

Rapport de repérage des médias sociaux: du 9 décembre 12h au 16 décembre 12h 2021 Social Media Monitoring Report: December 9, 12pm – December 16, 12pm, 2021

# Observations principales / Key observations

- Volume: This period average: 127 posts/day; Previous period average: 49 posts/day; Last 30 days average: 63 posts/day.
- Discussions around lowering the voting age remained popular on social media this week, primarily
  driven by news media coverage of the topic. Reactions to the idea were mainly negative.
- Reactions to an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases and new public health measures led many
  users to express anger towards governments. In turn, comments questioned electoral results and EC's
  integrity to explain their disappointment in GE44's outcome.
- Concerns over alleged Chinese interference in GE44 continued to increase following coverage of the CPC fears that Chinese influenced campaigns in 13 ridings. Most social media users commenting believe there was Chinese interference during GE44.

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

- <u>
   <u>
   Discussion on reforms to the CEA</u>

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- The second second
- Tereign interference

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

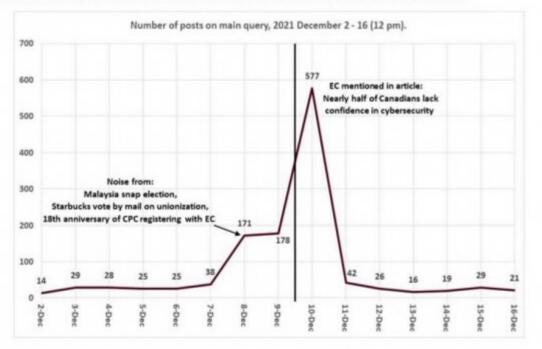
Narrative	December 9 – 16	December 2 – 9	Nov. 25 – Dec. 2	November 18 – 25	November 10 – 18
Vote by mail	12	4	1	10	6
Machine voting	10	7	10	23	4
Rigged / fraudulent elections	24	12	2	6	6
EC is corrupt / partisan / incompetent	33	25	12	16	21
Electoral reform	20	13	12	15	13
Voter ID	7	8	7	8	7

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
(10/96) Campaigning/Canvassing (8/96) Election pay	(2/123) Elections Canada is incompetent/corrupt (0/123) Youth vote (0/123) Foreign interference

For Public Release





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

#### Éléments sous observation / On the radar

## News article details survey on Canadian's lack of trust in EC and CRA cybersecurity

On December 9, CTV News published an article titled <u>Nearly half Canadians lack confidence in cybersecurity of</u> <u>CRA, Elections Canada: survey</u>. The article did not produce many reactions on social media, aside from one Reddit thread on r/Canada that generated 950 reactions, including 160 comments. Generally, reactions to the news were dismissive, claiming that asking random Canadians about cybersecurity did not mean much about the actual cybersecurity measures of an organisation. In general, people discussing EC's cybersecurity expressed trust in it because the core work of counting votes is still done manually with paper ballots, under scrutiny. The news died down in popularity over the following day and was no longer present in the environment as of the writing of this report.

### ↑ Discussion on reforms to the CEA – Lowering the voting age

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

- Old enough to choose: The case for letting younger Canadians vote CBC (Total shares: 124 / Total engagement: 572)
- <u>NDP MP launches bill to lower voting age to 16</u> CBC (Total shares: 89 / Total engagement: 1.3K)

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

More discussions about amending the CEA to lower the voting age to 16 were active this week, primarily driven by continued news media coverage of the subject. Reactions to the idea were very negative, with social media users often claiming that teens lacked maturity, and that "If anything they should raise the voting age." Others drew comparisons to other legal privileges determined by age, such as consuming alcohol, serving in



the military, and being tried as an adult. Those in favour of lowering the voting age pointed to the fact 16-yearolds often work and pay taxes, and have equal stake in determining their future. Online dialogue around this topic closely resembles what was found in previous weeks, with few new narratives.

Engagement	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
1.8K	CBC reader comments section	CBC	Old enough to choose: The case for letting younger Canadians vote         CBC reader 1: Should we get rid of the young offender act and start throwing 16 year olds in provincial reformatories and federal peneteniaries too? You know since the kids are so grown up and mature? (120 reactions)         CBC reader 2: No! If you are too young to have your name published when you commit a crime, you are too young to vote. Ridiculous this is even a conversation. (196 reactions)         CBC reader 3: If the voting age is dropped to 16, then we must also amend the Young Offenders Act to restrict its protections to those under the age of 16 rather than 18. The Act is premised on the notion that those under can't be relied on to make rationally sound and responsible choices, so why would this be any different where voting is concerned? (74 reactions)         CBC reader 4: I was part of the movement in the States to lower the voting age to 18 from 21. The reasoning was that 18 year olds were being drafted to fight in Vietnam. If you're being asked to shed your blood, you should have a voice in picking who is doing the asking. There is no such compelling reason to lower the voting age to 16 (or 14?). Children lack the life experience to make decisions for the nation. They cannot balance the appeal of various causes with the consequences in real life. We should keep (62 reactions)         CBC reader 5: Us parents and grandparents know that most kids don't really understand life enough to vote until they reach their 20's. (60 r.)         CBC reader 7: Just asked my neighbours daughter at 16 years old what "price inflation" is "relating to the economy". Her answer, exact words: "we don't need to cover the economy till university" Nope, raise the age (32 reactions)         Reply 1: Forty per cent of eligible Can	Dec 8

Elect	ions Canad	a		
			demographically irrelevant in a voting population of 27,373,058 (No reaction) CBC reader 8: I agree. Young people should be encouraged to vote because the future belongs to them, not us. They will face the consequences of climate change, our filthy environment, contaminated water, deforestation etc. I'm old enough to not care, if that's what I choose to do. They cannot. (15 reactions) CBC reader 15: This is just plain WRONG. The brain isn't even close to being fully developed. If anything, raise the age to 21. (10 reactions)	
387	25.7K, r/ndp	Reddit user, 393.4K karma	NDP MP launches bill to lower voting age to 16 *Sample comments* Reddit user 1: If they can work, they can vote! (65 reactions) Reddit user 2: Doesn't matter. Give them the option to vote if they want. They get taxed if they work, they should also get a vote. (39 r.) Reddit user 3: I agree! No taxation without representation holds up here, if a teen can get a job and a tax return (which I did as a 16 year old) they should get a say in where that money is going. (23 r.) Reddit user 4: I dig it. In Australia it's compulsory to vote if you are over 18. I don't know if they did it, but a while ago they were talking about introducing optional voting for 16- 18yo. I really liked that idea. Don't underestimate teens. And don't dismiss them. They'll be a part of society for a long time, I see no problem giving them a say from a younger age. Especially as it can feel so futile trying to create positive change as an underaged person. It would be a nice bit of empowerment. (20 reactions)	Dec 13
329	138K, Facebook	Canada's NDP / Le NPD du Canada, Political party	<ul> <li>NDP MP launches bill to lower voting age to 16</li> <li>*Sample comments*</li> <li>Facebook user 1: Taxation without representation right? If you can work at 16 and pay taxes in your wages, then you can vote. (18 r.)</li> <li>Reply 1: nobody under the age of 18 pays income tax in Canada. If it comes off a teenagers cheque, they get it all back at tax time. (6 r.)</li> <li>Facebook user 2: If your old enough to vote, than your old enough to drink, smoke, gamble and join the military. (16 reactions)</li> <li>Facebook user 3: 16 is far too young to be able to understand many of the issues. In many cases they will be voting under the thought process of their parents etc. they need time and a broad education as well as a little</li> </ul>	Dec 13

experience in life beyond high school - assuming many do
actually finish it. (14 reactions)
<b>Reply 1:</b> then the age of consent should be higher than
16. Can a 16 year old male adult choices or not? Should
be consistent either way. (No reaction)
Facebook user 4: I don't think 16 year olds are mature
enough to be making those decisions. At 16 they should be
learning about the systems of government, but only in
preparation for understanding how your vote works/impact
(9 reactions)
Facebook user 5: Good idea. Can we get a maximum age also? (5 r.)
Facebook user 6: I think this is great. Considering less than
half of the eligible population already votes, getting people
to participate earlier on in life might actually be helpful for
our electoral system! Giving someone the right to vote
doesn't take away yours, so why are people complaining?
(2 reactions)
Facebook user 7: Of course 16 year olds should have the
right to vote. It's their future that is at stake. (No reaction)

# ↑ EC is incompetent/corrupt

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

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

The recent increase in the number of cases of COVID-19 associated with the new Omicron variant and calls for kids to get vaccinated or adults to get a booster shot led the online discourse this week. This, in turn, generated anger and opposition to the current federal government. These posts, although attacking the government itself or sharing disappointment in GE44's results, led to several comments questioning the validity of the election. Although EC was rarely targeted directly, many claimed the election was "rigged," "fixed," or that machine voting or vote by mail were used to control the outcome of the election. One user claimed EC has not disclosed poll-by-poll numbers for election night yet, providing "no way to verify that the numbers the polls reported were the numbers they counted." Among social media users, lack of trust in public institutions often seems to translate in lack of trust in electoral results.

<b>Publications</b> re	liées au sujet /	Related	posts
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Engagement	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
72K views, 9344 engagements	10.2K, TikTok	<u>Melissa Lantsman,</u> Member of Parliament	After nearly two years of COVID-19, it is unacceptable that travellers are being mandated to stay in quarantine hotels operated by the Trudeau government do not have access to basics like food, medication and diapers. This is not public safety, its mismanagement. #cdnpoli #cdnpolitics #cpc	Dec. 10

Elections	Canad	la		
			*Sample comments* TikTok user 1: CAN THE PEOPLE OF CANADA REQUEST A RE VOTE ? (69 reactions) Reply 1: What good would that do? (2 reactions) Reply 2: Truth toronto will just re vote the goof back in (15 r.) Reply 3: I'm from Toronto and Justin's not my guy , the election was rigged (20 reactions) Reply 4: We need a recount or another vote then like immediately (1 reaction) Reply 5: It was rigged. I agree with you (No reaction) Reply 6: It was a rigged vote anyway (No reaction)	
26.1K views, 2804 engagements	76.3K, TikTok	<u>Chad Lattanzio,</u> Political Commentator	PROOF OF VAX REQUIRED FOR KIDS *Sample comments* TikTok user 1: And again we can thank the East for electing Trudeau and his Liberals not once but twice ! (56 reactions) Reply 1: Trudeau was not elected just like biden was not! (5 r.) Reply 2: not a Trudeau fan or voter but it wouldn't matter who won the election. this BS was happening either way. (3 reactions) Reply 3: Tru Has nothing to do with the EAST! it was a rigged election. I'm from NL and I can tell you that not ALL of us voted for him. Stop the BS (1 reaction) Reply 4: you really think elections are not rigged? wake the F up :joy emoji: (No reaction) Reply 5: The election was either fixed or most are brainwashed ignorant idiots (No reaction) Reply 6: I'm convinced our election was stolen too (No reaction)	Dec 12
25.8k views, 786 engagements	510, TikTok	WeAreCanadaProud, Organization	https://vm.tiktok.com/ZM8vXxx54/ QUESTIONS I GET ASKED ABOUT BECOMING PM *Sample comments* TikTok user 1: Dominion is the only voter (3 reactions) Reply 1: Bingo (2 reactions) TikTok user 2: lost the popular vote and somehow still won. Broke af system. (No reaction) TikTok user 3: He won the election by buying off new Canadians and having a open boarder. Giving dead beat Quebecers money . Trudeau is a trader (No reaction) TikTok user 4: rest of country doesn't matter as long as he keeps bringing immigrants in to Ontario he'll keep getting voted in not by me though useless manchild (No reaction)	Dec 11

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	TikTok user 5: I see so many people complaining here.Did you vote?? Go look we have low numbers for voting. Do your civic duty or shut up. (No reaction) TikTok user 6: I ran in the 2019 Federal election the whole thing is corrupted and a shit show lol (No reaction)

## ↑ Foreign interference

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

<u>Conservatives believe 13 ridings were targeted by foreign interference in 2021 election</u> – Global (Total shares: 101 / Total engagement: 2.6K)

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

Recent news coverage that the Conservative Party believes 13 ridings may have been the target of foreign influence by China during GE44 has kept the topic in the social media spotlight. Reactions to the news generally are that there was foreign interference, and China is currently the only country mentioned. Opinion is split as to whether social media users think the Chinese influence was welcomed by opposing politicians or not.

Surrounding the U.S.-hosted democracy summit that Taiwan was invited to, China has stepped up efforts to discredit western democracy over the last month. A TikTok account from central China reposted a video uploaded by Canadian YouTuber Gweilo 60 shortly after GE44, in which he criticized western democratic elections and praised the Chinese government. The video had previously been reposted on YouTube by China Global Television Network, state media from China. Comments largely agreed with the Canadian YouTuber, and stated that democracy in the west does not result in representative or effective government. Many commentators asserted the original vlogger and the accounts reposting the video were part of the Chinese propaganda machine.

Engagement	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
148.1K views, 8.6K engagement	5.2K, TikTok	Nanyangcomm, Political commentary channel from Nanyang, China	A Canadian looks at China's Democracy Part 2 [Translated from Chinese] [reposting video originally from a November CGTN (state media) YouTube channel featuring Canadian YouTuber living in China Gweilo 60] *Partial transcript* 3:30: You don't have the problems that they have in the Western world, and I think it's because the people in government spend 100% of their time dealing with the problems of China, fixing things, making China a better place to live, making it better for the people. In the West it's not like that. Look at Canada, they had an election, the Liberals got back in with about 32% or 33% of the popular vote. I don't know how that could be a democracy because it's not majority rules. But that was in September, and the Parliament doesn't go	Dec. 8

## Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts

lections Canada	
	back in until November 22. So they've got a couple months where they're doing absolutely nothing. In China that wouldn't happen.
	*Sample comments*
	TikTok user 1: WhiteMonkey from CGTN (30 reactions) TikTok user 2: right but there so no democracy. it does not exist. voting for representatives and giving them all your power for a limited time is not
	democracy. (12 reactions)
	TikTok user 3: I hear about communists China hire
	many western men like him for propaganda PROPAGANDA. (7 reactions)
	TikTok user 4: It's time to redefine democracy
	[Translated from Chinese] (22 reactions)
	TikTok user 5: you are just a paid actor reading a CCP
	script. politicians in china are chosen by the CCP, not
	the people, fake democracy (8 reactions)
	TikTok user 6: Hey I live in Canada.In our last election,
	majority of Canadians voted for centre-left parties
	whose combined seats are majority. Yes it's democracy (1 reaction)
	TikTok user 7: in the end we just need 1 political party
	in country (1 r)
	TikTok user 8: BlackFace Trudeau got into power
	promissing election reform guess what the very first
	promise he publicly renagged on !?! (1 reaction)
	TikTok user 9: so the fact that this comes to fyp [for
	you page] actually means tiktok is owned by ccp (No reaction)
	TikTok user 10: how much does Xi offer to make this TikTok ? (No r.)
	TikTok user 11: China has proven their voting system is better. (No r.)
	TikTok user 12: social credits + 150,000 Sir (No
	reaction) TikTok user 13: You are paid spoken man (No reaction)
	TikTok user 14: True, vote once in four years and we
	don't know this person can work for the sake of people
	or not. I doubt this is democracy. (No reaction)
	TikTok user 15: Voting in the west is juat an art to see
	who can sweep in the most votes, and funny everyone
	sounds promising at elextion time only (No reaction)
	TikTok user 16: Very well said and glad that you as a
	Canadian living in China you can witness the life there.
	Western democracy has a lot of issues. (No reaction)
	TikTok user 17: This guy got paid a lot so he could say
	everything the Chinese government made up (No

101	ons Canad 2.4M,	Global News,	A senior party source and researchers suspect the	Dec
	Facebook	Media Outlet	Conservatives' stance on China's Communist regime made them a target.	15
			Conservatives believe 13 ridings were targeted by	
			foreign interference in 2021 election	
			*Sample comments*	
			Facebook user 1: They are taking a playbook page	
			from the US Republicans! (29 reactions)	
			Reply 1: wasn't it the democrats that cried "Russian interference" in 2016? (9 reactions)	
			Facebook user 2: In my view China is not going to gain	
			anything by Liberals win Canada has to move with	
			American policies. Bad investments on corrupt	
			politicians. (7 reactions)	
			Facebook user 3: Very possible. How did the brainless	
			twit Trudeau get back in to power!!!!! (7 reactions)	
			Reply 1: and conservatives go on constantly on how the people vector (1 reactions)	
			they won the popular vote. (1 reactions) Reply 2: corruption! (1 reaction)	
			Facebook user 4: What a complete and utter joke and	
			embarrassment of a party! (4 reactions)	
			Facebook user 5: Wow, just like the trump	
			republicans! (3 reactions)	
			Facebook user 6: What does it matter, every election is	
			decied by two province's and first past the post. (3 reaction)	
			Reply 1: proportional representation would have	
			left us with the same outcome we now have.	
			Lib/NDP coalition. (No reaction)	
			Facebook user 7: So 13 ridings were targeted Add that	
			to the fact that liberal ridings in PEI have 35,000	
			people per seat in parliament while conservative	
			ridings in Alberta have 120.000 people per seat in	
			parliament According to stats can. And you think	
			elections in Canada are fairand not rigged DREAM ON SWEETIE (2 reactions)	
			Facebook user 8: Ummm yea, all large countries	
			interfere in other countries elections. Always has	
			happened always will. Who cares. (2 reactions)	
			Facebook user 9: Do con's ever take responsibility for	
			their own actions! (No reaction)	
			Reply 1: Do folks like you ever read articles? Or just	
			post your bias? "The party was briefed by Canada's	
			two main intelligence agencies about potential	
			foreign interventions against their candidates during	
			the election, two party sources told Global News."	
			(1 r.)	
			Facebook user 10: All I know is pretty much anyone	
			you talked to did not vote Trudeau in (No reaction)	

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Electio	ns Canad	a		
			<ul> <li>Facebook user 11: Put it this way, the entire Canada is against China interference on election but is it's citizens dumb enough to vote base on that is unknown. For sure, I will not be. (No reaction)</li> <li>Facebook user 12: Probably a lot more than 13 I would think (No r.)</li> <li>Facebook user 13: What a crock. Canada is completely insignificant to China, why would they even care who was elected. (No reaction)</li> <li>Facebook user 14: So its not really a big deal that there was interference in our election because it didn't change the results? Go Canada (No reaction)</li> <li>Facebook user 16: CSIS came out last week saying there was clear foreign interference in last election. It was pretty obvious from the get go. Foreign media are unregulated in Canada. (No reaction)</li> <li>Facebook user 17: When you have Dominion voting system on your side, nobody can beat you (No reaction)</li> </ul>	
239	1.1M, r/Canada	Reddit user, 4.8M Karma	Conservatives believe 13 ridings were targeted by foreign interference in 2021 election Conservatives believe 13 ridings were targeted by foreign interference in 2021 election *Sample comments* Reddit user 1: There are two things being manipulated foreign influence / disinformation campaigns. 1) They are weaponizing our own stupidity and reliance on social media to gobble down the news we want to hear, and 2) our political parties are so self focused, that they put party ahead of country every time. We're not talking about public endorsements by world leaders (Netanyahu or Obama etc) we're talking about targeted campaigns that use platforms (such as Reddit) to make surgical disinformation strikes with the specific intent of nudging elections. Conservatives and Liberals can't be up in arms when it happens to them, but then downplay it when it happens to another party. (No reaction) Reply 1: Quite ironic. The party that benefits the most from foreign interference(American owned news companies and social media), crying the loudest. Wonder what would happen if media was not corporate owned and honest about the effect of every single right leaning policy on the middle class. The	Dec 15

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Electio	ons Canad	la		
			Reddit user 2: I feel like most of the people who commented here never read the article. The cons aren't saying this is why they lost. The article mentions that they were briefed about interference. (No r.) Reddit user 3: We bring in masses of immigrants with little background checking, and only require 2 years of residence (poorly supervised) before they can get their citizenship and vote. We do not require them to demonstrate (as other countries do) that they have made any effort at integration or joining in and learning more about their neighbours and society. We allow foreign-language media to be under the control of hostile foreign governments (as per CSIS reports) and do nothing to bother foreign agents manipulating, pressuring or otherwise influencing their expatriates here. And we should be surprised that some of those governments, like China, will attempt to influence elections to get people in power who are friendlier to them and their interests? (No reaction) Reddit user 4: Didn't we all know that China heavily favors a Liberal government in Canada? (No reaction) Reddit user 5: "In a statement, CSIS said the intelligence community did not detect foreign interference threats that rose to the level of jeopardizing Canada's ability to hold "a free and fair election" or that warranted warning the public" Sounds like the Cons are making excuses, especially when they admit many of the ridings were long shots to win. If there was credible proof then CSIS would identify it or this would be escalated. (No reaction) Reddit user 6: I'm shocked some Chinese Canadians decided they didn't want to vote for the most anti- China party.Crying foreign interference is just whining. Seems every party is going to go start blaming losses on it. (No reaction) Reddit user 7: pretty rich coming from the masters of election cheating. (No reaction)	
217	25.5K, Twitter	Canada Proud, Organization	No surprise that communist China was helping their buddy Trudeau get elected. <u>Conservatives believe 13 ridings were targeted by</u> foreign interference in 2021 election *Sample comments* Twitter user 1: Yes we see this And Many Of Us Conservatives were aware of this was happening So how We the Opposition could BRING THIS REALITY to the Surface???WE MUST INITIATE to examine this	Dec 15

FOREIGN Interference in the 2021 ELECTION !!!!
ALLWAYS knew that was RIGGED Both elections!! (5 reactions)
Twitter user 2: Where's CBC to report this? Ahh wait funded my them as well (4 reactions)
Twitter user 3: Now we know why Canada won't ban
Huawei, it's now obvious (2 reactions)
Twitter user 4: So, that is why 61% of eligible voters did not vote (1 r.)
Twitter user 5: A think! It's a bit late now. Seems like everyone but you knew this (No reaction)
Twitter user 6: does Jerry Diaz' union thugs qualify as
foreign interference? (No reaction)

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	36	election pay	5	
campaigning/canvassing	10	holiday	4	
about media	8	fun facts	4	
LPC	8	democracy	4	
political financing	6	History Of The Vote	4	
MP	6	poll worker	3	
negative	5	Met - Green	2	
Provincial	4	Green	2	
CPC	4	CCE	2	
CCE confusion	4	spam	1	
partisan	3	positive	1	
jurisdiction error	3	negative	1	
election pay	3	civic education	1	
PPC	3	asked & answered	1	
CCE	3	MP	1	
poll worker	2			
leadership race	2			
corrupt/rigged	2			

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

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