

2022-0925	
DATE FILE INITIATED AND ALLEGATIONS	December 2022, as necessary due diligence in response to numerous media reports of alleged leaked classified information, detailing aspects of alleged foreign interference as well as parliamentary committee attention in the fall of 2022, and following receipt of a complaint dated 2022-11-10 from MP Yves-François Blanchet, the leader of the Bloc Québécois, which was subsequently followed by additional complaints from members of the public.
POTENTIAL CONTRAVENTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. 91 - Making a false statement concerning a candidate or leader of a political party to affect election results • S. 282.4 - Undue influence by foreigners • S. 282.8 - By intimidation or duress compelling or attempting to compel a person to vote or refrain from voting for a particular candidate or registered party; or by pretence or contrivance influencing or attempting to influence a person to vote or to refrain from voting for a particular candidate or registered party, at an election • S. 349.02 - Prohibition – use of foreign funds by third parties • S. 351.1 - Prohibition – spending by foreign third parties (during the election period) • S. 353 - Registration requirement for third parties.
STEPS TAKEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of available information, including existing 2021 general election (GE) period complaints • Detailed review of media and other articles to determine if there was tangible information available to suspect a contravention of the Act or which pointed to potential evidence of this. • Review focused on electoral districts within the Greater Vancouver Area (GVA) and the unsuccessful campaign of candidate Kenny Chiu, to determine whether there was a contravention of the <i>Canada Elections Act</i> (Act). • Examination of extensive open-source intelligence (OSINT) research material and of social media materials provided by interview subjects. • [REDACTED] interviews of [REDACTED] individuals between March and October, 2023. The review is ongoing.
EVIDENTIARY THRESHOLD FOR THE INITIATION OF	No.

AN INVESTIGATION REACHED?	To date, the OCCE has not gathered tangible or direct evidence to support any of the elements of undue foreign influence or other contraventions as defined by the Act. This conclusion includes consideration that the Act does not actually prohibit foreign influence, but rather prohibits “undue” foreign influence.
CURRENT STATUS	Review
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT	Both CSIS and the RCMP were initially consulted as the review began and have recently been provided with a detailed oral briefing of OCCE findings to date and a list of individuals interviewed by the OCCE, including those who declined to be interviewed and those the OCCE tried to reach for interview purposes but were unsuccessful. Stakeholder engagement remains ongoing.