

For Public Release

FW: CLK-NSIA Bilat

From: [redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Cc: [redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca, [redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2023 13:47:56 +0000

Hey [redacted]
 From what I understand the Clerk-NSIA bilat tasking is awaiting direction from Dan so we are .
 Nonetheless, sharing the below in case its useful for the NS consult bit I believe you are on. When
 tasking comes in lets connect before sending up as we may need to deconflict on F/P/T engagement
 elements.
 Cheers,
 [redacted]

From: Walshe, Bridget <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Sent: July 7, 2023 3:18 PM
To: [redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca; [redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca
Cc: Chayer, Marie-Helene <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; [redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca; [redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca
Subject: RE: Engagements with provinces and territories on election security

Hi [redacted]
 Apologies for the delay. We were checking in with folks on the status of moving forward to offer
 briefings for elections.

On elections security, I'd offer the following points for the Clerk:

- The Privy Council Office would like to extend an offer to meet with senior security officials from the Provinces and Territories ahead of elections to share information and offer support on election security. Given that Manitoba and Northwest Territories will have elections in October, briefings could be provided in August.
- The meeting would be an opportunity for federal officials to sensitize provincial counterparts on the threat environment in which the upcoming provincial / territorial elections will be conducted.
- If of interest, classified briefings from security agencies on issues including the threat of foreign interference, cyber security, and Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism could be provided.
- We would also like to offer active support and connections to federal experts who could provide advice and information on any security questions officials may have in over the course of the writ period.
- This engagement is intended to provide information and support given the importance of election security and is not in response to any specific threats.

On NS engagements with provinces and territories, I understand that Public Safety is leading national engagement within existing FPT tables.

- Public Safety (PS) presented to Federal, Provincial and Territorial Deputies of Justice and Public Safety on May 30-31 on Cyber and Foreign Interference.
- An update was provided on Bill C-26 (An Act Respecting Cyber Security) the development of a new National Cyber Security Strategy, and on a foreign influence including the transparency registry. Deputy Ministers discussed how they could strengthen Canada's cyber

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security posture and use the foreign interference registry to involve sub-national jurisdictions. Deputy Ministers were also invited to reach out for further bilateral engagement on both of these issues.

- PS plans to continue engagement with provinces and territories on Bill C-26 (An Act Respecting Cyber Security) and the development of the renewed National Cyber Security Strategy through the coming months.
- PS is exploring the legal mechanisms to share information more quickly and readily with provinces and territories.

Cheers,
Bridget

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 9:40 PM
To: Walshe, Bridget <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Cc: Chayer, Marie-Helene <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Engagements with provinces and territories on election security
 Sounds great! Thanks to you both!

From: Walshe, Bridget <Bridget.Walshe@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 8:08 PM
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; Chayer, Marie-Helene <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Engagements with provinces and territories on election security
 Thanks [redacted]! From our end it seems very feasible that a briefing can be put together for that timeframe. We'll follow up with PS on the specifics of who should brief etc.
 [redacted], I'll put together some language for inclusion in your package for the Clerk and get it to you asap tomorrow am.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 8:00 PM
To: Walshe, Bridget <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; Chayer, Marie-Helene <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Engagements with provinces and territories on election security
 Yes, we had discussed with Mike MacDonald that he should make offer to Manitoba and NWT for briefing in in August (in advance of their elections on October 3). He had agreed and was going to follow up with PS to identify best public safety type counterpart to offer the briefing. I don't know if he did before leaving.

From: Walshe, Bridget <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 7:57 PM
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; Chayer, Marie-Helene <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>; [redacted] <[redacted]@pco-bcp.gc.ca>

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Subject: Engagements with provinces and territories on election security

Hi [redacted],

[redacted] and I met this afternoon to discuss actions following the last Clerks and Cabinet Secretary meeting held in April. I understand that one of the actions was to offer briefings to provinces and territories ahead of elections, and I believe that Mike MacDonald may have discussed with you before he left PCO in early June.

[redacted] note that it would be good for the Clerk to provide an update during the Clerks and Cabinet Secretary meeting set to occur this coming Monday. Any concerns from your end in making the offer to provide briefings on elections security to provinces? The offer could be a briefing – similar to those that are provided to political parties ahead of federal elections.

I realize that timelines are very tight in getting input to the Clerk on this deliverable. Any thoughts you have by tomorrow am would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Bridget

Bridget Walshe

Director, Operations | Directrice, Opérations

Security and Intelligence - Operations | Sécurité et renseignement - Opérations

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