

Discussion with Foreign Interference Commission

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Biographical Sketch

Professor, School of Information Studies, McGill University
Canada Research Chair in Data Mining for Cybersecurity

P.Eng. (Software Engineering) in Ontario

Ph.D., M.Sc., B.Sc. (Comp. Sc.) Simon Fraser University

Published over 200 articles in the research areas of data mining, machine learning, AI, privacy protection, cybersecurity, and crime investigation. Received over 15,000 citations.

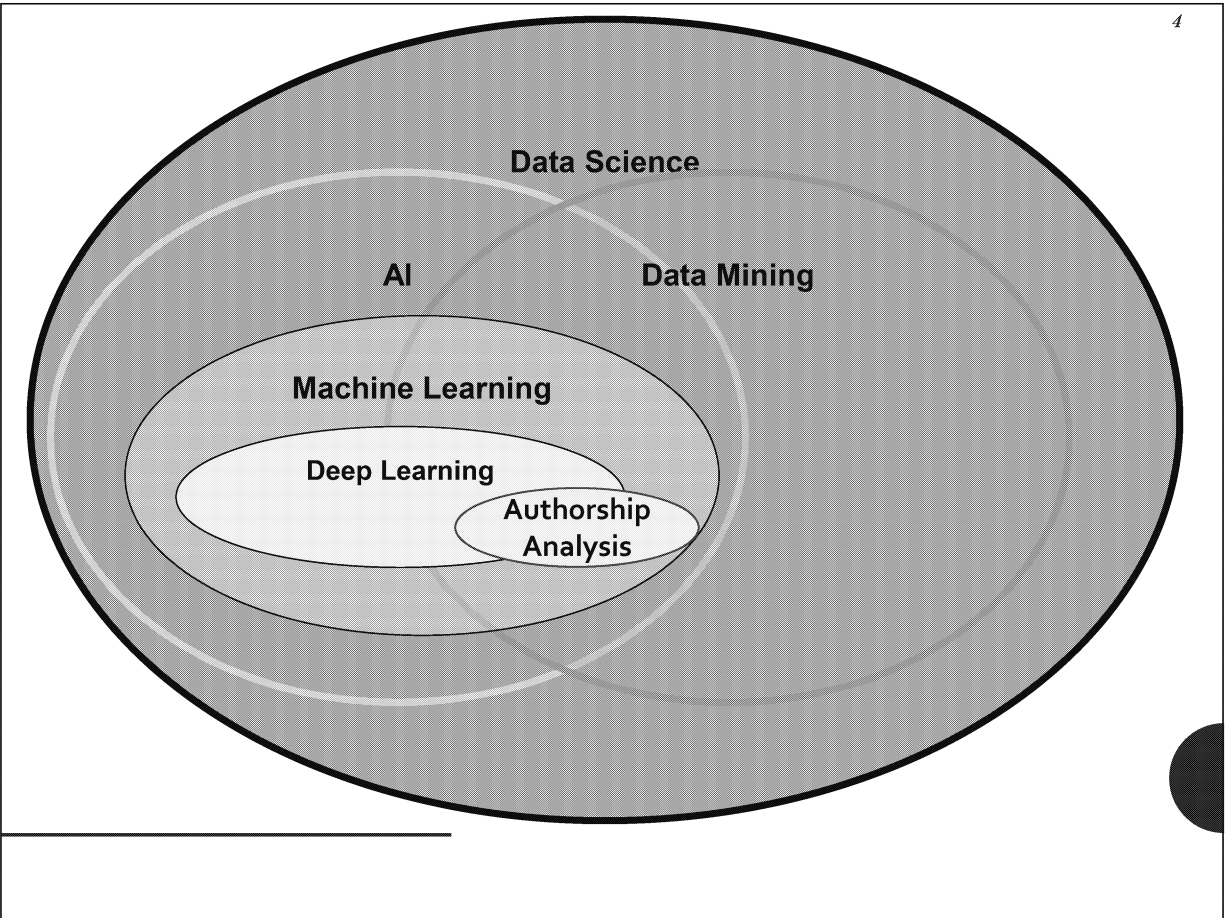
Biographical Sketch

Closely collaborate with Defence Research & Development Canada (DRDC) in the area of cybersecurity since 2010.

In terms of received citations on authorship analysis, rank first in the world.

Authorship analysis:

- Study of (digital) writing styles to identify the author or the author's characteristics.



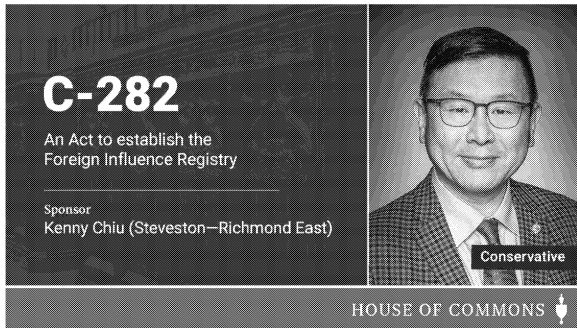
*Disinformation
Campaign
Targeting Chinese
Diaspora in
Canada*



Former Conservative MP Kenny Chiu

- An outspoken politician who advocated for Hong Kong and democracy and heavily criticized Beijing's violation on human rights.
- Urging the Canadian government to impose sanctions on China.
- Unfavoured by the Beijing government.

Disinformation Campaign



- In Spring 2021, Foreign Influence Registry Act (Bill C-282).
 - Impose “an obligation on individuals acting on behalf of a foreign principal to file a return when they undertake specific actions with respect to public office holders.”
 - A potential way to expose the relationship between agents in Canada and their ties to foreign countries.

This act will make more difficult for external states to conduct electoral interference, technological and intellectual property theft, or even surveillance and operations like the “Operation Fox Hunt” (a global covert operation conducted by Beijing to threaten and repatriate Chinese dissidents to mainland China).

Foreign influence transparency registry

Election in Steveston Richmond East

- 2019: Total number of votes: 41,084
 - Conservative: 17,193
 - Liberal: 14,397
 - Difference: 2,796 = 6.8%
 - Only need to swing 1,398 votes
- 2021: Total number of votes: 38,949
 - Conservative: 13,066 (↓ 1,331)
 - Liberal: 16,543 (↑ 2,146)
 - Difference: 3,477
- (I have no interaction with Kenny Chiu at all.)

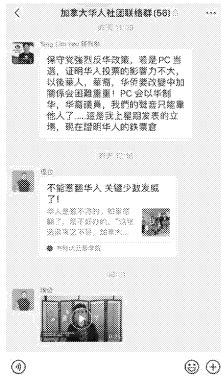
Timeline in 2021

C-282 First reading

4/13

WeChat (Weixin) and WhatsApp: Disinfo on C-282 and Chiu

9/2



保守党国会议员赵锡荣的“外国势力注册法”要求除外国政府官方代表之外，任何受个别外国政府或政治组织控制或影响的个人、公司或组织（统称外国政府委托人）必须在加拿大司法系统登记。如果这些个人和组织和国会议员及公职人员进行交流，也必须在政府登记。

这个提案打击和覆盖面十分的广。加国本就是个大熔炉，移民和少数族裔有与不断建立的联系，可以讲大陆社区的每一个团体和数多个人都有可能随时被这个法案定义为中国政府的延伸部分，被认为作为北京政府的委托人。任何的活动都有可能被列入监管对象而要求登记。如有以下行为的个人或团体将会被认为是要对中国政府的影响而都定为中国政府的委托人：

- 用多会成立或者开展活动，愿意地政府如有发来列值；
- 搜集会成立或者开展活动，学校如有发来列值（国非是“知悉的私人学校”）；
- 团体的主要领导人出席过中国领事馆例如国庆招待会、春节庆祝的团体和个人；
- 邀请过领事馆官员出席活动的团体；
- 以及与任何一级中国官员有联系的团体或者个人；
- 出席过有中国政府机构支持的活动例如当地侨联的中秋茶会的个人；
- 在移民前曾经在政府机构（上至国参院，下至居委会）任职过个人；

下至居委会）任职过个人；

- 曾经接受过国内机构包括政府和国会赞助的团体；
- 接受过私人企业赞助（但是私企的主要人员是党员的，担任过或者曾经担任过人大代表或政协委员）的团体。

请关注赵锡荣在国会提出的“外国势力注册法”

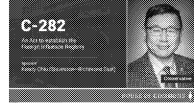


今年四月时保守党国会议员赵锡荣（Kenny Chiu）在国会提出私人立法提案Bill C-282，又名“外国势力注册法”（Foreign Interference Registry）。目前此法案已经通过国会一读。按照国会三读的立法程序，如果此次大选赵锡荣连任，这个“外国势力注册法”有可能成为法律。在加拿大的大熔炉有必要关注一下这个法案。因为一旦成为法律，任何和中国有联系的个人或者团体都有可能被认为是中国政府代理人而被要求专门登记。这将对大陆移民的言论自由，大陆社团的活动以及

正策前中加经济文化科技交流都受到十分负面的影响。

“外国势力注册法”和提案人简介

保守党国会议员赵锡荣的“外国势力注册法”要求除外国政府官方代表之外，任何受个别外国政府或政治组织控制或影响的个人、公司或组织（统称外国政府委托人）必须在加拿大司法系统登记。如果这些个人和组织和国会议员及公职人员进行交流，也必须在政府登记。登记的内容要求是：(1) 个人或组织信息 (2) 所代表的外国势力的名称 (3) 与外国势力的任何来往往来。这些登记信息将不单独等张档案第二十五号数据具有有追溯期。
<https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42/1/HC-282/first-reading>.



赵锡荣生于香港，八十年代移民加拿大，然后加入公民籍。2019年在 StevenOrr-Highmore 议员带领下担任国会议员。该法案包括强制加拿大公民身份在案者必须提供活动前给性善者代表履职社会监督

- 2021-09-02 Wechat FI registry o-10.jpg [CCC0000001]
- 2021-09-02 Wechat FI registry o-10 transcription.docx [CCC0000002]

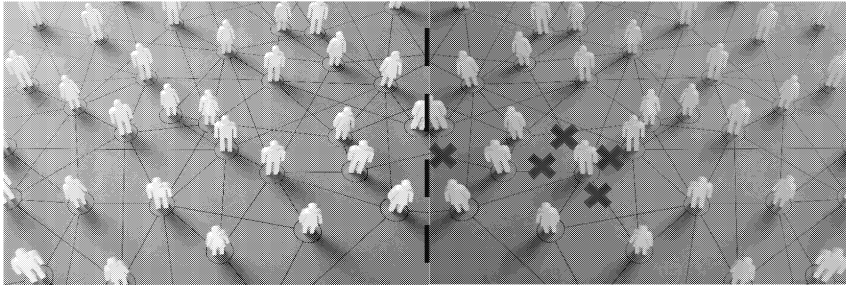
9/21

Timeline in 2021

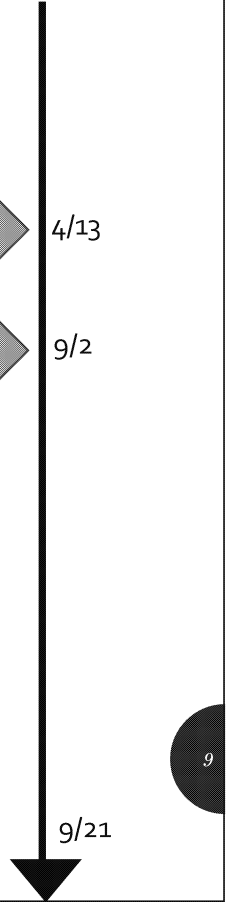
C-282 First reading → 4/13

WeChat (Weixin) and WhatsApp: Disinfo on C-282 and Chiu → 9/2

- | Outside of China | Inside of China |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Monitored but not censored | • Monitored and censored |



- The Citizen Lab: <https://citizenlab.ca/2020/05/we-chat-they-watch/> [CCC0000209]



Timeline in 2021



众言(122) : 给加拿大华人同胞们的一封信

Spread in social media.



Key messages:

- Chinese community in Canada is miserable.
- What is the essence of politics, is plunder, is power.
- Nobody represents the Chinese community in government.
- "I decided to **switch to the Liberal Party in this election**"
- "Finally, in my own name. Please, help me, **don't vote for O'Toole with your precious vote**. Let me, as a member of the Chinese, be able to live with a little hope and dignity."

- CCC0000201 – This was spread in WhatsApp in Chinese. It is the same copy of the original version from: <https://www.chinesecanadianvoice.ca/141081/>
- CCC0000201 (same article in English)

Timeline in 2021



English Translation

Please spread the word! Conservative MP Chiu Kam Wing (Kenny Chiu) proposes "Foreign Power Registration" bill to **suppress Chinese community**

Earlier in the Parliament, British Columbia's Conservative Party MP Kenny Chiu introduced a private member's bill (BILLC-282)--the Foreign Interference Registry Act.

The bill passed its first reading before Parliament was dissolved. According to the legislative process of the third reading in Parliament, the Foreign Interference Registry Act may become law in Canada if Kenny Chiu is able to be re-elected in the upcoming election.

Why must Canadian Chinese pay attention to this bill?

The reason is simple: if this bill becomes law, all individuals or groups that have ties to China may be considered spokespersons for the Chinese government and thus be required to register specifically.

What about registration? After registration, activities that associate with mainland China groups, as well as normal Sino-Canadian economic, cultural, and technological exchanges may be subjected to suppression, and the freedom of expression of the Chinese people has a high probability of being crackdown, resulting in **profound negative impact on the Chinese community.**

news.com/canada/49207

Registry)。此法案在国会解散之前，已经通过一读，按照国会参读的立法程序，一旦赵锦荣在大选中胜出连任。「外国势力注册法」有可能成为加拿大的法律。

国势力

Tweet [Share 0](#)

ny Chiu), 早前在
gn Interference

Today Commercial News is Pro-CCP newspaper (part of the propaganda machine)

Many phrases (highlighted in yellow) are identical to the WeChat posts:

Only two possibilities:

1. Direct copy from the WeChat posts (not a common practice for newspaper.)
2. Both the WeChat posts and this article come from the same source.

2/13/24, 12:38 PM 请广传！保守党国会议员赵锦荣提「外国势力注册」法案打压华人社区 - 加拿大商报 Today Commercial News

加國新聞



请广传！保守党国会议员赵锦荣提「外国势力注册」法案打压华人社区

[2021-09-09] - 2895人贴阅

Source: Post

卑诗省的加拿大保守党 (Conservative Party) 国会议员赵锦荣 (Kenny Chiu)，早前在国会提出私人立法提案 Bill C-262，即是「外国势力注册法」(Foreign Interference Registry)。此法案在国会辩论之前，已经通过一读，按照国会常规的立法程序，一旦赵锦荣在大会中胜出连任，「外国势力注册法」有可能成为加拿大的法律，为基本华裔的加拿大人，必须关注这个法案呢？

原因很简单，因为一旦此法案成为法律，所有与中国有联系的个人或者团体，都有可能被认为是中国政府代理人而被要求专门登记。登记又如何？登记之后，跟中国大陆社区有关的活动，以及正常的中加经济文化科技等交流都会有机会受打压，华裔的言论自由，亦有很大机会被遏制，对华社产生深远的负面影响，亦是可能发生的事情。

如果大家仍然不明白，来看看以下的法案简介，看完就会一清二楚。

加拿大保守党国会议员赵锦荣提出的「外国势力注册法」法案，要求除外国政府官方代表之外，任何受外国政府或政治组织控制和影响的个人、公司或者组织，必须在加拿大司法部登记。如果这些个人和组织跟国会议员及公职人员进行交流，也必须在政府登记。登记的内容要求个人或所代表的外国势力的名称，与外国势力的任何金钱往来，没有登记或者信息不准确将会面临最高二十万罚款和两年有期徒刑。(法案内容链接 <https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42/bill/c-262/first-reading>)

赵锦荣提出的私人法案，只是要求个别「敌对国家」有联系的个人和团体进行登记，但法案亦列出哪些是「敌对国家」，但是赵锦荣一向是「反华」，很明显地，在中加关系还在历史最低点的时刻，他提出了此法案，就是一个针对加拿大国内大陆华人团体和个人的法案，目的在遏制加拿大国内的任何亲中言论，控制和监视各大团体和个人。

法案规定任何受到外国政府机构控制和影响的个人和团体都是外国政府委托人。

按照这个定义，有以下行为的个人或团体，都会被认为是受到中国政府的影响，而被定为中国政府的委托人，包括了同乡会成立或者开展活动；原居地政府有送来邀请函或者成立或者开展活动；出席过中国领事馆例如国庆招待会及春节庆祝等的团体和个人；参加过领事馆官员出席活动的团体，以及与任何一级中国官员有联系的团体或者个人；甚至在任职过国内机构和政府和企业的人；接受过中国私人企业资助等等。

说到赵锦荣反华，他的背景又是甚麽呢？他生于香港，於上世纪80年代移民加拿大，然後加入加拿大保守党，於2019年在卑诗省 Steveston Richmond East 选区当选国会议员。

赵锦荣当选之后，以加拿大议员身份受香港反送中运动邀请前往香港代表国际社会监督区议会选举，其後在国会中多次抨击中国和香港当局，并担任国会的国际人权小组委员会副主席，投票支持谴责中国的新疆维吾尔法案，并要求制裁中国和香港政府官员，结果在2021年赵锦荣被中国列入反制黑名单，禁止他进入中国领土。看大家关心华社的福祉，请广传这个讯息，令更多人知道这种对人有切身关系的事！！

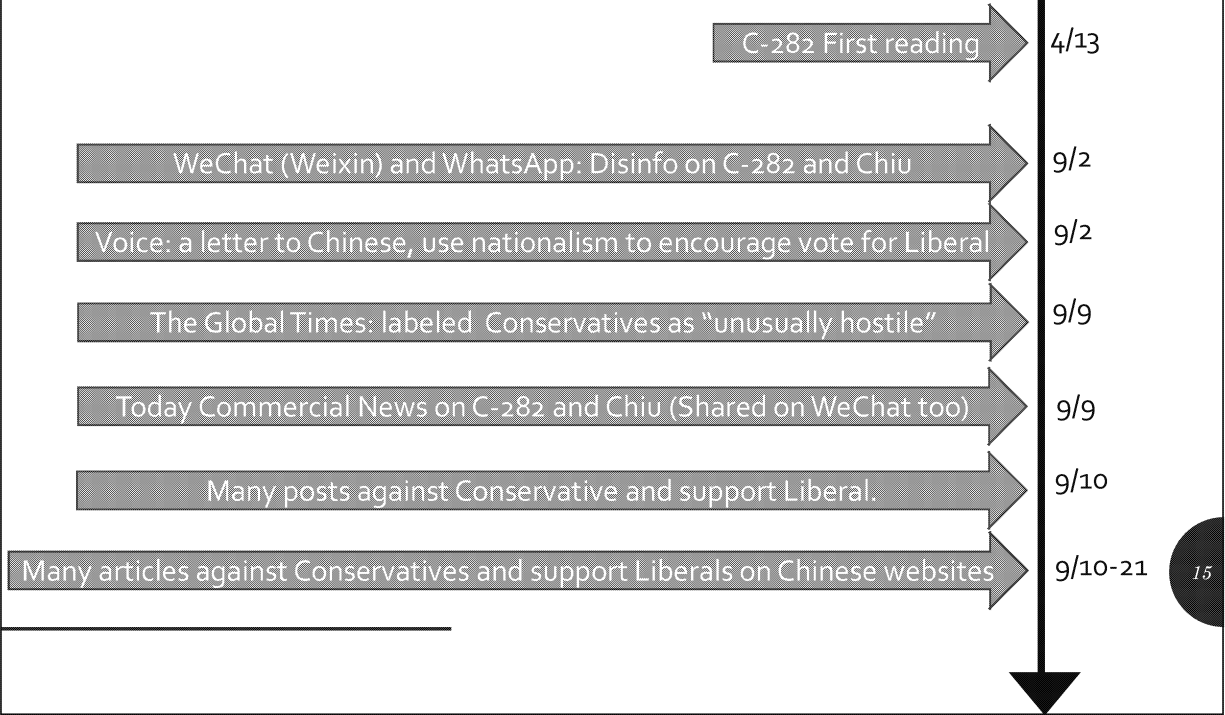
上卷：警方警告公众小心假冒网络诈骗
下卷：疫情研判的嘛？疫情请人难！

- 2021-09 Disinformation about Kenny Chiu's 2021 election.docx [CCC000061]

Timeline in 2021



Timeline in 2021



Articles Against Conservative and Pro-Liberal

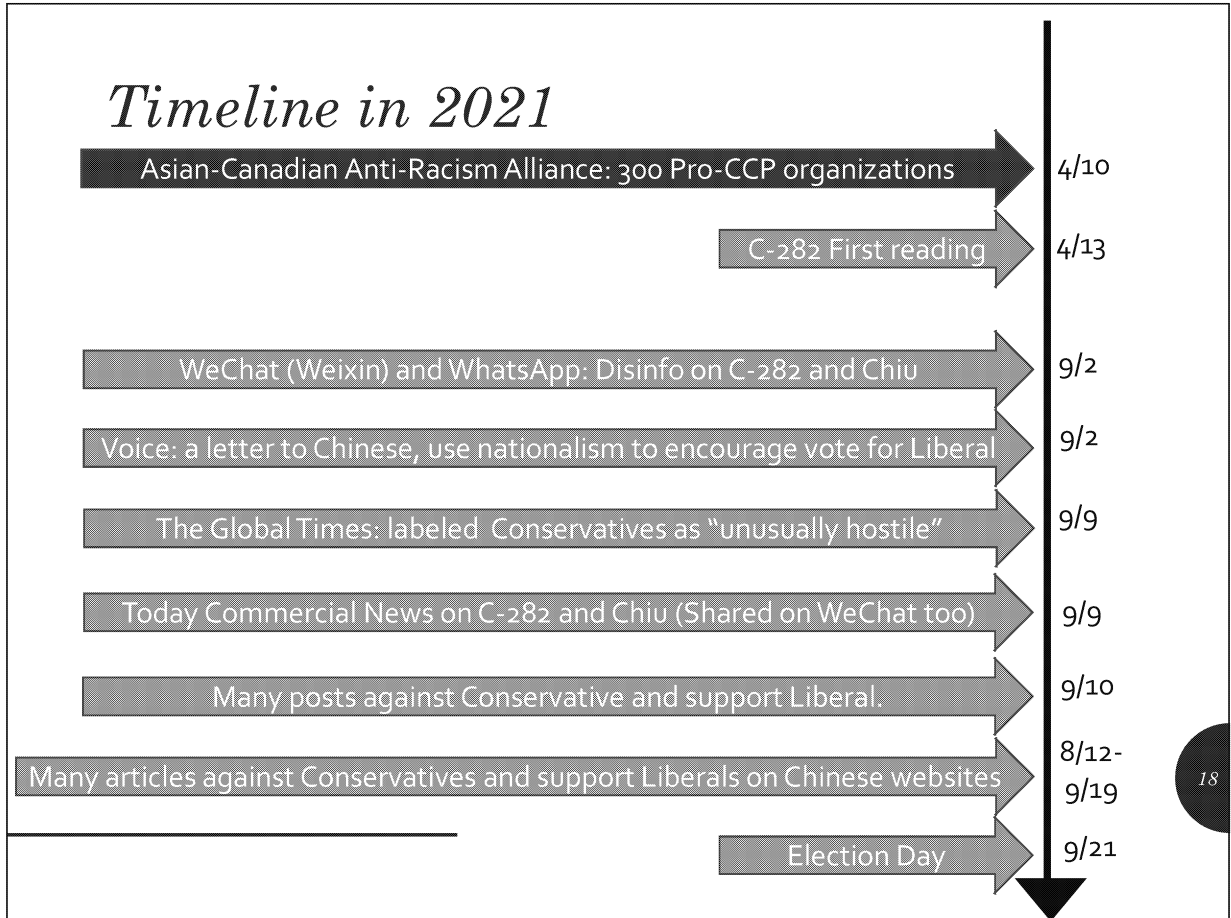
-  2021-08-12-yorkbbs-O'Toole's China Policy.pdf
-  2021-08-31-O'Toole passes Trudeau in surveys.pdf
-  2021-09-02-365nettv-Chinese organizations support Davis.pdf
-  2021-09-02-weixin-Conservative passes Liberal.pdf
-  2021-09-04-weixin-O'Toole bans WeChat.pdf
-  2021-09-06-lahoo-Liberal Han Dong.pdf
-  2021-09-09 Today Commercial News - Kenny Chiu.pdf
-  2021-09-09-VanPeople-Chinese Canadian Position.pdf
-  2021-09-09-weixin-Cutting Ties with China.pdf
-  2021-09-09-Weixin-Kenny Chiu.pdf
-  2021-09-09-weixin-Why oppose Kenny Chiu.pdf
-  2021-09-09-yorkbbs-Conservative 31 times China.pdf
-  2021-09-13-yorkbbs-O'Toole's in Chinese community.pdf
-  2021-09-14-lahoo-Trudeau rising.pdf
-  2021-09-14-VanPeople-Who treats China the best.pdf
-  2021-09-15-51.ca-Michael Chan-Election analysis.pdf
-  2021-09-19-yorkbbs-anti-Asian.pdf

Intentionally Leaving Out Conservative - Rise Weekly and Rise Home Magazines



- Media targeting audience are Chinese from PRC.
 - They were in sync with the CCP propaganda when Russia invaded Ukraine
 - They carried Russia/CCP propaganda materials.
-
- 2021-08-27 to 2021-09-21 RISE WEEKLY.pdf [CCC000206; CCC000235-238]

This magazine did the same in the 2022 Vancouver municipal election.



300 Pro-CCP organizations: Similar to the organizations that advertise for 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics. Though it is called "Asian-Canadian Anti Racism Alliance", there is no Taiwanese, Koreans, or Japanese organizations.

Movement on “Asian” Anti-Racism

Global NEWS

Menu Home Trending Watch Local

AD

CRIME

University of Alberta international student stabbing raises concerns at school

By Sarah Komadina & Slav Kornik · Global News
Posted April 26, 2021 1:16 pm ▾
4 min read

Global News Hour at 6 Edmonton
Man stabbed on University of Alberta LRT platform in south Edmonton

- The victim is an international student from China, but says he did not feel the attack was racially motivated.
- Some posts attempted to link the racism incidents with Conservative.

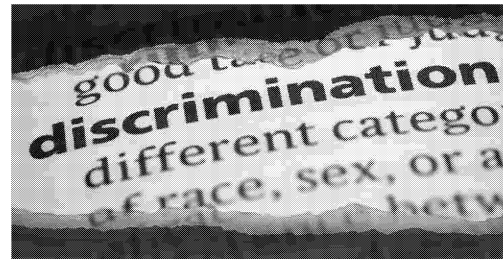
- 2021-04-26 GlobalNews University of Alberta International Student.pdf [CCC0000210]
- 2021-04-16 Epoch Times CCP groups anti-racism.JPG [CCC0000229]
- 2021-09-19-vorkbbs-anti-Asian.pdf [CCC0000227]

Disinformation Campaign Driven by Fear and Chinese Nationalism

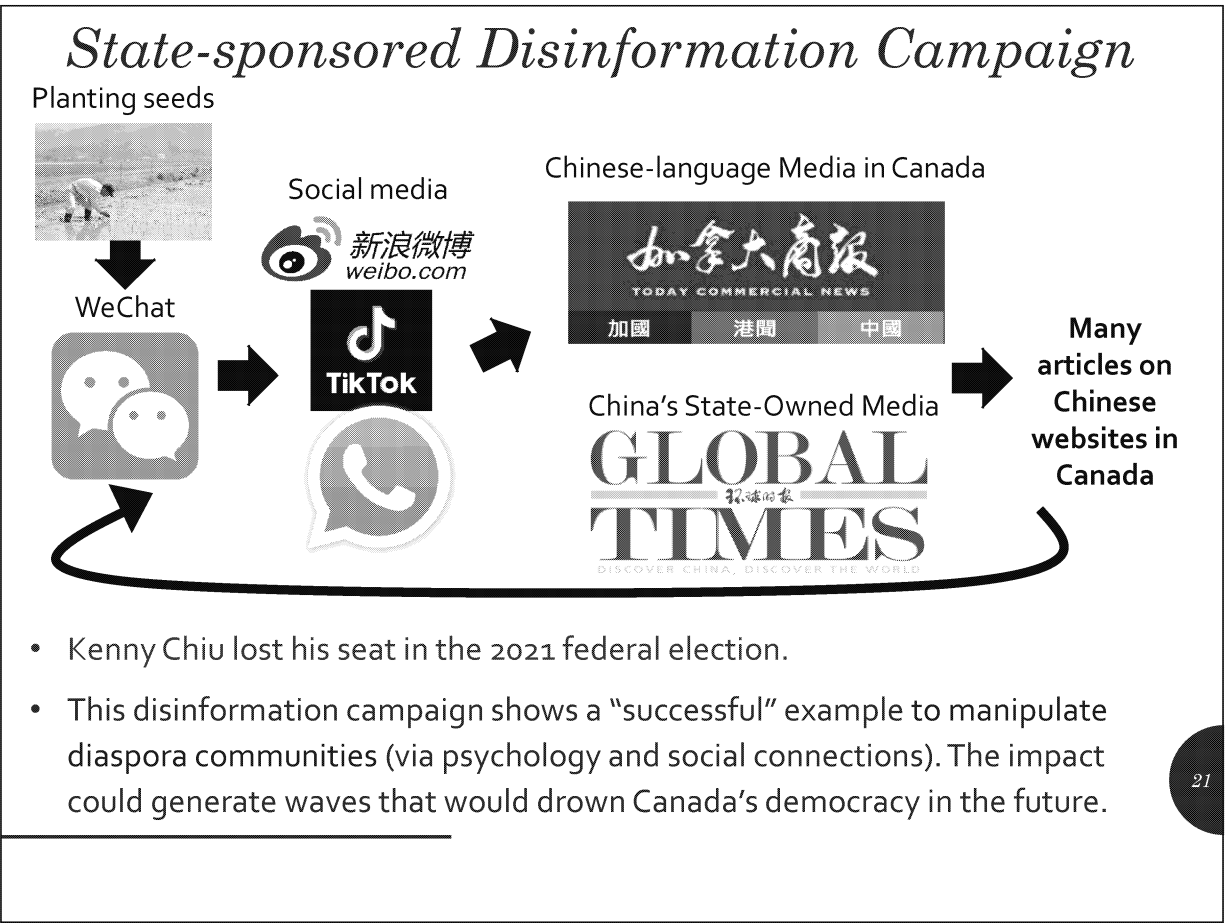
- Spin: Foreign influence registry act → racial discrimination against the Chinese and operate surveillance on organizations and individuals in the overseas Chinese community.
- Spin: (Criticizing CCP) = (Discriminate Chinese)
- Chinese nationalism



Disinformation



20



WeChat
 Communicate with friends in China
 Self-censorship
 Not promoting CCP but to protect the Chinese community in Canada
 Critical moment: election time
 Spin the topic to racism □ easy to influence.

Other dimensions of foreign interference

- Ultimate goal is to influence Canada's policies.
- Method: Cultivate an environment that facilitates the growth of CCP's influence.
- Election is just one of the venues.
- Research security
 - Huawei attempted to recruit me multiple times. I rejected their offer.
 - How does CCP recruit research scholars?
 - China Scholarship Council (CSC)
- Harassing diaspora and dissident groups in Canada
 - Cyberattack
 - Attempted to stop us playing movie in Montreal
 - Threatening phone calls

Thank you. Comments? Questions?

Presented by Benjamin Fung
McGill University
<https://dmas.lab.mcgill.ca/>



"Winnie the Pooh" is banned in China, so I rely on Winnie to prevent my slides from being shared in China. ☐