

SITE TF SITREP: 17 October 2019

2019 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

- (S//CEO) RRM Canada identified online activity related to the hashtag #TrudeauCorruption that is very likely inauthentic and coordinated but, following an in depth analysis, we cannot conclude it was directed by a foreign actor. The hashtag trended Sept 5-11, 2019, with 87 accounts serving as key influencers; a number of 31 of these accounts were anonymous, deleted tweets prior to Jan 2019 with respect to international disinformation campaigns (e.g., Black Lives Matter and chemical attacks in Syria), and/or had high daily tweets rates (e.g., up to 450 times a day). While these tactics are similar to those used by foreign malign actors, foreign and domestic actors – ranging from states to lone actors – are now adopting similar techniques, rendering distinction more difficult. The impact of the campaign was limited but the accounts remain active. We continue to monitor activity related to #TrudeauCorruption for any developments.

Operational Responses and Updates

- (U) No significant updates at this time.