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Rapport de repérage des médias sociaux: du 25 novembre 12h au 2 décembre 12h 2021  
Social Media Monitoring Report: November 25, 12pm – December 2, 12pm, 2021

Observations principales / Key observations

- Volume: **This period average: 46 posts/day**; Previous period average: 37 posts/day; Last 30 days average: 70 posts/day
- Initiatives aimed at lowering the voting age in Canada divided users this week. Most rejected the idea, claiming a lack of maturity or a need to pay taxes before voting. Some supported the idea, pointing out that 16-year-olds can drive and work and their voices should therefore be heard.
- Claims that EC is corrupt were centered on the return of Parliament and reactions to the results of GE44.
- Poll workers complaining about pay issues continued, with users turning to online forums to check if others have been paid, and are sharing tips to call EC until issues are resolved. (The social media team supports election workers by sharing information with the Pay Inquiry Line when actionable detailed reports of issues are detected online.)

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

- [↑ Discussion on reforms to the CEA](#)
- [↻ EC is incompetent/corrupt](#)

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

Narrative	Nov. 25 – Dec. 2	November 18 – 25	November 10 – 18	November 4 – 10	Oct. 28 – Nov. 4
Vote by mail	1	10	6	5	12
Machine voting	10	23	4	4	24
Rigged / fraudulent elections	2	6	6	8	19
EC corrupt/partisan/incompetent	12	16	21	17	51
Electoral reform	12	15	13	3	20
Voter ID	7	8	7	5	6

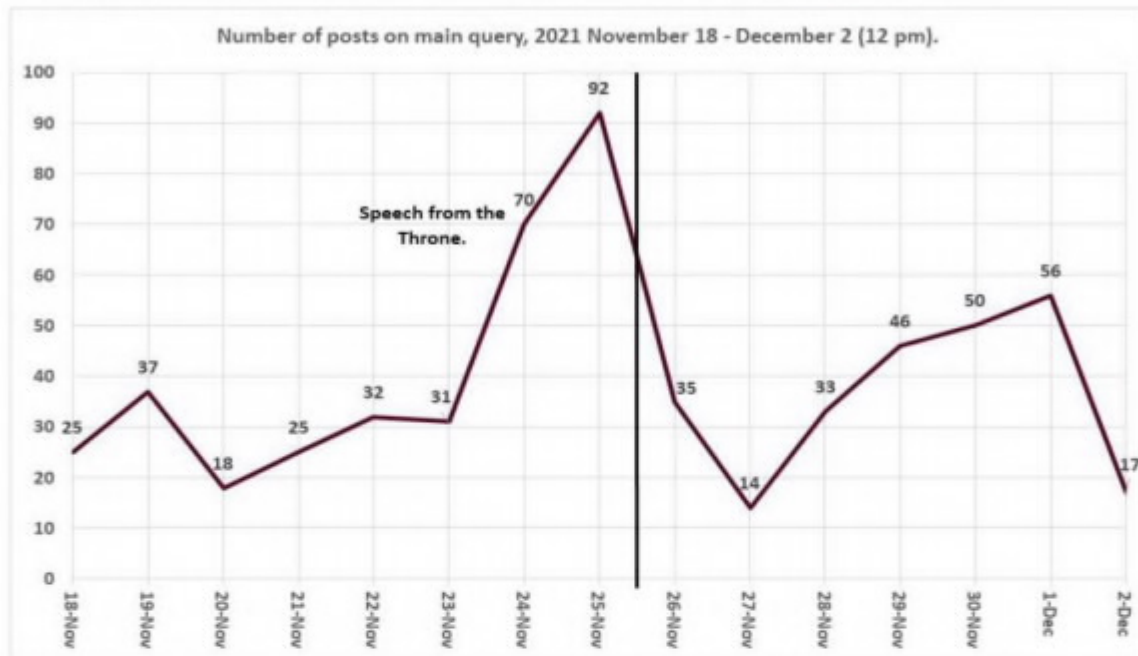
These are approximations based on keyword mentions in collated content

Sur nos comptes officiels / 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
(20/174) Poll worker pay (19/174) Alleged discrimination	(1/174) Elections Canada is incompetent/corrupt (0/174) Discussion on reforms to the CEA (voting age)

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



### Éléments sous observation / On the radar

#### Self-proclaimed 'Queen of Canada' detained after making death threats

On November 27, the RCMP detained BC resident Romana Didulo for a mental health assessment under the province's Mental Health Act. Didulo had published a video calling for her 73,000 Telegram followers (an anonymous platform) to shoot on sight anyone giving vaccines to children. Didulo, a prominent figure among Q-Anon forums, claims she is the legitimate Queen of Canada and has a significant following in both the U.S. and Canada. Previously, she had declared that individuals enforcing mask mandates would be executed and encouraged citizen to take matters into their own hands by arresting those deciding/implementing pandemic measures, she also purported that the Canadian election was a puppet "Matrix system," that MPs would be court-martialled for participating, and that her followers should not vote in the 44th General Election. The story of the arrest has been published by dozens of outlets, including international news, gaining tens of thousands of engagements.

#### Omicron variant dominates social media, called 'midterm election variant'

Much of the online discourse during this period was about the new COVID-19 variant and its potential impact on society and the economy. However, we observed comments coming from the U.S. bringing back the narrative that the pandemic is used or controlled by world leaders to influence elections. As we are now less than a year away from the U.S. midterms, users pointed out the allegedly suspicious origins of the new variant. A similar narrative about the 'weaponization of the pandemic' was popular in Canada following the Newfoundland & Labrador election of 2021 and leading up to GE44.

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↑ Discussion on reforms to the CEA

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

- [Young Canadians launch court challenge to lower federal voting age from 18](#) - CBC (**Total shares: 569 / Total engagement: 5.3K**)
- [Young Canadians file court challenge calling for federal voting age to be lowered](#) – CTV News (**Total shares: 83 / Total engagement: 1.5K**)

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

The news of a group of Canadian youths launching a court challenge to lower voting age from 18 generated high levels of engagement on social media. Reactions to the news were very divided. People supporting this idea generally argue that teenagers are affected by public policies as much as adults and since many Canadians under 18 work, pay at least one form of taxes, and can drive, they should have their say. However, the majority of comments rejected the proposal to lower the voting age. Opposition stemmed mostly from an alleged lack of maturity, lack of knowledge of political affairs, or the risk of opening a Pandora's box that would lead to reducing the voting age to twelve or even younger. Some argued the voting age should instead be raised to 21 or 25. Finally, some users presented alternatives like requiring to have paid a certain amount of taxes or being employed to be able to vote.

In relation to this topic, the team also identified a few posts calling for a reform of FPTP in Canada. One in particular called the process undemocratic and unrepresentative. Another post discussed alternatives to FPTP, with users agreeing its complexity could make voting "overwhelming."

**Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts**

Engagement	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
507	1.2M, Twitter	<a href="#">CTV News</a> , News outlet	<p><a href="#">Young Canadians file court challenge calling for federal voting age to be lowered</a></p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 1:</b> If the voting age gets changed, so does the young offenders act. Responsibility and accountability go hand in hand. If 16 is too young to be accountable for your actions then it's too young to vote. Can't have both <b>(100 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 2:</b> I'm totally for this. If a 16 year old can drive a car then a 16 year old should be allowed to vote <b>(46 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Reply 1:</b> I'm perfectly fine lowering the voting age to 16. also OK if they cap it at 65 pending a competency tests. One of my parents really shouldn't be voting due to preliminary stages of Alzheimer's, nor should my 95y/o Grandma who forgets that she soiled herself for hours. <b>(14 r.)</b></p> <p><b>Reply 2:</b> do realize how easily manipulated a 16yo is?? They'll vote for whoever their favourite celebrity tells them to. Bought-off social media influencers will steer thousands of votes. <b>(11 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 3:</b> Great idea. Lizzy May loves it. Let 16 year-old teens vote for parliament. Hell, let them buy booze &amp; pot. Serve in the army &amp; perform jury duty. Skip school. Sign legal contracts like</p>	Dec. 1

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			<p>leases. Absolve parents from any legal responsibility. What could possibly go wrong? <b>(24 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 4:</b> I feel it should be raised to 21 <b>(20 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 5:</b> If the government thinks you're old enough to drive, work, and pay taxes, then you are old enough to vote. <b>(14 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 6:</b> if they can decide on vaccine they can vote, right? <b>(8 r.)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 7:</b> How about anyone under 18 who filled taxes in Canada can vote, plus all landed immigrants/permanent residences who fill taxes. <b>(3 r.)</b></p> <p><b>Reply 1:</b> I don't think the answer is to allow non Canadian citizens the right to vote. Voting should remain a distinctive role for Canadian citizens only. <b>(3 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 8:</b> Sure, make it mandatory for everyone 16 and up to vote. <b>(2)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 9:</b> Then they can get their idol Greta Thunberg to run for PM!<b>(2)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 10:</b> just another group that doesn't vote on Election Day <b>(1 r.)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 11:</b> They do realize that 16 yrs old are generally only voting in Muni not Federal elections in those countries listed..If they want to vote for the next skatepark mayor... <b>(No reaction)</b></p>	
317	449.6K, Facebook	<a href="#">National Post</a> , News agency	<p>'Minimum voting ages present an unjustifiable restriction on the right of citizens to vote in Canada,' the claim argues</p> <p><a href="#">Group of young Canadians sue federal government to eliminate minimum voting age</a></p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 1:</b> That's crap- they don't pay taxes. They have not experienced truly life impacting situations. They might be "political nerds" but not realize how their myopic view in a rosy eyed world does not synch with reality. <b>(53 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Reply 1:</b> the court case isn't going to swing on paying taxes. The unemployed are allowed the vote, after all. Blame the authors of the constitution for leaving the age loophole in it. <b>(No reaction)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 2:</b> Sounds like adults taking advantage of children to push a political agenda. <b>(53 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 3:</b> Politics just keep getting dirtier and the younger and less experienced the voting population is, the more susceptible they are to manipulation and exploitation especially with the power of social media. <b>(48)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 4:</b> Kids don't know the difference between the objective and the subjective world they live in, let alone what politics is about. The progressive left must be very desperate. <b>(33 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 5:</b> Should raise the voting age to 25. By then, you have had to pay taxes, and see what is done with them. By then</p>	Dec. 1

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			<p>you have a taste of life experience, and should have informed opinions <b>(16 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 6:</b> When in doubt about chances of election, you start to change the voting rules. <b>(14 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 7:</b> Half the adults in this country are incapable of making decisions for themselves, let alone those that affect the country <b>(14 r.)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 8:</b> No one under 21 should be voting. Kids these days can hardly tie their shoes without dumbed down how-to instructions. They have zero life experience to draw on when it comes to voting. Hell, most adults fit that bill too and it shows. <b>(12 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 9:</b> I agree with reducing the age to 16. I don't think voting should be tied to limiting factors such as paying taxes, having credit card debt, adult like responsibilities. Our society economically and socially changes in leaps and bounds all the time faster and faster. It's changed from the time you enter University to the time you leave. <b>(8 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 9:</b> No doubt private sector taxpayers are paying legal costs of both sides - and both are working for this commie government - now we can lay bets on if we get a trifeckta - a Groper appointed Judge. <b>(7 r.)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 10:</b> There is nothing wrong with waiting two more years. As minors they legally can't sign a contract, so to allow them the vote is still wrong. <b>(5 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 11:</b> Awesome!! Youth getting informed and involved. Seriously at 16 they can drive but not vote. You can do more damage with a car than a vote. <b>(3 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Facebook user 12:</b> Maybe votes should be valued by the amount of tax paid, the more you pay ,the more valuable the vote. Way fairer than the way it is now! <b>(2 reactions)</b></p>	
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<b>🔗 EC is incompetent/corrupt</b>				
<i>Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares</i>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>				
<i>Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights</i>				
<p>This week, the majority of comments describing EC as partisan or ineffective were centered around the return to Parliament and negative reactions to GE44 election results. The conclusion that 'the system is rigged' often fell into the narrative that EC itself is corrupt and there is no saving democracy in Canada. Poll workers who have not been paid two weeks after the expected date continued to express their concerns and frustrations, with some arguing that there must be problems at Elections Canada, others are upset they have not received their record of employment.</p>				
<i>Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts</i>				
<b>Engagement</b>	<b>Followers, platform</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Date</b>

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3.2K	5.7M, Twitter	<a href="#">Justin Trudeau</a> , Liberal Party Leader	<p>Earlier this week, we outlined our plan to get Canada through the pandemic, grow the middle class, and build back a better country for everyone. If you missed it, here's the bottom line: we're going to keep putting you first. Find out how: <a href="#">Statement by the Prime Minister on the Speech from the Throne</a></p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Twitter user 1:</b> Canadians hate you. <b>(431 reactions)</b>  <b>Reply 1:</b> Not enough to vote the mofo out, apparently. <b>(13 reactions)</b>  <b>Reply 2:</b> But who's counting the vote? I've seen no reason to believe pathological liars about such things. Not when we have caught them doing so soo many times lately. <b>(2 reactions)</b>  <b>Reply 3:</b> As someone who's worked for Elections Canada multiple times, I find it highly doubtful that you can rig the vote at lower levels. It has to be higher ups doing things. <b>(3 reactions)</b></p>	Nov. 26
28	145K, r/Edmonton	Reddit user, 12 Karma	<p>Elections Canada Pay  Hey yall, once again asking if anyone has yet to receive their pay from elections Canada. I find this a little ridiculous at this point and it has been well over 10 weeks now. I also contacted them to say I haven't received my pay and that they filed a report last week but still nothing. Anyone else?</p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Reddit user 1:</b> Yeah I worked Election Day. Got paid mid October. Def agree with the other comment to call often make sure they stay on your case. <b>(17 reactions)</b>  <b>Reddit user 2:</b> I got paid beginning of Nov. Received payment right to my bank account (go check yours), but also a physically mailed summary of pay. <b>(8 reactions)</b>  <b>Reddit user 3:</b> Call again, every day until this gets fixed. Lastly; contact the ALRB. What they're doing is blatantly illegal. <b>(7 reactions)</b>  <b>Reddit user 4:</b> Elections officials only get paid if they vote for the winning party. Sorry man, new rules. <b>(7 reactions)</b>  <b>Reddit user 5:</b> I thought an employer had to pay you within 10 days of job ending. <b>(2 reactions)</b>  <b>Reddit user 6:</b> Does elections Canada use Phoenix pay system? <b>(2 r.)</b>  <b>Reddit user 7:</b> I think it was Nov 15 or 16th when my wife finally received her cheque. <b>(1 reaction)</b></p>	Nov. 25
2	Fewer than 500, Twitter	Twitter user	<p>Its like you disagree with the very premise of this story. Sorry, but they are indeed questioning the neutrality of Elections Canada. We have a PM elected by 32% of the 62%</p>	Nov. 26

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			<p>of voters who bothered to vote. That means 19% of eligible voters elected the PM. Less than 1 in 5.</p> <p><b>*Replying to Twitter user:</b> Ugh, you keep digging a deeper hole. National popular vote is meaningless so it can't be anecdotal evidence. Current distribution of Federal Electoral Districts was done when Harper was PM, so if the Cons want to blame someone, it would be themselves.</p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Twitter user 1:</b> I completely disagree with the story. Zero evidence Elections Canada has not been neutral. Based on your National PV nonsense, O'Toole would have been elected by 33.7% PV or 21% of eligible voters or 1 in 5. So it's a wash. The hole just gets deeper. <b>(No reaction)</b></p>	
0	1.9K, Twitter	Twitter user	<p>Nothing will change in Canada until Canadians DEMAND it. Does anyone actually believe the veracity of that election when Elections Canada had to come out with an apology to voters for the clown show?</p> <p><b>*Retweeting National Post:</b> <a href="#">O'Toole accuses Liberals of hiding as House of Commons moves to resume hybrid sittings</a></p>	Nov. 26

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

Inbound Messages > Tag		Inbound Messages > Tag	
TAG	MESSAGES	TAG	MESSAGES
spam	58	election pay	4
bots	49	complaints	3
CPC	25	Met - Green	3
about media	23	Green	3
poll worker	20	negative	2
alleged discrimination	19	irrelevant	2
political parties	9	Referral to complaints form	2
partisan	8	EC social	2
campaigning/canvassing	8	veterans' day	1
political financing	7	thank you	1
deleted	7	recruitment	1
MPs on Social Media	7	masks	1
MP	6	corrupt/rigged	1
complaints	5	asked & answered	1
Met - Green	5	History Of The Vote	1
Green	5	Facebook Face-off	1
meme	4	#DYK	1

*Ce rapport a été rédigé par le Centre d'observation de l'environnement, Affaires publiques et Éducation civique, Elections Canada*

*This report was produced by the Environment Monitoring Centre, Public Affairs and Civic Education, Elections Canada*