

## Rapport de repérage des médias sociaux: du 5 septembre 17h au 6 septembre 17h 2021 Social Media Monitoring Report: September 5, 5pm – September 6, 5pm, 2021

**Observations principales / Key observations** 

- Volume: Last 24h: 530; Previous 7 days average: 1.08K posts/day; Previous 30 days average: 1.43K posts/day; pre-campaign average: 100 posts/day
- Currently there is a broad range of topics being discussed at low volumes including foreign interference, pencils and masks at polling places, campaign financing, amendments to the CEA (FPTP), vote on campus, Dominion voting machines, sign vandalism, and fears of politically motivated violence.
- Social media users are increasingly posting about having successfully voted by special ballot at EC offices as
  well as having received their VIC. There seems to be a high awareness of the EC website and official social
  media accounts which are referenced to refute claims or refer issues.

Sujets principaux - Environnement numérique externe / Key topics - External Digital Information Ecosystem

- 4 Mail-in voting, lockdown as an election tactic, and machine voting
- Concerns about foreign interference

Narrative	September 5 (5pm) – September 6 (5pm)	September 4 (5pm) – September 5 (5pm)	September 3 (5pm) – September 4 (5pm)	September 2 (5pm) – September 3 (5pm)	September 1 (5pm) – September 2 (5pm)
Vote by mail	19	19	20	48	67
Dominion/machine voting	16	3	49	24	20
Voter ID/identification	7	8	11	8	17
<b>Rigged/fraudulent elections</b>	3	10	2	13	14
EC corrupt/partisan/incompetent	21	10	9	50	68
Voting with pencils	3	1	0	4	1
Masks in polling places	5	3	0	5	1
Vaccine requirements	1	7	1	20	19

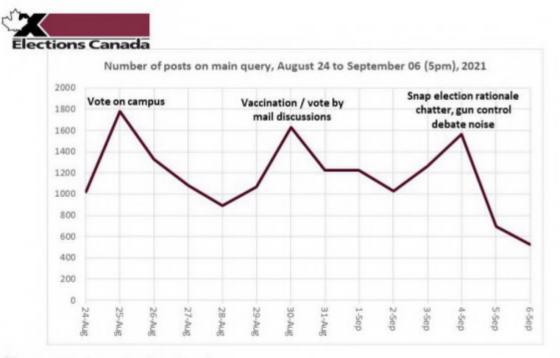
Nombre de mentions - Trames narratives principales / Number of mentions - Leading narratives

These are approximations based on keyword mentions in collated content

## Volume de messages portant sur Élections Canada/Volume of posts about Elections Canada

Sur nos comptes officiels	s / On our official accounts
Sujets principaux, interactions avec l'auditoire / Key topics of interactions with our audience	Présence des sujets provenant de l'externe / Topics stemming from the external infosystem
(211/2421) Vote by mail (103/2421) Special voting rules (82/2421) Advance polls	(211/2421) Vote by mail (47/2421) Elections during a pandemic - voting in person (36/2421) Machine voting/DVS (4/2421) Foreign Interference

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#### Éléments sous observation / On the radar

#### Social media users call attention to Chinese-Canadian campaign event in Vancouver

A number of online mentions on social media platforms and articles on September 6 called attention to the President of the Chinese Benevolent Association of Vancouver (CBA). A Facebook post specified that on Aug. 28, the President posted an invitation to a WeChat group to attend a free lunch in Vancouver's Chinatown which would feature the LPC candidate of Vancouver East. The Facebook user claims that the CBA has led pro-Beijing groups in advertising campaigns, and has a history of being sympathetic to the Chinese government, including expressing support for the controversial Hong Kong National Security Law.

The Facebook post also alleges the event is an exercise in vote buying, which they believe should not be allowed in Canada, and that CBA has posted ads supporting Chinese interests, which they believe is a violation of the Canada Elections Act when combined with the lunch invitation. The original poster has asked the media to discuss this with Elections Canada. A Reddit post links to the Facebook post and goes further to claim that the candidate has ties with the United Front Works Department, a propaganda arm of the Communist Party of China that operates across multiple countries. This topic has gained over 500 engagement as people debated campaign finance and foreign interference implications.

#### Vote by mail, pandemic/lockdowns as an election tactic, and machine voting

Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares • N/A

### Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights

Discussions about vote by mail and machine voting have been down considerably in circles that would normally discuss these topics. Focus has shifted to partisan political discourse in reaction to the CPC pivoting from their platform on the subject of firearms policy. Polling statistics that indicate that the LPC has been losing ground seem to have dampened the mood that the election is rigged and opportunistic as well as the discourse that the incumbent government, media, and EC are involved in a conspiracy that leverages the

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pandemic.

Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts					
Engagement	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date	
8,295 views, 600 engagements	2.71M, YouTube	<u>Global</u> <u>News</u> News outlet	Canada election: Liberal candidate exits over allegations, Conservatives vague on gun control *Sample comments* YouTube user: Trudeau will get his majority with his 5,000,000 rigged mail-in ballots (1 reaction)	Sept. 4	
13	12.1K, Twitter	Twitter user	Every Canadian must be made aware of this alarm bell. Only vote in person. Lots going on in back room deals right now: how the Liberals will attempt to steal the win. Beware Canada. *Retweeting Twitter user: Quietly behind the scenes behind closed doors the Liberals get ready to stage the win. Trudeau and Elections Canada have arranged an election based on MAIL In Ballots. Alarm bells clanging. Red Alert! Vote in Person Only!	Sept. 5	
1	Fewer than 500, Twitter	Twitter user	People keep talking like there was no election fraud in Canada. Considering the last minute changes to mail-in voting by Elections Canada just before Trudeau calls an election nothing to see there obviously. Canadians need to start demanding forensic audits as well. *Replying to Twitter user: Even if the Conservatives pull off a small minority, the Liberals and NDP will defeat them in a confidence vote in the next 12 months, and we'll be right back where we started.		
0	4.5K, Facebook	Facebook user	This election will be stolen by the liberals by means of crooked mail in ballots and Dominion voting machines. We need scrutineers and automatic verification of every single ballot. A family member (a disabled adult who has never voted in her life) received a voter registration card at our address. What should I make of this? What should I do about it?	Sept. 5	

# Concerns about foreign interference

Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares

- <u>Canada's policy on China should be an election issue</u> Global (Total shares: 39 / Total engagement: 490)
- <u>What influences the electoral participation of immigrant voters?</u> CIC News (Total shares: 7 / Total engagement: 92)



## Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights

While concerns of foreign interference have been a background issue throughout the writ period, recently there have been a larger number of more specific and higher engagement issues raised. These include worries of foreign interference within ethnic communities in Canada, the influence of private individuals such as Hillary Clinton or George Soros, and the influence of foreign corporations and organizations such as the Rockefeller foundation or social media companies. Overall these concerns are more of influence over key individuals or communities rather than fears of large-scale misinformation or hacking that were more prevalent among social media users in GE43.

Engagem ent	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Dat e
655	16.1K, Instagram	Instagra m user	<ul> <li>HALT INDIAN INTERFERENCE IN CANADA</li> <li>Canadian politicians and political parties must stand up against indian interference and attempts to marginalize and mailign the Sikh community</li> <li>CSIS must remain vigilant against ongoing indian attempts to interfere in Canadian affairs and the Canadian Sikh community.</li> <li>WHAT CAN WE DO?</li> <li>There is a long history of Indian interference and espionage within the Canadian Sikh community.</li> <li>Make sure you are well informed on the topic and ask your political candidates where their parties stand on the issue.</li> <li>Share and educate your family and friends on the importance of keeping Canadian Sikh issues forefront and holding our government accountable for foreign policies that interfere with our lives.</li> <li>Indian interference in Canadian Sikh affairs has been a problem for decades. The Canadian government must keep Canadian Sikhs and their interests safe. This requires us to be informed of the issues and educate others while holding our government accountable. In February 2021, WSO released an in depth report on the interference and disinformation campaigns against Canadian Sikhs, it can be found on our website: WSO Releases Report on India's Disinformation Campaign Against Canada's Sikhs Learn more about Canadian Sikh issues in the 2021 Sikh Election Guide, link in bio.</li> </ul>	Sep t.4
483	347.6K, r/Vancouv er	Reddit user, 205 Karma	Edit: No problem with voting the same ethnic but this candidate has ties with the (united front group) AKA CHINA CCP[] This candidate is also part of a group called United Front ( China government CCP) that likes to bribe politicians. This is way dangerous than we thought. [] I thought buying votes in anyway are illegal unless they are for charity event etc. Link:	Sep t. 5

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			https://www.facebook.com/1829637647313166/posts/3005119106 431675/?d=n	
			*Sample comments*	
			Reddit user 1: What kind of campaigning involves a literally free dim sum lunch (and not just a BBQ), announced by someone that is the head of multiple organizations, all of which have <i>literal</i> ties to a foreign government? Is this not the textbook definition of foreign interference in a Canadian election? (148 Reactions) Reply 1: [] Top of Form [][ The problem is political ties with a regime that has empire- building ambitions and wants to gain political influence here. [] (No r.) Reddit user 2: Welcome to the BS of FPTP. [] (18 reactions)Bottom of Form	
	12.3K, Twitter	Twitter user	The #CanadaOnFire Day of Action is in 5 days! Sept. 8, right before the next #elxn44 leaders' debates, people across the country will rally for emergency-level action on the climate crisis Check the map to find an action near you. Sign up and share!	Sep t. 3
			<ul> <li>*Sample comments*</li> <li>Twitter user 1: This is foreign election interference. (12 reactions) Reply 1: As the initiative supports the ruling party more than its closes competition it won't do anything. Elections Canada either has no authority or is complicit. Foreign Actors should be shut the f down, whether Chinese, Russian, or AMERICAN interests. (4 reactions)</li> <li>Twitter user 2: Election interference through idiot manipulation. Won't work. [] (4 reactions)</li> <li>Twitter user 3: @TwitterSupport This US activist org is interfereing in the Canadian election. Ban them. (2 reactions)</li> <li>Twitter user 4: Paid for by the USA Rockefeller superfund. Nice to see Canada allows big USA \$\$ foreign interference into our elections.</li> </ul>	
			see Canada allows big USA \$\$ foreign interference into our elections. @JustinTrudeau Brings the radical politics from US home to Canada (1 r.) Twitter user 5: You are the most misinformed vile shitheads on the planet. We don't need foreign interference get lost. (No reaction) Twitter user 6: You will be investigated for foreign interference in an election. (No reaction) Twitter user 7: #StopTheRockefellerFoundation (No reaction)	
2	Fewer than 500, Twitter	Twitter user	Trudeau wants the 2 million Chinese people that he allowed in when Pearson was closed, 5 Chinese flights a day, to vote illegally for him, from Markham! Why else were 15 Chinese delegates with diplomatic immunity flogging across Canada in August? Maybe voter fraud? *Replying to Twitter user: After Airplane to Pearson on Friday,	Sep t. 5

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the GTA for an announcement in Markham. Where will he be hiding. It's his 2nd visit to Markham. Erin O'Toole has an event in Vancouver. Singh makes an announcement in a park in Ottawa.



Compte de média sociaux d'Élection Canada / Elections Canada's Social Media Accounts Volumes entrants et sujets clés / Inbound Volumes and Key Topics

TAG	MESSAGES 🔻	STAG	MESSAGES •
Twitter Spat	185	Facebook Face-off	102
Vote by mail	135	Vote by mail	76
ways to vote	105	SVR	61
advance polls	75	Citizenship	59
Met - Green	65	Green	58
Green	65	NROE	51
РМ	61	Met - Green	49
PPC	60	ways to vote	40
voting	53	РМ	30
partisan	53	registration	22
LPC	52	recruitment	22
VIC	51	us election	19
negative	49	LPC	19
elxn44	49	voting	18
us election	48	partisan	18
fraud	42	fraud	17
SVR	42	ID	17
Safeguards	40	thank you	16

Ce rapport a été rédigé par le Centre d'observation de l'environnement, Affaires publiques et Éducation civique, Élections Canada This report was produced by the Environment Monitoring Centre, Public Affairs and Civic Education, Elections Canada