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**Rapport de repérage des médias sociaux: du 4 octobre 12h au 7 octobre 12h 2021**  
**Social Media Monitoring Report: October 4, 12pm – October 7, 12pm, 2021**

**Observations principales / Key observations**

- Volume: **Oct. 4-7 average: 187 posts/day; Previous 7 days average: 153 posts/day; Writ-period average: 1.67K posts/day**
- News of judicial recounts produced some reactions on social media – either supporting the process as a safeguard against error or expressing doubts, calling recounts an attempt at electoral fraud.
- Users disappointed by electoral results or turnout are demanding electoral reforms, changes to the electoral system, or the redistribution of ridings to improve Western representation.
- Claims that EC is corrupt or that the election was fraudulent are still popular in some circles but increasingly baseless.
- Users criticizing EC for the lack of effort to accommodate Indigenous electors, students and other marginalized communities of electors are still prevalent in the environment. This is usually backed by stories of long line ups or lack of voting options.

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

- **NEW** [Calls for recounts after GE44](#)
- [→ Discussion on reforms to the CEA](#)
- [→ Criticism that EC is corrupt/incompetent](#)

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

Narrative	October 4 (12 pm) – 7 (12pm)	September 29 (10 am) – October 4 (12pm)	September 27 (12 pm) – 29 (10 am)	September 23 (5pm) – 27 (12 pm)	September 22 (5pm) – 23 (5pm)
Vote by mail	5	4	16	16	33
Machine voting	5	5	11	7	26
Voter ID	4	1	2	2	11
Rigged / fraudulent elections	18	10	16	21	45
EC corrupt / partisan / incompetent	16	31	22	24	38
Voting with pencils	0	2	3	0	5
Masks in polling places	2	2	0	3	5
Vaccine requirements	6	1	0	2	4

These are approximations based on keyword mentions in collated content

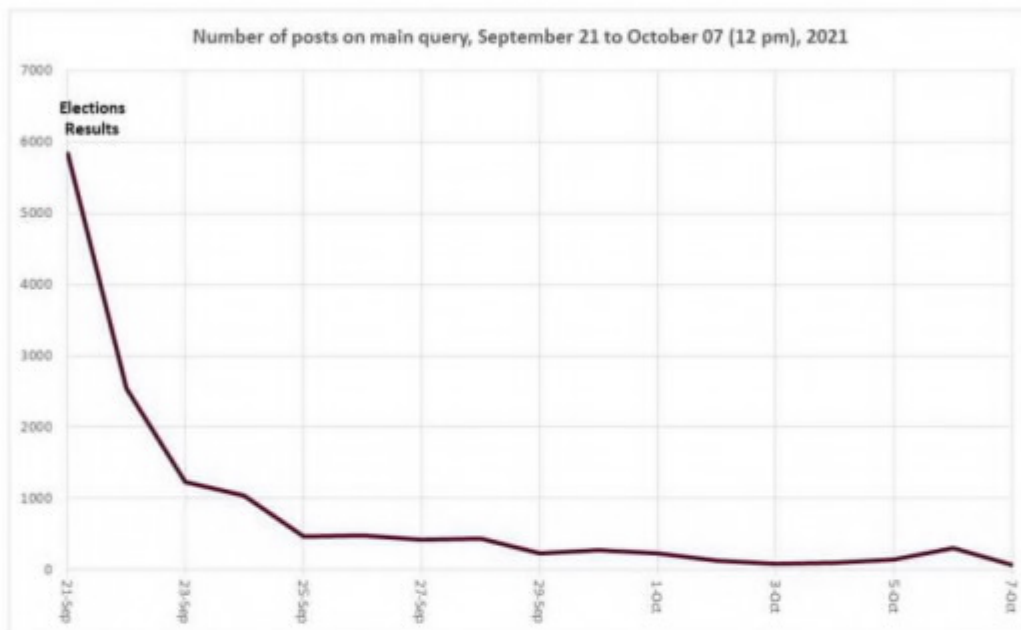
**Volume de messages portant sur Élections Canada/Volume of posts about Elections Canada**

**Sur nos comptes officiels / On our official accounts**

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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
<b>(55/309)</b> Election pay <b>(15/309)</b> Calls for recounts after GE44 <b>(13/309)</b> Indigenous	<b>(15/309)</b> Calls for recounts after GE44 <b>(3/309)</b> Allegations that EC is corrupt <b>(1/309)</b> Discussion on reforms to the CEA



#### Éléments sous observation / On the radar

##### NPD letter to the Commissioner of Canada Elections

This week, a letter written to the Commissioner of Canada Elections by the NDP calling for an inquiry into alleged “numerous and systemic failures of election officials” was widely reported on by the media. The letter claims that Indigenous voters in Kenora, Ontario, here “significantly disenfranchised,” and alleged some polling stations opened late “or not at all.” The letter also claimed that “all across the country, local Elections Canada officials refused to permit candidate representatives to observe the counting of the ballots, despite their legal right to do so.” In contrast, online reactions observed were more positive towards EC, and instead pointed towards a snap election during a pandemic as the problematic issue. One Twitter user wrote, “I would like to think Elections Canada tried their best under the circumstances.....a snap election during a pandemic was not a good idea.”

##### Speculation over COVID-19 case increases after GE44

A journalist in British Columbia tweeted claiming “Source tells me @Fraserhealth had ~300 new cases Saturday alone, with at least 25% related to schools. Could B.C.-wide weekend numbers reach 2,500? Will contact tracing indicate spread related to anti-vax protests or election activities, including poll lineups?” The reactions were mixed and mainly consisted of speculation and anecdotes. However, one reply of note cited a study: “Cotti et al: “We find a statistically and economically significant association between in-person voting and the spread of #COVID19 two to three weeks after the election...consolidation of polling locations, and relatively fewer absentee votes, increased positive testing rates...” The study, however, was published January 14, 2021, and concerned the Wisconsin presidential primary election on April 7, 2020.

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NEW Calls for recounts after GE44				
<p><b>Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Le PLC remporte finalement Châteauguay-Lacolle... par 12 voix</a> – Radio-Canada (<b>Total shares : 46 / Total engagement : 375</b>)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Judicial recount gives Trudeau's Liberals one more victory in Quebec</a> – Global News (<b>Total shares: 35 / Total engagement: 485</b>)</li> </ul>				
<p><b>Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights</b></p> <p>One of the most popular topics in the news was also one of the leading topics on social media during this report's period. The discussion was divided in two: calls for recounts and comments about ongoing recounts. People discussing the need for recounts were generally partisan and hoping for a seat flip or otherwise neutral towards the process, calling it either safe, necessary, or ensuring there were no mistakes. On the other hand, discussions about ongoing recounts were much harsher and critical, especially about Châteauguay-Lacolle. In both French and English, the vocabulary used is very similar to what has been observed in the US since the 2020 presidential election: calls for audits, "stop the count," and accusations of electoral fraud.</p>				
Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts				
Engagement	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
132	492.4K, Facebook	<a href="#">The Toronto Star</a> , News outlet	<p>The federal Liberals picked up another seat in Quebec after a judicial recount today. Liberal incumbent Brenda Shanahan won the riding of Châteauguay-Lacolle by just 12 votes.</p> <p><a href="#">Judicial recount gives Trudeau's Liberals one more victory in Quebec</a></p> <p><b>*Sample Comments*</b>  <b>Facebook user 1:</b> Had to count the mail in ballot from the grave yard (16 r.)</p>	Oct. 6
372 views, 78 engagements	YouTube	YouTube user	<p>Trudeau's Agenda &amp; NDP Demand Vote Recount In Davenport. Trudeau's Agenda &amp; NDP Demand Vote Recount In Davenport Liberal Julie Dzerowicz barely beat NDP candidate Alejandra Bravo with 42.1 per cent of votes, compared to Bravo's 42 per cent... NDP now think they may have a shot at taking the riding from a very prominent MP the Liberals will sorely miss...</p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>YouTube user 1:</b> National forensic audit! (9 reactions)  <b>YouTube user 2:</b> Fraud. Recount Ontario GTA (3 reactions)  <b>YouTube user 3:</b> Yes yes yes. Recount (3 reactions)</p>	Oct. 5
57	141K, r/Quebec	Reddit user, 9.8K Karma	<p><a href="#">Le PLC remporte finalement Châteauguay-Lacolle... par 12 voix</a></p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Reddit user 1:</b> STOP THE COUNT! (8 reactions)  <b>Reddit user 2:</b> C'est louche de quel bord? (4 reactions)</p>	Oct. 6





			<p><b>Reply 1:</b> Les trois bords, mais surtout de celui d'élection Canada, ça veut dire qu'ils n'ont pas fait /ne font pas leur job comme du monde <b>(8 r.)</b></p> <p><b>Reply 2:</b> Au contraire, grâce au processus de recomptage d'Élection Canada, le processus a pu détecté les erreurs. Ils n'auraient pas fait leur job si ces erreurs n'auraient pas été détectées. <b>(19 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Reply 3:</b> C'est les libéraux qui ont demandé le recomptage sous supervision d'un juge. Election Canada n'a rien a voir. L'argument qu'ils paraissent tres mal tient <b>(9 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Reply 4:</b> C'est juste le processus normal. Tsé, il y a eu 17 millions de votes. C'est quand même normal qu'il y ait eu des erreurs dans le décompte. L'important c'est que ce soit corrigé, comme c'est le cas ici. <b>(7 reactions)</b></p>	
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<p>→ Discussion on reforms to the CEA</p>				
<p><b>Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Canada's first-past-the-post electoral system highlights once again the need for reform</a> – National Post (Total shares: 1 / Total engagement: 18)</li> </ul>				
<p><b>Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights</b></p> <p>A number of posts by social media users who are upset with the results of the election, or upset that an election was called, are confident that electoral reform in the form of proportional representation would remedy their grievances. In particular, concerns that a government can be formed by a party that did not win the popular vote, or perceptions that the system of electoral districts favours the 'East' have been repeated in a manner similar to what followed GE43. Low voter turnout is another feature that online commentators believe undermines democracy and could be addressed through electoral reform. A number of posts urge various forms of electoral reform for specific partisan objectives from across the political spectrum.</p>				
<p><b>Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts</b></p>				
Engagement	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
1.7K	1.7M, Twitter	<a href="#">Glenn Greenwald</a> , Journalist	<p>In Canada, the Trudeau government is pushing a bill that will regulate what can and can't be said online, with severe punishments for violations, that is by far more repressive and authoritarian than any law in any other country. Read this @CBC op-ed: <a href="#">Canadian government's proposed online harms legislation threatens our human rights</a></p> <p><b>*Sample Comments*</b>  <b>Twitter user 1:</b> The vast majority of Canada hates this clown but our broken electoral system allows ultra liberal Toronto to decide for all us Canadians with each election very frustrating hell we find ourselves <b>(No r.)</b></p>	Oct. 5

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54	82K, r/onguardforthee	Reddit user, 82.1K Karma	<p><a href="#">Liberals win Chateauguay-Lacolle riding by 12 votes after judicial recount</a></p> <p><b>*Sample Comments*</b>  <b>Reddit User 1:</b> Every. Vote. Counts. So just fucking do it! <b>(27 reactions)</b>  <b>Reply 1:</b> Not in most ridings. Not with FPTP <b>(7 reactions)</b>  <b>Reply 2:</b> Except that is exactly what happened here? People should absolutely be engaged and encouraged to vote, even if we need a better system. <b>(12 reactions)</b>  <b>Reply 3:</b> What I'm saying is that this is the very rare exception to the rule. Most ridings are not close and that discourages people from voting because many votes don't matter. <b>(1 reaction)</b>  <b>Reddit User 2 (Original Poster):</b> Seat total is now: Liberal: 160 (incl. Vuong), Tory: 119, Bloc: 32, NDP: 25, Green: 2 and the shift from 2019: Liberal: +3, Tory: -2, Bloc: None, NDP: +1, Green: -1. The Bloc had won this seat by 286 votes before the recount. EDIT: This also means that all of Quebec's 78 ridings elected the same party as before. <b>(18 reactions)</b>  <b>Reddit User 3:</b> As someone who voted BQ in this riding... this hurts :( At least the Liberals didn't get a majority. <b>(10 reactions)</b>  <b>Reddit User 4:</b> They might as well have. No other party wants to trigger another election. They literally can't afford to. <b>(6 reactions)</b></p>	Oct. 6
19	37K, Facebook	<a href="#">Fair Vote Canada</a> , Advocacy group	<p>the main reason people did not vote was either due to indifference to the process (29 per cent of respondents who didn't vote), or a feeling that the vote wouldn't change anything (24 per cent of respondents who didn't vote). Nine per cent of non-voters said they found wait times to be too long on voting day, while six per cent said they did not know where to go to vote. [...] Mr. Benmergui echoed the need for electoral literacy, with the process of education starting with kids. [...] Ms. Sommerville recommended the use of a citizen's assembly to gain consensus on electoral reform, giving the government an actual plan for how it might make changes in this area."</p> <p><a href="#">Indigenous, historically marginalized groups felt the brunt of election disenfranchisement, say advocates</a></p>	Oct. 6

→ Criticism that EC is corrupt/incompetent

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<b>Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Le NPD demande une enquête sur de « nombreuses défaillances »</a> – La Presse (Total shares: 26 / Total engagement: 96)</li> <li>• <a href="#">NDP says error meant people – including First Nations – were disenfranchised</a> – Check News (Total shares: 15 / Total engagement: 63)</li> </ul>				
<b>Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights</b>				
<p>Claims that Elections Canada is corrupt or partisan have been getting more vague over time, and appear to be stemming from anger over the results of the election. More often than not, no evidence is provided and commentators vent in echo chambers where like-minded users believe that “elections are rigged.”</p> <p>Social media users who focus on EC being incompetent suggest that EC “dropped the ball” or is in league with “the establishment” and suggest that Indigenous and student electors were not accommodated in order to intentionally limit their access to the polls. Commentators bolster their theories with stories about long lines and a lack of campus polling stations to denote voter suppression.</p>				
<b>Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts</b>				
Engagement	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
221	Gab	Gab user	<p>Trudeau announced today that he will place all federal employees on unpaid leave until they've been injected with the experimental covid vaccine and must declare their full 'vaccination status' through an online portal by Oct 29th, going on to say by 30th Oct, all workers and travellers age from 12yrs old must show their "vaccination status" or be refused travel!</p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Gab user 1:</b> Tough, they voted for it. <b>(3 reactions)</b>  <b>Gab user 2:</b> And they just reelected this bitch <b>(2 reactions)</b>  <b>Reply 1:</b> No we didn't. This was hijacked <b>(1 reaction)</b></p>	Oct. 6
50	703.1K, Facebook	<a href="#">La Presse</a> , News outlet	<p>C'est affreux que nos élections se soit dérouler comme ça ,est ce la première fois où cela arrive plus souvent qu'on le pense a chaque élection</p> <p><a href="#">Le NPD demande une enquête sur de « nombreuses défaillances »</a></p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Facebook user 1:</b> Est-ce que Trudeau va dénoncer le racisme systémique au sein d'Élection Canada? <b>(3 reactions)</b>  <b>Facebook user 2:</b> Wow!!! On se croirait aux États. Allons nous voir des défaillances avec le programmes Dominion? <b>(1 reaction)</b>  <b>Facebook user 3:</b> C'est affreux que nos élections se soit dérouler comme ça ,est ce la première fois où cela arrive plus souvent qu'on le pense a chaque élection <b>(No reaction)</b>  <b>Facebook user 4:</b> C'est pas nouveau <b>(No reaction)</b></p>	Oct. 6
20	148K, Facebook	<a href="#">Check News</a> , News outlet	<p><a href="#">NDP says errors meant people — including First Nations — were disenfranchised</a></p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b></p>	Oct. 6



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			<p><b>Facebook user 1:</b> this is pretty damning ...another missed opportunity was not having polling stations on campus so students could vote. if elections canadain cant get it together for everyone to vote because of the unexpected call and the short timeline, then in future it needs to be longer. and the thing about observers not being allowed is unacceptable. <b>(No r.)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 2:</b> All the hallmarks of breaking election laws n nothing happens but "please repair for next time". There may never be a next time! <b>(No reaction)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 3:</b> McGrath is right - Elections Canada has one job to do and there are sufficient grounds to believe that it failed in places to require an investigation into how and where and why. I have no doubt that a short campaign duration and a somewhat unexpected call for the election contributed to both recruitment issues and complications in obtaining polling locations. That said, what I or others "believe" is not sufficient - we all need to be able to know. And until we know solutions are not feasible. <b>(No r)</b></p>	
4	1.5K, Twitter	Twitter user	<p>Wonder how Canadians really feel about Elections Canada? What trust level is there for this organization? How and who are appointed gatekeepers of the vote?</p> <p><b>*Sample Comments*</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 1:</b> My trust level is identical to most of every public service bureaucracy - union entitled incompetence and sloth with no accountability #fraud #corruption <b>(No reaction)</b></p>	Oct. 5
3	1.8K, Twitter	Twitter user	<p>I'm not convinced we do...Elections Canada had to apologize for the clown show that was the past election...we don't know for certain if that jackass won.</p> <p><b>*Replying to Twitter user:</b> Exactly!! I honestly didn't realize we had something many clueless people in this country.</p>	Oct. 4

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



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Inbound Messages > Tag

TAG	MESSAGES
spam	99
election pay	35
PM	26
negative	21
Green	14
indigenous	13
Met - Green	13
irrelevant	12
asked & answered	10
about media	10
signage	9
bots	9
employee post	7
PPC	7
redistribution	6

Inbound Messages > Tag

TAG	MESSAGES
Facebook Face-off	23
election pay	20
Green	13
Met - Green	11
judicial recount	10
electoral system of canada	6
ballot counting	5
Anti-Corrupt/Anti-Rigged	5
Referral to PIL	4
thank you	3
provincial elections	2
poll worker	2
asked & answered	2
Vote by mail	2
PPC	2

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

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