government and educational institutions; perhaps your "who cares as long as it hurts the Conservatives?" mentality is courtesy of them as well? (86 reactions)</p> <p>Reply 1: "The richmond-news.com story simply mentions that there's some Chinese-language chat online about the politician and his proposed bill, but mentions nothing about election interference." That <i>is</i> the election interference. That he proposed a law that could make Chinese foreign agents (and any other agents from any country) register with the Canadian government, like they do in the US. And then he was bombarded by posts on Chinese social media spreading lies about this proposed law. The next two links are what that Richmond News site is talking about. That sounds like election interference, no? (12 reactions)</p> <p>Reply 2: Is all disinformation and attacks election interference? Because if that's the case there is a whole bunch of interference going on literally 24/7 on Reddit considering the amount of uninformed and false shit that is constantly spread around and how politicians are consistently strawmanned and attacked. (No reaction)</p> <p>Reddit user 4: I've seen the same effect with proportional representation – Canadians would rather have an undemocratic system than one that fairly represents people they disagree with. (15 reactions)</p> <p>Reply 1: Proportional representation is less democratic than the current system. We don't vote for parties, we vote for elected officials. We should move towards MP autonomy not away from it. (9 reactions)</p> <p>Reply 2: FPTP does a terrible job representing how Canadians vote. Canadian party discipline is rock solid, most Canadians vote by party, and that's not changing. MP offices provide a valuable service and MPs should be kept, but the system should be made proportional with something like MMP. The argument I was criticizing was specifically comments I've seen to the effect of "if our broken system keeps the PPC out of Parliament, we shouldn't fix it". (4 reactions)</p>	
4,370 views, 409	168K, YouTube	YouTube user	[Translated from Chinese]	Sept. 23

For Public Release



engagements			<p>[...] Communist Party of China interferes in Canadian election, using disinformation to attack, slander, and smear candidates who are not pro-China. [...]</p> <p>*Sample comments* YouTube user 1: You're right, Communist China's United Front Works Department is using local ethnic Chinese associations to spread disinformation through WeChat. Methods include free lunches, free dance sessions, free karaoke, free apple picking trips. All of that while asking participants to vote for the Liberals in return, enabling bribery using food and small gifts. (6 reactions) YouTube user 2: Canada cannot show weakness towards China! We should not allow Communist China to encroach on Canada using Chinese newspapers, radio, television networks, and community advertising. Canada is taking a see no evil and hear no evil approach right now, but the country must put a stop to this! (6 reactions) YouTube user 3: Agree with [YouTube user]; those corrupt and irregular electioneering manipulation by the CCP must be reported and exposed. (4 reactions)</p>	
235	447.8K, Facebook	National Post , News outlet	<p>Though the recent election was mostly an expensive waste of time, it highlighted an emerging problem that all Canadians should be worrying about: China's... Adam Zivo: Canada needs to talk about China's apparent election interference</p> <p>*Sample comments* Facebook user 1: CCP is everywhere. In our daily news casts, on our universities, in our politics (5 reactions) Reply 1: They are in our housing market, they interfere in our elections....(3 reactions) Facebook user 2: And hillary and obama (3 reactions)</p>	Sept. 26

🔄 Allegations that EC is corrupt/GE44 was rigged

Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares

Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights
 Although volumes have decreased significantly over the past days, posts claiming there was electoral fraud are still gathering engagement. The reasons behind these claims are usually partisan, including results being called early by media outlets, or baseless accusations. The partisan narratives try to explain how a party that some users supported did not win what they expected by questioning the integrity of the election. The second narrative claims that if results were released so early, it was because the winner was already decided. The final type of narrative is more diverse and includes many baseless accusations of fraud including EC being corrupt, attempted voter suppression, or non-citizen voters. Considering how long this type of narrative was found in the environment after GE43, we expect to observe this topic for the weeks to come.

For Public Release



Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts				
Engagement	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
855	159.7K, Twitter	Maxime Bernier , Politician	<p>You thought it was irresponsible to let thousands of false refugees enter Canada through Roxham Rd? Under the new Liberal refugee policy, all of Canada will become one huge Roxham Rd.</p> <p>*Retweeting Twitter user: The Liberals are throwing the doors wide open to mass immigration. They're changing the rules so that anyone who comes to Canada and claims to be a refugee will be accepted.</p> <p>*Sample Comments* Twitter user 1: Can we call another election? (7 reactions) Reply 1: Why? It will just be rigged again. Where's the recount? (4 r.) Twitter user 2: The PPC is to blame for losing. You admitted in an interview with Jordan Peterson you were not serious about winning. You lost the election twice. You have no seats. Are you here only for the election money and to distract us? (3 reactions) Reply 1: Are you saying you believe that we have honest elections in Canada? Where have you been for the last 20+ years? (6 reactions)</p>	Sept. 27
197	940, TikTok	TikTok User	<p>Let's be honest, he cheated again.... #fyp #canada #ontario #trudeaumustgo #election #suspicious</p> <p>*Description: Video title: 'Majority say they want Trudeau to resign - so how did he get re-elected']</p> <p>*Sample Comments* TikTok User 1: It's because the liberals cheated. (7 reactions) Reply 1: When you claim they are rigged you are disenfranchising other by telling them their vote doesn't count. All CA votes count and are counted. (No reaction) TikTok User 2: They stole every PPC vote. (5 reactions) TikTok User 3: because he cheated again (2 reactions) TikTok User 4: it's called election fraud. (No reaction)</p>	Sept. 22
4.8K views, 186 engagements	2.7M, YouTube	Global News , News outlet	<p>Canada election: Alberta MPs, new faces among potential picks for Trudeau's cabinet</p> <p>*Description In the aftermath of his minority government win in the election, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is preparing his new cabinet for the new session of parliament.</p> <p>*Sample comments* YouTube user 1: I like how the count wasn't even done but there like yep, Liberals won. (8 reactions)</p>	Sept. 26

For Public Release



			<p>Reply 1: They do that every election. The count starts in the East and the election is over by the time Ontario and Quebec are counted. (4 reactions)</p> <p>Reply 2: A terrible rigged election. Yes the Liberals won the election with a minority again, the math does not make ANY sense. Conservatives get popular vote but don't win most seats! It's why we need electoral reform with Proportional Representation that uses popular vote to determine % of seats in parliament for parties. FPTP does not make ANY sense. Allows equal representation in Parliament & improves democracy. (2 reactions)</p>	
--	--	--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

Compte de média sociaux d'Élection Canada / Elections Canada's Social Media Accounts
 Volumes entrants et sujets clés / Inbound Volumes and Key Topics

Inbound Messages > Tag		Inbound Messages > Tag	
TAG	MESSAGES	TAG	MESSAGES
spam	142	election pay	12
LPC	130	irrelevant	5
about media	109	recruitment	4
bots	59	polling locations	4
Vote by mail	56	complaints	4
Twitter Spat	53	Green	4
campaign sign vandalism	52	poll worker	3
Voter Suppression	44	covid19	3
election results	40	corrupt/rigged	3
negative	38	Unmet - Green	3
Elections Act violation	37	Facebook Face-off	3
MP	35	voter fraud	2
PM	34	election results	2
candidates	33	ballot counting	2
foreign interference	28	about media	2
elxn44	26	PM	2
CPC	26	LPC	2
SVR	23	voting	1
Green	22	voted	1
polling locations	19	turnout	1
us election	16	thank you	1

For Public Release



*Ce rapport a été rédigé par le Centre d'observation de
l'environnement, Affaires publiques et Éducation civique,
Élections Canada*

*This report was produced by the Environment
Monitoring Centre, Public Affairs and Civic Education,
Elections Canada*