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SITE TF SITREP: 23 September 2021

2021 Federal Election – Threat Trend: STABLE



This situation report (SITREP) provides information on the operations of the Security and Intelligence Threats to Elections (SITE) Task Force. It is to be used by Assistant Deputy Ministers (ADMs) and Deputy Ministers (DMs) for information and decision-making purposes. Intended for named recipients only. Please share with members of: SITE TF ADMs; SITE TF DMs; Panel of 5

Threat Updates

GAC/RRM

- (U//OUO) 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 22.
- (U//OUO) Conservative Party candidate Kenny Chiu continued to discuss his GE44 campaign and what impact false information played in his defeat.
 - (U//OUO) In an interview with the *South China Morning Post*, Chiu said “Communist China endorsed” reports in Chinese-language media had spread “half truths and complete lies” about his position on China and Bill C-282 (An Act to establish the Foreign Influence Registry). The article received some attention from Canadian political pundits on Twitter, with some suggesting Canada should be “more concerned” that “opposing the Chinese government can now make you lose 10-14 seats.” Canadian columnist Tom Blackwell also published an article with similar claims about attacks on Kenny Chiu’s campaign in several post-media newspapers this morning. In the post-media article, former diplomat and MacDonald-Laurier fellow Charles Burton called on Canadian authorities to investigate the online campaigns in order to determine if the Chinese government was behind the “attacks” on Chiu’s campaign.

Operational Responses and Updates

- (U) No significant updates at this time.

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