

For Public Release



SEP 08 2021

BY HAND**UNCLASSIFIED**

David Vigneault
Director
Canadian Security Intelligence Service
1941 Ogilvie Road
Gloucester, Ontario K1J 1B7

Dear David Vigneault:

Pursuant to section 6(2) of the *Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act*, you will find attached my written Direction with respect to Canada's Intelligence Priorities for the 2021-2023 cycle. These priorities are intended to guide Canadian intelligence collection and assessment efforts, and ensure that limited resources align with broader Government objectives.

This Ministerial Direction will replace the previous Ministerial Direction on Intelligence Priorities.

A copy of this letter and the enclosed Ministerial Direction will be sent to the Chair of the National Security and Intelligence Review Agency.

Yours sincerely,

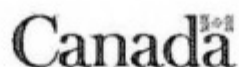


The Honourable Bill Blair, P.C., M.P.

Enclosure: (1)

c.c.: The Honourable Marie Deschamps
Chair
National Security and Intelligence Review Agency

The National Security and Intelligence Advisor to the Prime Minister



For Public Release

UNCLASSIFIED
[Annexes are SECRET//CEO]

TO: DIRECTOR, CANADIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

**Ministerial Directive to the Canadian Security Intelligence Service
on the Government of Canada Intelligence Priorities for 2021-2023**

PREAMBLE

s. 39 - Cabinet Confidence

Pursuant to subsection 6(2) of the *Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act*, I am issuing this Ministerial Direction (MD) on the implementation of the Priorities to the Director of CSIS. This MD outlines my expectations for CSIS as it implements these Priorities. This MD remains in effect until a new MD on the implementation of the Priorities is issued.

CSIS' activities in support of the Government of Canada Intelligence Priorities for 2021-2023 must respect the rule of law, including, where applicable, the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, the *Privacy Act*, as well as any other relevant legislation. This MD must be operationalized in accordance with other MDs.

The Director of CSIS will advise me of factors having a significant bearing on the Service's ability to fulfill the Intelligence Priorities, including those relating to mandate limitations, changes in the threat and technical environments, and resource implications.

INTELLIGENCE PRIORITIES

The following are the Government of Canada's Intelligence Priorities for 2021-2023:

s. 39 - Cabinet Confidence

For Public Release

UNCLASSIFIED
[Annexes are SECRET//CEO]

This MD will inform the development or revision of CSIS' Intelligence Requirements Document to align organizational intelligence production efforts to the Priorities for the 2021-2023 intelligence cycle, which are defined in the 2021-2023 Intelligence Priorities Strategic Guidance (Annex A) and further scoped by the intelligence requirements produced in accordance with the Performance Management Framework and Results and Delivery Strategy (Annex B).

CSIS SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA INTELLIGENCE PRIORITIES

CSIS' activities in support of the Priorities must be conducted in accordance with your mandate under the *CSIS Act*. Pursuant to your mandate in s. 12 to collect and analyze information and intelligence on threats to the security of Canada as defined in s. 2 of the *CSIS Act*, and report to and advise the Government of Canada on these threats, I direct CSIS to undertake activities related to the following Intelligence Priorities and associated requirements: s. 39 - Cabinet

s. 39 - Cabinet Confidence

With a view of supporting the full range of Intelligence Priorities, I also direct CSIS to undertake activities, to the extent resources allow, in relation to the other Intelligence Priorities insofar as there is a link to a threat to the security of Canada as defined in s. 2 of the *CSIS Act* or the activities are undertaken upon a request for assistance from the Minister of Foreign Affairs or the Minister of National Defence pursuant to s. 16 of the *CSIS Act*. s. 39 - Cabinet Confidence

s. 39 - Cabinet Confidence

While CSIS may also, where consistent with your mandate, conduct intelligence activities outside of the scope of the Priorities, such activities do not fall within the scope of this MD. These activities would also not be managed under the Performance Management Framework and Results and Delivery Strategy (Annex B) and should not be included in the data or information provided to comply with the requirements in Annex B (e.g. the National Intelligence Expenditure Review).

URGENT AUTHORITIES

As the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, I may ask you to adjust resources to respond to new or emerging issues not captured in the Priorities. In such cases, I may direct you in writing and request that you coordinate with Privy Council Office (PCO) to implement my direction and ensure that the Priorities are updated. I also understand that the Government of Canada intelligence community, in accordance with the process in the Performance Management and Results and Delivery Framework (Annex B), may take appropriate action in exigent or urgent circumstances through existing coordination bodies, particularly the Assistant Deputy Minister Intelligence Committee, to respond to issues not captured in the priorities. I expect to be informed of such actions in a timely manner.

For Public Release

UNCLASSIFIED
[Annexes are SECRET//CEO]

PROVISION OF PERFORMANCE AND EXPENDITURE DATA

I also direct CSIS to participate in discussions coordinated by PCO among intelligence collectors, assessment agencies and intelligence consumers to prioritize the intelligence requirements associated with the Government's Intelligence Priorities for 2021-2023 in accordance with the Performance Management and Results and Delivery Framework (Annex B). s. 39 - Cabinet

s. 39 - Cabinet Confidence

As outlined in Annex B, I expect that CSIS will continue to participate in the National Intelligence Expenditure Review (NIER) and to support the performance measurement activities related to the 2021-2023 Intelligence Priorities.

ACCOUNTABILITY

In the course of undertaking operational activities to implement these intelligence priorities, CSIS must notify or consult the Minister on relevant matters in accordance with the ministerial directions on accountability and operations.