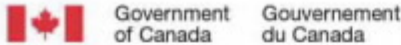


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# SITE TF SITREP: 20 June 2023

## 2023 Federal By-Elections

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; DMCIR.

### Threat Updates

#### GAC

- **(U)** RRM Canada did not observe any significant indicators of foreign state-sponsored information manipulation in its monitoring of the broader Canadian digital information ecosystem from June 16 to 18.
- **(U)** RRM Canada assesses the vast majority of content originated from recognizable Canadian news sites, and found no foreign state-sponsored news outlets commenting on the by-election.
- **(U)** In the lead-up to voting day, local news outlets in Canada provided more robust coverage of the 4 by-election races:
  - This weekend saw the largest count of by-election related articles, and user engagement with by-election news reached its highest levels over the weekend. However, RRM Canada notes that user interaction with said media – including “likes”, “shares”, and “comments” – remains low.<sup>1</sup>
  - Various niche media outlets received equal levels of engagement with mainstream outlets like CBC News and the National Post. However, RRM Canada assesses that these niche outlets likely originate from Canada and given low levels of engagement observed overall, it is unlikely that any of this content was amplified through artificial means.
  - French language media largely provided coverage of NDG-Westmount race, with minor coverage of the Portage-Lisgar race.
- **(U)** For the June 16-18 reporting period, RRM Canada did not observe any Chinese-language news coverage of the June 19 by-elections.

### Operational Responses and Updates

- **(U)** No significant updates at this time.

<sup>1</sup> In past election cycles, RRM Canada reporting noted 10K to 20K user interactions as “high levels of engagement.” However, at this time, RRM Canada has not observed this level of user interest in the June 19 by-election.

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The word "Canada" in a stylized font with a red maple leaf above the 'a'.