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ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE • GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA

Beyond the 2019 Federal Election Foreign Actor Interference Workshop

2019-03-27

**Strategic Intelligence Advisor
Strategic Criminal Intelligence Unit**

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1

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Purpose and Objectives

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- Raise awareness of technological drivers shaping the threat of foreign actor interference
- Discuss impact on law enforcement in the next 5+ years
- Highlight need for policy development and mitigation of risks



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Key Technologies

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Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- Integrate and analyze vast data that informs more accurate decisions
- Replicates human-like thought and behaviour
- Takes independent action without human involvement



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Key Technologies

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Quantum Computing

- 2-10 years away from reality
- Will provide ability to decrypt secure data (e.g. makes encryption redundant)
- Will allow for the processing of large data sets



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Key Technologies

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Blockchain

- Allows value to be transferred without the need of a trusted authority (e.g. bank).
- Examples include encryption, cryptocurrencies



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Larger Context

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- Anticipated significant social, political, economic changes
- Could lead to greater stratification of wealth
- Lack of transparency may lead to mistrust in public and democratic institutions
- Could lead to civil unrest and national security threats from foreign actor interference



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Implications for Canadian Law Enforcement Challenges and Threats

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Attribution

- Law enforcement's ability to identify perpetrators will be weakened by attribution challenges

Insider Threats

- Could increase as foreign actors become more aggressive in obtaining strategic information



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Implications for Canadian Law Enforcement Challenges and Threats - continued

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Mistrust in public institutions

- As a consequence of these technologies, society may become more polarized, leading to civil unrest

Potential for public disorder

- Who is making the decision? An AI or human?
How will we know for certain?



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Implications for Canadian Law Enforcement Challenges and Threats - continued

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Potential for foreign surveillance and data acquisition of Canadian information

- To be effective, AI requires huge amounts of data from as many sources as possible to provide insight unseen previously

Increase in threats to critical infrastructure – likely targets:

- Energy sector and utilities
- Information and communication technology
- Defence



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What Next?

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- Greater collaboration amongst law enforcement agencies across all levels of policing and governments
- Engaging and collaborating with new partners (e.g. private sector)
- Identify indicators of threats and potentially linked criminal activity to prevent and disrupt early



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QUESTIONS?



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