

2019-0630	
DATE FILE INITIATED AND ALLEGATIONS	One hundred complaints were submitted to the Office of the Commissioner of Canada Elections during the 2019 federal general election. The complaints alleged foreign interference in relation to TIME (time.com) influencing the Canadian electoral process through the publication of articles related to the leader of the Liberal Party of Canada (LPC) Justin Trudeau on September 19, 2019. Time magazine (USA) published photographs and reported on historical incidents involving the LPC in “blackface” costume, earlier in his life.
POTENTIAL CONTRAVENTION(S)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. 282.4 of the <i>Canada Elections Act</i> (the Act) – Undue influence by foreigners
STEPS TAKEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All complaints received were reviewed. • Articles related to the complaints were reviewed. • Legal services was consulted. • Complainants notified of file closure, unless they indicated that they did not wish to be contacted.
EVIDENTIARY THRESHOLD FOR THE INITIATION OF AN INVESTIGATION REACHED?	<p>No.</p> <p>The review did not identify tangible or direct evidence to substantiate the elements constituting the offence of undue foreign influence or other potential contraventions as defined by the Act. The communication does not fall within the scope of the prohibition. Even if an expense is incurred, editorials, speeches, interviews, columns, letters, commentaries or news are not captured by 282.4.</p>
CURRENT STATUS	Closed
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT	None