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National Security and Intelligence
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auprès du Premier ministre

Ottawa, Canada
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UNCLASSIFIED**MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER**

c.c.: John Hannaford, Nathalie G. Drouin

FINAL REPORTS ON FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN THE JUNE 2023 BY-ELECTIONS

(For Information)

SUMMARY

- o The Security and Intelligence Threats to Elections (SITE) Task Force provided enhanced monitoring and assessment of foreign interference threats directed towards the by-elections that were held on June 19, 2023.
- o SITE has produced classified and unclassified final reports on those by-elections, which note that SITE did not observe any indication of foreign interference directed at the by-elections, that no cyber incidents were detected to suggest that any foreign state actors were specifically targeting Elections Canada in the lead up to the by-elections, and that SITE did not observe any threats of violent extremism directed at the by-election.
- o Copies of the classified and unclassified reports are enclosed (**Tab A**), and are also being provided to Ministers LeBlanc, Blair, Mendicino, Joly, and Anand. A copy of the classified report is being provided to the Chair of the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP) and the Chair of the National Security and Intelligence Review Agency (NSIRA).
- o PCO is working with Minister LeBlanc's Office to finalize plans to release the unclassified reports publicly at the earliest opportunity after the classified report has been distributed.
- o SITE is providing enhanced monitoring and reporting for the ongoing by-election in the Calgary-Heritage electoral district, and will produce classified and unclassified reports following the vote on July 24, 2023. That report will be distributed in a similar manner.

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UNCLASSIFIED**BACKGROUND**

- As announced by Minister LeBlanc on May 16, 2023, the Security and Intelligence Threats to Elections Task Force (SITE) provided enhanced monitoring and assessment of foreign interference threats directed towards the by-elections that were held on June 19, 2023.
- As it undertook this work, SITE kept the Deputy Minister Committee on Intelligence Response (DMCIR) informed through written reports and verbal briefings. DMCIR stood ready to brief and advise ministers with mandates to combat foreign interference and protect Canada's democratic institutions, should that have been necessary.
- As instructed in Minister LeBlanc's May 16, 2023, announcement, SITE has now completed two reports - one classified and one unclassified - consisting of the Task Force's assessment of any attempts at foreign interference targeting the by-elections. They note that SITE did not observe any indication of foreign interference directed at the by-elections, that no cyber incidents were detected to suggest that any foreign state actors were specifically targeting Elections Canada in the lead up to the by-elections, and that SITE did not observe any threats of violent extremism directed at the by-elections.
- Minister LeBlanc's May 16, 2023 announcement indicated that copies of the classified report would be made available to you, relevant ministers, the Independent Special Rapporteur (ISR), the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP), and identified representatives of the parties with appropriate security clearances.
- To respond to this request, I have enclosed the classified and unclassified reports at **Tab A**. I will also send copies of the unclassified and classified reports to Ministers LeBlanc, Blair, Mendicino, Joly, and Anand, and will send a copy of the classified report to the Chair of the NSICOP. PCO will also contact the political parties that were offered a SITE briefing at the beginning of the by-election – including the Liberal Party of Canada, the Conservative Party of Canada, the New Democratic Party, the Bloc Québécois, the Green Party of Canada, and the People's Party of Canada – to offer to provide the classified report to appropriately-cleared representatives. Given that the ISR has resigned, the classified report will not be provided to him. While not mentioned in the May 16, 2023 announcement, I will also provide a copy of the classified report to the Chair of the National Security and Intelligence Review Agency (NSIRA).
- PCO is working with Minister LeBlanc's Office to finalize plans to release the unclassified reports publicly at the earliest opportunity after the classified report has been distributed to the recipients noted above. However, the upcoming by-election date of July 24, 2023, for the Calgary-Heritage electoral district will need to be taken into consideration.

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- SITE is providing enhanced monitoring and reporting for the ongoing by-election in Calgary-Heritage, and will produce classified and unclassified reports following the vote. The same process will be proposed for the distribution of those reports once they are complete.

Jody Thomas
National Security and Intelligence
Advisor to the Prime Minister

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