

For Public Release



Government of Canada  
Privy Council Office  
Ottawa, Canada  
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Gouvernement du Canada  
Bureau du Conseil privé

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MEMORANDUM FOR MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DEMOCRATIC  
INSTITUTIONS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

LETTER TO PROVINCES, TERRITORIES AND MUNICIPALITIES  
SHARING PROTECTING DEMOCRACY TOOLS

(For signature)

**SUMMARY**

- Attached for your signature, are letters to your provincial and territorial counterparts (**Tab A**), as well as the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (**Tab B**), to raise awareness and build resilience amongst other orders of government about issues related to foreign interference and disinformation.
- The letters provide an opportunity to showcase the Government of Canada's work to protect Canada's democracy by sharing: "Countering Disinformation: A Guidebook for Public Servants" (**Tab C**), the "Protecting Democracy Toolkits" (**Tab D**), published in January 2024, as well as "Multistakeholder Insights: A Compendium on Countering Election Interference" (**Tab E**), which is a good practice guide for the prevention of foreign interference in our electoral processes. These products will provide helpful resources to provincial, territorial and municipal governments to support a whole-of-society approach to protecting Canada's democracy.
- This engagement contributes to advancing your mandate to work with provinces and territories and help equip them with the resources needed to increase awareness of the threats of disinformation and foreign interference.
- It is recommended that you sign the attached letters to your provincial and territorial counterparts, as well as to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. **Do you agree?**

**Background**

- Consistent with your mandate to lead an integrated government response to protect Canada's democratic institutions against foreign

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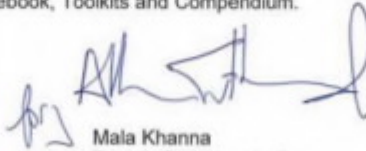
interference and disinformation, you announced in January 2024 the publication of "Countering Disinformation: A Guidebook for Public Servants" (Guidebook) and three "Protecting Democracy Toolkits" (Toolkits).

- The Guidebook introduces public servants to the threat of disinformation to Canada's democracy and offers guidance on how to identify, build public resilience to, and counter disinformation; and
  - The Toolkits, designed for public servants, elected officials and public office holders, and community leaders provide tips to help spot and combat disinformation and foreign interference.
- ° Additionally, as a result of a series of six international workshops held throughout 2020, the Government of Canada and Paris Call Principle co-leads, Microsoft and the Alliance for Securing Democracy, developed and published "Multistakeholder Insights: A Compendium on Countering Election Interference" (Compendium). The Compendium is a good practice guide to help build global expertise and understanding about proven methods in preventing foreign interference in electoral processes.
  - ° In the spirit of intergovernmental collaboration and considering that the threats of foreign interference and disinformation affect all orders of government, the attached letters bring awareness to these resources. Provinces, territories and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities can then share them within their organizations, as well as with their stakeholders as they see fit.
  - ° Contact information for the provincial and territorial ministers responsible for intergovernmental affairs is attached (**TAB F**). For the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, it is recommended that you correspond with the President of the organization. PCO-Intergovernmental Affairs was consulted in the preparation of this list.

**PCO Comment**

- ° Sending letters to your counterparts to share the Guidebook, Toolkits, and the Compendium would advance your commitment to expand your work with provinces and territories, and to equip them with the resources needed to increase awareness of the threats of disinformation and foreign interference, as stated in your April 2023 report to the Prime Minister (*Countering an evolving threat: Update on recommendations to counter foreign interference in Canada's democratic institutions*).

- ° This would encourage provincial, territorial and municipal governments to build resilience by developing efforts to combat foreign interference and disinformation within their organizations. It also provides an opportunity to showcase the progress that has been made with regards to the protection of democracy within the federal government.
- ° Engaging with other orders of government at the ministerial level will illustrate how protecting democratic institutions is a priority for the Government of Canada and emphasize that this is a shared responsibility.
- ° Sharing these information packages will be a stepping stone to further engagement with provincial, territorial and municipal governments on this issue, namely by initiating conversations at the working level.
- ° It is recommended that you sign the attached letters to your provincial and territorial counterparts, as well as to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to share the Guidebook, Toolkits and Compendium.



Mala Khanna  
Deputy Secretary to the  
Cabinet (Governance)

Attachments (6)

/Stinson/Sutherland/

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**Ministerial Decision:**

- I agree
- I need more information
- I do not agree

\_\_\_\_\_  
The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, P.C., K.C., M.P.  
Minister of Public Safety, Democratic Institutions  
and Intergovernmental Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date