## Message

From: @cef-cce.ca]

**Sent**: 8/14/2023 11:44:45 AM

To: Kwan, Jenny - Riding 1A [Jenny.Kwan.C1A@parl.gc.ca] @cef-cce.ca]

CC: Kwan, Jenny - Personal [Jenny.Kwan.P9@parl.gc.ca]

Subject: Re: Foreign Interference Investigation

Flag: Follow up

Good morning Jenny Kwan

I have just accessed my emails as I am on leave and will be returning to work next week

Please allow me to respond to you and bring as much clarity as possible to you upon my return.

Senior investigator

Sent from my Bell Samsung device over Canada's largest network.

From: Kwan, Jenny - Riding 1A < Jenny. Kwan. C1A@parl.gc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2023 9:03:33 AM
To: @cef-cce.ca>

Cc: Kwan, Jenny - Personal < Jenny. Kwan. P9@parl.gc.ca>

Subject: Foreign Interference Investigation

Dear

Thank you for reaching out to me regarding information on the 2021 federal election. I would like to once again bring to your attention the incident involving Mr. Fred Kwok during the 2011 election campaign. I know that you are aware of the incident as on September 7, 2021, the NDP filed a complaint with Elections Canada through our party's lawyer. The complaint alleged collusion and potential vote-buying in relation to an event promoting the Liberal Party candidate in Vancouver East. The event was organized by Mr. Fred Kwok, Chairman of the Chinese Cultural Centre of Vancouver. Although it is unclear on whose behalf Mr. Kwok acted or if he solely acted on his own, it is evident that he engaged in regulated partisan activity. I note also that when the matter was brought up with Elections Canada, they advised that they will look into the matter. However, a number of pertinent questions remain unanswered, to which I believe deserves further investigation.

When I brought the Fred Kwok matter up on the telephone call with you recently, your response was that you are less interested in this issue with your visit to the Lower Mainland. I would like to point out that following this complaint and in light of the revelation from CSIS that I am a target for foreign interference, it would be important to ensure that there be a thorough investigation on this matter to ensure that no foreign interference or violation of the Election Act has taken place.

I am aware that the party's complaint led to the exposure that Mr. Kwok failed to file as a third party in this activity, to which, to my understand has been rectified. However, in the follow up email to Elections Canada from my campaign manager, he provided additional information to Elections Canada's investigator, John Dickson:

"Couple days ago I called the manager of Floata Seafood Restaurant and Pink Pearl Seafood Restaurant to enquire their pricing for community lunch as we are planning to host a lunch for Jenny's swear in ceremony.

Floata is located in Chinatown and Pink Pearl is near Chinatown. Most of the Chinese community events are hosted in these 2 restaurants.

The quotation I got from Floata manager Andre is whether it is for 5, 10 or 15 tables, their minimum rate is \$250 per table (for 8 to 10 people) and the price includes food, tea, tips, use of venue including video wall and GST.

For Pink Pearl, their minimum rate is \$30 per person to cover food, tea, its, use of venue with video wall and GST.

I read on the Vancouver Sun that Fred said he paid \$1500 for the Floata luncheon (with 11-12 tables), we hope Elections Canada would check if this is what he actually paid for the lunch to support the Liberal candidate. FYI, sometimes businesses might split their charges into several bills by request of their customer."

To date, we have not received any information from Elections Canada regarding the conclusion of their investigation. Recent news coverage of CSIS leaks has brought to our attention alleged involvement and interference by the Vancouver Chinese Consul General in the 2021 federal election. The media has also reported on a scheme conducted by the Toronto Chinese Consulate, which funnelled funds through Chinese community figureheads into election campaigns. These reports have reminded us of the Fred Kwok incident, and brings to the forefront the lingering questions we have regarding the luncheon he hosted for the Liberal candidate during the 2011 election.

As noted by Mr. Yiu in his email, my campaign received a quote from the Floata that the cost to host a lunch is \$250 per table (for 8 -10 people per table). The lunched hosted by Mr. Fred Kwok had more than 10 tables. On this basis, the reported amount of \$1,500 for the event, that would amount to the cost of 6 tables. Aside from the question of whether or not Mr. Kwok himself paid for the luncheon or were funds funnelled through him from another source, based on quote provided by the restaurant, the numbers do not add up. If the event had at least 10 tables, the cost of 10 tables at \$250 per table is \$2,500.

Given this is the case, aside from ensuring that third party involvement during an election follows the requirements of the Elections Act, it would be important to investigate what is the actual cost of the luncheon, the amount paid and source of funds, especially if your visit to the Lower Mainland is to look into potential issues related to foreign interference and/or violation of the Elections Act during the 2011 campaign. Such an investigation would ascertain that no foreign interference occurred and that no one provided false information to Elections Canada regarding his contribution to the Liberal candidate (which would be an obstruction and violation of the Canada Elections Act).

Foreign interference could come in a number of different forms, via social media platforms like Wechat or the involvement of volunteers or through organized events. By nature, foreign interference is clandestine activities, as such, any such activity would be hidden. No matter how the potential foreign interference is exerted, each approach is equally serious and worthy of the truth.

I would also like to point out another incident that occurred in January 2023 even though this took place outside of the election period. It has been a practice of my office to engage seniors' buildings in my riding in celebration of the Lunar New Year. This practice was something I did for years, as the Member of the Legislatively Assembly previously and now as a Member of Parliament. In January of this year, the building's

caretaker of the Chinese FreeMasons informed my staff that, due to specific instructions from the society's top leadership, he could not arrange a meeting for me to visit the residents in a social housing project managed by the Chinese FreeMasons. I should emphasize that prior to the pandemic, I have had the opportunity to meet and greet the residents every year during the Lunar New Year. The caretaker hinted that this change was due to my outspoken views on China-related issues. Worth noting is that Mr. Kwok is also a leader of the Chinese Freemasons.

I understand that this may fall outside of your purview, but one cannot help but to wonder if these types of incidents are related to the issue of foreign interference. However, I will leave you with this last note, I am concerned that despite the fact that my campaign manager has provided information regarding the Fred Kwok incident to both CSIS and the RCMP, there appears to be a lack of cooperation and/or information sharing among these federal institutions which may hinder a thorough investigation into this case or other incidents.

In closing, I hope that you will look further into the Fred Kwok incident based on the concerns I have raised.

Thank you for your attention on this important matter and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely, Jenny Kwan Member of Parliament