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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 on September 13.
- RRM Canada assesses the majority of English and French-language content originated from recognizable Canadian news sites.
- Canadian WeChat news accounts continue to share a story originally published by the *Global Times* that Conservative Party leader Erin O’Toole “mentioned 31 times” in the party platform, and “almost wants to break relations with China” but received minimal engagement (avg. 550 page views).
- The *Global Times* published two articles about the Canadian government’s direction for state-owned China Mobile to divest from a Canadian telecom company. The articles quoted a spokesperson from the Chinese embassy in Canada who says: “Some Canadian politicians have been maliciously speculating on China-related issues”, that a “few political party leaders have made unwarranted attacks on China’s human rights during the Leaders’ debate” and “violently interfering in China’s internal affairs.” The articles received considerable user interest (over 200K page views).
- An alternative Russian-news site called the “Russian News Agency, of the Russian Public Movement” shared a story about a newly founded Canadian militia group that made its introduction on YouTube. The article received some engagement on Twitter (81 engagements).

Scan performed at: 9:00PM, September 13, 2021

Scan covers: 9:00AM September 13, 2021 – 9:00PM September 13, 2021.

Platform used: Buzzsumo, Crowdtangle, Tweetdeck, WeChat

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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
Canada ethics professor questions vaccine mandate in video	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>The Blaze</i>	14.9K	385	0	15.3K
Wilson-Raybould says Trudeau should let RCMP probe possible obstruction of justice in SNC-Lavalin affair	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>Globe and Mail</i>	11.5K	2.5K	663	14.7K
NP View: Justin Trudeau Liberals pose a direct threat to free speech in Canada	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>National Post</i>	10.3K	2.2K	256	12.8K
Former Liberal MP Celina Caesar-Chavannes throws support behind Tory candidate in election	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	8K	2.3K	426	10.7K
COVID-19 hospital protests 'a morale blow' to Canada's exhausted health-care workers	Sep. 13, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	9.2K	107	347	9.7K
Warnings issued ahead of expected protests at hospitals across Canada	Sep. 13, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	8.4K	83	0	8.5K
LILLEY: Trudeau shouldn't be rewarded for bad behaviour	Sep. 13, 2021	<i>Toronto Sun</i>	4.1K	1.3K	0	5.4K
'It's not right': Trudeau vows to criminalize blocking access to hospitals amid protests	Sep. 13, 2021	<i>Global News</i>	2.6K	23	1.6K	4.2K
Toronto frontline workers gather to protest vaccine mandate at Queen's Park	Sep. 13, 2021	<i>CityNews Toronto</i>	3.7K	163	167	4.1K
Kelly McParland: For Trudeau, it is always the women, like Wilson-Raybould, who are to blame	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>National Post</i>	3.9K	145	33	4.0K

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
Les libéraux tentent de convaincre les Québécois	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	1.7K	17	0	1.7K
Loi 21: une intervention fédérale n'est pas écartée par Justin Trudeau	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	1.6K	132	0	1.7K
Progression du Parti populaire du Canada: les chefs fédéraux amenés à réagir	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	1.1K	12	0	1.1K
Autodafés au Canada: «L'obscurantisme se manifeste encore une fois du côté progressiste»	Sep. 13, 2021	<i>Le Figaro</i>	786	276	0	1.1K
Les libéraux reprennent les devants dans les sondages	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>La Presse</i>	874	39	0	913
Trudeau et Singh tapent sur le Québec pour faire des gains au Canada, selon Blanchet	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>Le Devoir</i>	675	10	0	685
Qui est le vrai Justin Trudeau?	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	607	33	0	640
Justin Trudeau à l'offensive en territoire bloquiste	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>Radio-Canada</i>	470	14	0	484
La relation du Québec avec la France est à rebâtir, estime Blanchet	Sep. 12, 2021	<i>La Presse</i>	388	48	0	436
Justin Trudeau, l'icône progressiste canadienne en perte de vitesse	Sep. 13, 2021	<i>Valeurs Actuelles</i>	335	75	0	410

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
<u>加拿大刁难中国通信商，中企反击！</u> (Canada is making things difficult for Chinese telecom vendors, Chinese companies fight back!)	Sep. 13, 2021	Global Times Online Edition	92.4K
<u>加拿大刁难中国通信商，中企反击！</u> (Canada is making things difficult for Chinese telecom vendors, Chinese companies fight back!)	Sep. 13, 2021	Global Times	67.3K
<u>突发！多伦多医院大门外堵满人人！这一幕太令人心痛！</u> (Sudden! Toronto hospital is jammed with people outside the main gate! A heartbreaking scene!)	Sep. 13, 2021	51.ca	23.3K
<u>加拿大态度强硬，命令这家中国企业 90 天内关门走人！太欺负人了！</u> Canada took a hard line and ordered a Chinese company to close in 90 days! What a bully!	Sep. 13, 2021	VanPeople	9.7K
<u>引发中国网友群骂！加拿大移民局官宣，这 10 类人签证申请“作废”！</u> (Triggered some angry Chinese web users! Canadian Immigration announces these 10 visa categories are “invalid”!)	Sep. 13, 2021	Canada Talks	7.7K
<u>疯狂 特鲁多政府要求中国移动退出加拿大！理由竟然是.....</u> (Crazy The Trudeau government asks China Mobile to pull out of Canada! The reason is...)	Sep. 13, 2021	Canada News	3.9K
<u>注意：只有这个政党只字不提反种族主义</u> (Take note: Only this party doesn't mention a word about anti-racism)	Sep. 13, 2021	Canada 123	3.6K
<u>加拿大爆发全国性大游行，渥太华也有！省长、市长怒发警告，警力升级！</u> (Protests break out across Canada, even in Ottawa! Premiers, mayors are furiously issuing warnings, and the police are stepping up!)	Sep. 13, 2021	Ottawazine	2.6K
<u>提前投票最后一天！自由党支持率狂涨，特鲁多笑了</u> (Last day of early voting! Trudeau is all laughs as LPC support soars)	Sep. 13, 2021	York BBS	2.5K
<u>大逆转！特鲁多胜率暴升至 73%！党领辩论后风向变了</u> (Big reversal! Trudeau's victory rate soars to 73%! The winds are changing after the Leaders' debate)	Sep. 13, 2021	Hancan Media	1.6K

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 13 originated from recognizable Canadian media outlets.
- Some notable topics of interest include:
 - *Blaze Media*, an alternative online news site founded by Glenn Beck, posted an article about a University of Western Ontario professor who claims she is being unduly coerced to receive a vaccine by her employer. The article received considerable attention from U.S.-based social media users, but little attention from Canadians (more than 15K engagements).

User engagement with Sinophone online media

- The most-viewed stories on WeChat for September 13 originated from a mix of recognizable Chinese-Canadian WeChat news accounts and CCP media outlets.
- The *Global Times* published [two articles](#) about the Canadian government's direction for state-owned China Mobile to divest from a Canadian telecom company.
 - In one of the article's paragraph, the author discusses the events of GE44: "A spokesman for the Embassy said that recently, some Canadian politicians have been maliciously speculating on China-related issues, and a few political party leaders have also made unwarranted attacks on China's human rights and rule of law during the debate, violently interfering in China's internal affairs, which China resolutely opposes." The article received considerable user attention (nearly 200K combined views).
- WeChat news account *Canada123* published a [story](#) that claims the Conservative Party of Canada is the only "party doesn't mention a word about anti-racism" in its platform.
 - The author says "anti-racism should be Chinese voters biggest consensus" and that is "in the best interest of Chinese-Canadians to vote for a party that upholds multi-culturalism and opposes racism." The article received some user engagement (3.6K page views).
- Canadian WeChat news accounts continue to share a story originally published by the *Global Times* that Conservative Party leader Erin O'Toole "mentioned 31 times" in the party platform, and "almost wants to break relations with China."
 - Posted by the Chinese-language *Winnipeg Express*, the [article](#) adds additional commentary, saying the Conservatives' platform "challenges the Chinese people's bottom line" and calls on "fellow countrymen" to reconsider their support for the Conservatives.
 - The article received only 580 views, considerably less than similar articles posted on this topic.

User engagement with Russophone online media

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- There were no high-engagement posts from Canadian Russian-language media outlets for the September 13 reporting period
- Topics of interest in global Russian-language media include:
 - An alternative Russian-news language site called “Russian News Agency” of the “Russian Public Movement” shared a story about a newly founded Canadian militia group that made its introduction on YouTube. The article received some engagement on Twitter (81 engagements).
 - A Russian media outlet connected to the country’s Ministry of Defense discussed historical evidence, trial proceedings, and current status of former SS officer and Canadian resident Helmut Oberlander.
 - Ukrainian opposition media reported on possible plans for President Zelensky to visit the U.S. again to attend UNGA meetings
 - *Sputnik Armenia* reported on remarks made by a Russian senator that it would defend Armenia’s recognized borders as its own

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