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RRM CANADA DAILY BRIEF

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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 23.
- Conservative Party candidate Kenny Chiu continued to discuss his GE44 campaign and what impact false information played in his defeat.
 - In an interview on 980 CKNW, Chiu said false information spread in three stages: 1) through WeChat op-eds 2) through WeChat and WhatsApp group chats where additional incendiary remarks were made about Chiu 3) through diaspora radio stations who repeated the false claims.
 - Chiu believes there are “a dozen ridings” in the GTA and GVA where CPC candidates were targeted in a similar manner
- *Buyidao*, an anonymous blog run by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) *Global Times*, reported on the loss of Conservative Party candidates Kenny Chiu and Alice Wong in GE44. The author claims:
 - Chiu’s defeat to an “Indian candidate” (the LPC’s Parm Bains) in a city with the “highest density of Chinese residents” was “disastrous”
 - That ethnic Chinese in Canada have “only one wish – whoever is more anti-China, they must be pulled down! If one political party is more anti-China, than oppose that party!”
 - Chiu’s loss is a success because “there’s ‘less dog food’ among the ethnic Chinese” in Canada
 - The article received some attention from WeChat users (15.6K views) but no engagement on Facebook or Twitter

Scan performed at: 8:00PM, September 23, 2021

Scan covers: 9:00AM September 23, 2021 – 8:00PM September 23, 2021.

Platform used: Buzzsumo, Crowdtangle, Tweetdeck, WeChat

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

Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
Conservative national councillor launches petition to dump Erin O'Toole as leader	Sep. 22, 2021	True North News	6K	205	0	6.1K
PPC to run three candidates for Alberta senate election in October	Sep. 22, 2021	True North News	3.9K	287	0	4.1K
Canada to resume flights from India next week with additional COVID-19 measures	Sep. 22, 2021	Global News	3.9K	42	0	3.9K
Trudeau Glitches While Working His Way Through Woke Alphabet Soup	Sep. 22, 2021	Charlie Kirk Show (Rumble)	3.3K	0	0	3.3K
Canada left out as US calls Australia its closest and 'most reliable' ally	Sep. 22, 2021	Post Millennial	2.9K	33	0	2.9K
After Monday's vote, the federal Conservative caucus will be 95 per cent white	Sep. 22, 2021	CBC News	1.2K	673	654	2.5K
Andrew Richter: Under the Liberals, Canada has effectively disappeared as an international actor	Sep. 22, 2021	National Post	2.1K	159	38	2.3K
Former top adviser to Harper blasts O'Toole for losing "winnable election"	Sep. 22, 2021	True North News	2.1K	108	0	2.2K

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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G7 RRM CANADA
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Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
Defeated Conservative MP fears attacks by pro-Beijing forces swung votes against him	Sep. 22, 2021	National Post	1.3K	685	92	2.0K
What the rise of the PPC says about Canada in 2021	Sep. 23, 2021	CTV News	1.7K	229	72	2.0K

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

Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
Mon défi aux antivax	Sep. 23, 2021	Journal de Montréal	2.8K	32	0	2.8K
Manifestations contre les mesures sanitaires Québec dépose sa loi	Sep. 23, 2021	La Presse	1.6K	42	36	1.6K
Deux jours après le scrutin, le bloquiste René Villemure l'emporte dans Trois-Rivières	Sep. 22, 2021	Radio-Canada	1K	66	165	1.2K
Les manifestations anti-mesures sanitaires seront tenues à distance	Sep. 23, 2021	Journal de Montréal	1.2K	50	0	1.2K
Question sur le « racisme » au Québec Une « hystérie » injustifiée, dit Angus Reid	Sep. 22, 2021	La Presse	879	195	116	1.2K
Les délinquants du français	Sep. 23, 2021	Journal de Montréal	660	97	58	815

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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Article title	Date	Publisher	Facebook	Twitter	Reddit	Total engagement
Que penser du duo Trudeau-Singh pour quatre ans?	Sep. 22, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	706	43	0	750
Propagation du virus Des préposés estiment qu'Élections Canada les a exposés à un risque	Sep. 22, 2021	<i>La Presse</i>	419	8	0	427
Le glamour de la marque Trudeau est fini	Sep. 23, 2021	<i>Journal de Montréal</i>	183	150	0	333
Yves-François Blanchet réclame un sommet fédéral sur les transferts en santé aux provinces	Sep. 22, 2021	<i>Le Devoir</i>	227	5	0	232

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UNCLASSIFIED
G7 RRM CANADA
[AD]

Highest engagement numbers on WeChat

Article Title ³	Date	Account	Total views ⁴
华裔政客打反华牌，失灵了？ (Ethnic Chinese playing the anti-China card.... failed?)	Sep. 23, 2021	Buyidao (Global Times)	15.6K
杜鲁多连任总理，深情致谢两个女人！不会再留大胡子了！ (Trudeau is re-elected as PM, and fondly thanks two women! And he won't grow a beard again!)	Sep. 23, 2021	51.ca	6.1K
OMG，印度大军浩浩荡荡要来了！加拿大从下周开始，全面恢复印度的直飞航班！ (OMG, the Indian army is back! From next week, Canada will resume direct flights to India!)	Sep. 23, 2021	VanPeople	3.1K
大选还没结束！13个选区仍在计票... 会不会有反转？ (The election isn't over yet! 13 districts are still counting votes... will there be a reversal?)	Sep. 23, 2021	Dushi-Ca	2.7K
妻子背着他打疫苗 加拿大一男子闯进接种室殴打护士 (Canadian man assaults nurse after his wife gets vaccinated behind his back)	Sep. 23, 2021	People's Daily Overseas	2.1K
还有悬念？大选尚未结束，九个选区仍在计票，自由党邮寄选票数远超其他政党 (Still in doubt? The election isn't over, nine riding are still counting ballots, the LPC have far more mail-in ballots than any other party)	Sep. 23, 2021	TorLife	1.5K
尘埃落定！利好华人移民的自由党再次连任！移民政策从此放宽！(The dust has settled! The LPC, which favors Chinese immigrants, has been re-elected! Immigration policy has since relaxed!)	Sep. 23, 2021	VanPeople	1.4K
黑！加拿大政府文件：中国小留学生很多被忽悠上了劣质私校！中介为捞快钱 (Government documents: many Chinese young people were fooled into poor quality private schools! Intermediators did it to make quick money)	Sep. 23, 2021	Mengchenghui	1.0K
华人力量！加拿大9位华裔胜选创纪录，列治文翻红！ (The force of ethnic Chinese! 9 Chinese Canadians claim victory, Richmond turns red!)	Sep. 23, 2021	North American Observer	1.0K
西岛选区一片红 自由党地位难以撼动！ (West Vancouver turns red, the LPC's position will be hard to break!)	Sep. 23, 2021	West Island Life	1.0K

³ Article titles translated by RRM Canada⁴ 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 23 originated from recognizable Canadian, U.K. and U.S. media outlets.

User engagement with Sinophone online media

- The most-viewed stories on WeChat for September 23 were a mix of stories from recognizable Chinese-Canadian WeChat news accounts and CCP media accounts.
- *Buyidao*, an anonymous blog run by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) *Global Times*, reported on the loss of Conservative Party candidates Kenny Chiu and Alice Wong in GE44. The author writes:
 - Chiu's defeat to an "Indian candidate" (the LPC's Parm Bains) in a city with the "highest density of Chinese residents" was "disastrous."
 - Chiu's private members bill C-282 would require "any individual or group connected with China be regarded as a spokesperson of the Chinese government" and that Chiu "completely ignored the sentiment of Chinese Canadians."
 - The Chinese community in Canada "do not have much political ideals, but only one wish – whoever is more anti-China, they must be pulled down! If one political party is more anti-China, than oppose that party!"
 - "The results of the election to the Chinese community is simple, there's 'less dog food' among ethnic Chinese!"
 - That CPC leader Erin O'Toole is "Canada's version of Trump who threatened to work against China if elected."
 - Ethnic Chinese need a "spokesperson who represent their interests"
 - "CPC candidates in Chinese-speaking areas are dancing to an 'anti-China' tune and will only end up being abandoned by Chinese voters."
 - The article received some attention from WeChat users (15.6K page views) but did not elicit any discussion on Facebook or Twitter.
- Conservative Party candidate Kenny Chiu continued to discuss his GE44 campaign and what impact false information played in his defeat.
 - In a 20-minute [interview](#) with Jas Johal on 980 CKNW, Chiu said a campaign began against him "just before the advance poll date" and focused on his private members' bill C-282. Chiu said he faced an "information tsunami" during his campaign, and that most of the messages appeared on WeChat and WhatsApp.
 - Chiu said there were "three pillars to the misinformation":
 - "Official letters or commentators" who produce "op-eds"

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- WeChat groups and discussion channels will broadcast and add more color commentary to the op-eds
 - “On-air CRTC-regulated radio stations” will then “repeat the same false accusation” and “attack myself and my party”
- Chiu was asked if he viewed the media outlets who broadcasted false information about his campaign as “proxies” of the CCP, in which he replied “some of them” could be, and that ethnic Chinese radio stations in Vancouver were “hesitant” to invite him onto their programs to discuss C-282
- When asked what Canada should do about the situation, Chiu said “failing to understand nuances and complexities” of the ethnic Chinese diaspora “could hurt our national unity” and that members of both the mainland Chinese and Hong Kong community supported his campaign
- Chiu believes there are “a dozen ridings” in the GTA and GVA that were likely targeted with “one-way” information. He adds that the Chinese diaspora is “not reading the same newspaper or listening radio station” as the rest of Canada, suggesting that some Sinophone speakers in Canada are receiving biased information about the election.
- Political pundits on Twitter also commented on allegations of an information operation against Chiu and the Conservatives:
 - MacDonald-Laurier Institute Director Aaron Wudrick [said](#) there should be a “serious investigation” into the allegations, but suggested the LPC would not review the incident because it “happened to an opposition MP.”
 - A Facebook group run by Canada Strong and Proud -- a GE44 registered third party -- [said](#) that the information operation against Chiu was “disturbing” and also claimed that “CCP money filtered into Canada in some kind of election interference.” The post received 153 engagements.

User engagement with Russophone online media

- There were no high-engagement posts from Canadian Russian-language media outlets for the September 23 reporting period.

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