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RRM CANADA DAILY BRIEF

Key findings:

- RRM Canada did not observe any significant indicators of foreign state-sponsored information manipulation in its monitoring of the broader Canadian digital information ecosystem during the period of September 10 to 12.
- RRM Canada assesses the majority of English and French-language content originated from recognizable Canadian news sites.
- WeChat news accounts in Canada continued to post a false claim that a Kenny Chiu-sponsored private member's bill (C-282 An Act to establish the Foreign Influence Registry) would require "all individuals or groups with ties to China would be required to register."
- A *Global Times* WeChat article that suggested the CPC "almost wants to break diplomatic relations with China" is now being actively shared among Canadian WeChat news accounts. The Canadian versions resemble the *Global Times* article in format and tone, and question whether Canadians of Chinese heritage should vote for the CPC.

Scan performed at: 10:00PM, September 12, 2021

Scan covers: 9:00AM September 10, 2021 – 9:00PM September 12, 2021.

Platform used: Buzzsumo, Crowdtangle, Tweetdeck, WeChat, Douyin

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Highest engagement numbers for English-language media on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit¹

Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
Trudeau Has Canada's Economy Humming	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>Bloomberg</i>	52.3K	1	0	52.3K
'In that moment, I knew he wanted me to lie.' Jody Wilson-Raybould recalls a tension-filled meeting with Justin Trudeau	Sep. 11, 2021	<i>Globe and Mail</i>	16.2K	11.7K	4.8K	32.8K
Diane Francis: Time to toss out the pretty boy and make Erin O'Toole our prime minister	Sep. 10, 2021	<i>Financial Post</i>	24.9K	1.5K	59	26.5K
Rupa Subramanya: The People's Party of Canada's rise is more complicated than anti-Trudeau rage	Sep. 10, 2021	<i>National Post</i>	6.4K	848	22	7.2K
Former Liberal MP Celina Caesar-Chavannes throws support behind Tory candidate in election	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	4.5K	1.5K	250	6.3K
The farce of Canada's televised federal leader's debate is an insult to viewers and voters	Sep. 10, 2021	<i>Globe and Mail</i>	1.9K	1.2K	2.9K	6.0K
Jody Wilson-Raybould's memoir is devastating for Justin Trudeau: 'He wanted me to lie'	Sep. 11, 2021	<i>Post Millennial</i>	5.7K	13	0	5.7K
Rex Murphy: Trudeau's sham election is not what our war dead gave their lives for	Sep. 10, 2021	<i>National Post</i>	5.1K	492	0	5.6K
New treatment plant ends Shoal Lake 40 First Nation's 24-year boil water advisory - Winnipeg	Sep. 10, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	3.8K	1K	639	5.5K
'I did not want her to lie': Trudeau rejects Wilson-Raybould's claims about SNC-Lavalin talk	Sep. 11, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	4.2K	680	569	5.5K

¹ Engagement numbers reflect the stated reporting period. RRM Canada uses the following keywords to determine which news stories among Canadian English-language media outlets receive the most engagement: "Canada", "Canadian Election" OR "Canadian Federal Election" OR "44th General Election" OR "GE44", "Bloc Quebecois" OR "Yves Blanchet" OR " Yves-François Blanchet", "Erin O'Toole" OR "Conservative Party of Canada" OR "The Conservatives", "Annamie Paul" OR "Green Party of Canada" OR "The Greens", "Trudeau" OR "Justin Trudeau" OR "Liberal Party of Canada" OR "The Liberals", "Maverick Party", "Maxime Bernier" OR "PPC" OR "People's Party", "New Democratic Party of Canada" OR "NDP" OR "Jagmeet Singh"

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Highest engagement numbers for French-language media on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit²

Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
Manifestation contre les mesures sanitaires à Montréal	Sep. 11, 2021	La Presse	4.7K	43	0	4.7K
Accusé Blanchet, levez-vous !	Sep. 11, 2021	La Presse	3.8K	270	438	4.5K
Grâce à Mme Kurl, je choisis le Bloc	Sep. 11, 2021	Journal de Montréal	3.2K	270	82	3.5K
Le Canada, ce pays qui nous hait et nous attaque	Sep. 11, 2021	Journal de Montréal	2.8K	249	0	3.1K
Yves-François Blanchet fustige l'animation après le débat en anglais	Sep. 10, 2021	Journal de Montréal	2.9K	107	0	3.0K
Tintin, Astérix... On vous explique la polémique autour des 5 000 livres détruits par un groupe scolaire catholique	Sep. 12, 2021	France TV Info	2.5K	58	62	2.7K
Oui, M. Blanchet, elle est discriminatoire, la loi 21	Sep. 10, 2021	Journal de Montréal	2.4K	149	13	2.6K
Des chefs combattifs dans un débat en anglais tendu	Sep. 10, 2021	Radio-Canada	2.2K	109	0	2.3K
Jody Wilson-Raybould tend un piège à Trudeau	Sep. 11, 2021	Journal de Montréal	1.4K	104	0	1.5K
Loi 21 : Blanchet ne pourra pas arrêter Justin Trudeau	Sep. 11, 2021	Journal de Quebec	992	23	0	1.0K

² Engagement numbers reflect the stated reporting period. RRM Canada uses the following keywords to determine which news stories among Canadian French-language media outlets receive the most engagement: "Canada", "Élections fédérales" OR "Élections Canada", "Bloc Québécois" OR "Le Bloc" OR "Yves Blanchet" OR "Yves-François Blanchet", "Erin O'Toole" OR "Les conservateurs" OR "Parti conservateur du Canada", "Trudeau" OR "Justin Trudeau" OR "les libéraux" OR "Parti libéral du Canada", "Nouveau Parti démocratique" OR "Le NDP" OR "Le NDP du Canada" OR "Jagmeet Singh", "Annamie Paul" OR "Parti vert du Canada", "Maxime Bernier" OR "Parti populaire", "Le Parti maverick"

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Highest engagement numbers on WeChat

Article Title ³	Date	Account	Total views ⁴
"加拿大比中国小，但我们是巨人" ("Canada is smaller than China, but we are a giant")	Sep. 12, 2021	CCP Youth League	100K
"加拿大比中国小，但也是巨人" ("Canada is smaller than China, but we are a giant")	Sep. 11, 2021	Global Times	100K
"加拿大比中国小，但也是巨人" ("Canada is smaller than China, but we are a giant")	Sep. 11, 2021	Guancha Syndicate	71.5K
"加拿大比中国小，但也是巨人" ("Canada is smaller than China, but we are a giant")	Sep. 11, 2021	Zhanhao	53.6K
美国兵揭露美国丑闻，加拿大：不许你来！ (Soldier exposes U.S. scandals, Canada: You're not allowed in!)	Sep. 10, 2021	CCP Youth League	33.5K
一夜大逆转！特鲁多胜率暴升至 73%！但最后关头后院却起火了 (An overnight reversal! Trudeau's chance of winning shoots up 73%! But at the last minute, there's a fire in the backyard)	Sep. 12, 2021	Superlife	17.3K
前非诚勿扰女嘉宾，曾将中国称为“祖国”，现在来当保守党候选人？ (Former guest of 'If You Are the One' who once called China "the motherland" is now running for the CPC?)	Sep. 09, 2021	Canada Bidu	15.9K
中国驻蒙特利尔总领馆回应“加拿大鹅”被罚事 (Chinese Consulate in Montreal responds to Canada Goose being fined)	Sep. 12, 2021	China News	14.6K
党领辩论针对加中关系他们说了什么？ (Leaders' debate: What did they have to say about Canada-China relations?)	Sep. 11, 2021	Canada123	4.4K
吓到惨华人！演讲 31 次提华！没想到，保守党对华态度竟如此强硬！ (Chinese are scared! Mentions China 31 times! Who would expect the CPC to be so tough on China!)	Sep. 12, 2021	iToronto Life	3.3K
[聚焦]他 31 次提及中国，“几乎要与中国断交” ([Focus] He mentioned China 31 times, "almost wants to break diplomatic relations with China")	Sep. 12, 2021	Lahoo	2.4K

³ Article titles translated by RRM Canada

⁴ Total engagement numbers reflect the article's page views; WeChat does not calculate the number of comments an article receives

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On our radar

User engagement with French and English-language online media

- The majority of French and English-language stories shared on Facebook, Twitter and Reddit for September 10 to 12 originated from recognizable Canadian media outlets.

User engagement with Sinophone online media

- The most-viewed stories on WeChat for September 10 to 12 originated from a mix of recognizable Chinese-Canadian WeChat news accounts and CCP media outlets.
- Chinese Communist Party media outlets (including the *Global Times* and *Guancha Syndicate*) published a news story about the English-language leaders' debate and what each of the leader's said about China-Canada relations. The article was relatively neutral in tone, but highlighted one line in particular by CPC leader Erin O'Toole: "We may be smaller than China in terms of population and economic size, but we are a giant when it comes to our commitment to human rights, dignity and the rule of law."
- A *Global Times* WeChat article that suggested the CPC "almost wants to break diplomatic relations with China" is now being actively shared among Canadian WeChat news accounts.
 - WeChat news accounts *iToronto Life* (416K followers), *Vancouver Headlines* (203K followers), *GTALife* (134K followers) shared a story with the headline "Chinese are frightened! Mentioned China 31 times! Who would expect the CPC to be so tough on China!" The article received 1.5 to 3.5K page views each.
 - The Canadian versions resemble the *Global Times* article in format and tone
 - The *iToronto Life* and *GTALife* articles write that the CPC platform contains "many references that are unacceptable to most Chinese people" that "challenge the Chinese people's bottom lines!" The article ends with the line "My fellow countrymen, when you see such a situation, will you still support the CPC?"
- WeChat news accounts in Canada continued to post an apparently false claim that a Kenny Chiu-sponsored private member's bill (C-282 An Act to establish the Foreign Influence Registry) would require "all individuals or groups with ties to China would be required to register."
 - Canadian WeChat account *Canada123* [writes](#) that the bill "would become law if Chiu is re-elected" and that anyone with ties to China "would be considered spokespersons for the Chinese government."
 - The article received significant user engagement (4.4K views).
- Canadian commentators reacted to a *Global Times* English edition editorial that claims the CPC platform "caters to toxic atmosphere against Beijing" and is "unusually hostile."
 - The [editorial](#) is likely prompted by a *Hill Times* piece that analyzes the China-Canada relations policies of the LPC, CPC and NDP.

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- GT editors write that “hyping China” during an election is a “lip-service tactic” to attract voters, but if the CPC were to “put hawkish words into action, it will invite counterstrikes from China, and Ottawa is the one to suffer.”
- The article appears to bridge comments made by Chinese Ambassador Cong Peiwu that “some Canadian politicians [put] personal political interests above Canada-China relations” to the CPC leader.
- Li Haidong, a professor at a university administered by China’s MOFA, says the CPC has “very few cards to play, and lacks good policies to appeal to voters” and that they “dare not stand up so hostile against China after taking office.”
- Li adds that regardless of the election result, Canada will “continue to serve as the US’ toady to confront China.”
- Some users on Twitter and Reddit interpreted the editorial to mean that “the Chinese Communist Party wants the Trudeau Liberals to win”
- Chinese Communist Party media accounts on Douyin (the Chinese-version of Tiktok) have published videos that repeat a *Global Times* headline published on September 8 that suggest the CPC’s platform would lead China to break off relations with Canada
 - *Xinhua*’s Douyin account (26 million followers) shared a video that the CPC’s platform mentions China “31 times” and that an “expert” says the CPC “almost wants to break diplomatic relations with China.” The video received over 29K engagements. *Xinhua* is China’s official state-run press agency.
 - A number of Douyin accounts have posted similar videos about O’Toole and the CPC platform, but alter small details. For example, a Douyin video by *PLA DYJQ* (20 million followers) claims O’Toole “smeared” China 31 times.

User engagement with Russophone online media

- There were no high-engagement posts from Canadian Russian-language media outlets for the September 08 reporting period
- Topics of interest in global Russian-language media include:
 - Articles from Russian-state media (including *RIA News* and *TASS*) that claim the LPC leader is “splitting the country” for power
 - Russian mainstream media outlets (*RBC Group*) reported on remarks made by Ukrainian President Zelensky that there is a “likelihood” of war with Russia
 - *RBC Group* reported on a recent meeting between Presidents of Russia and Belarus to discuss integration between the two countries
 - *RBC Group* reported on the mayor of Moscow’s comments to public accusations connecting the easing of COVID restrictions with upcoming Parliamentary elections

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