



**Rapport de repérage des médias sociaux: du 26 août 17h au 27 août 17h 2021**  
**Social Media Monitoring Report: August 26, 5pm – August 27, 5pm, 2021**

**Observations principales / Key observations**

- Volumes of engagement on social media relating to GE44 continue their downward trend even if the vote on campus topic remains prominent. Volume: **(Last 24h: 775; Previous 7 days average: 1.19K posts/day; Previous 30 days average: 1.12K posts/day; pre-election levels around 100 posts/day)**
- Significant increase in concerns over foreign interference following the Chinese ambassador's comments on August 26<sup>th</sup> as reported in a Hill Times article.
- Unvaccinated social media users in BC warn people to vote before Sept. 13 vaccine passport rollout.

**Sujets principaux – Environnement numérique externe / Key topics – External Digital Information Ecosystem**

- → **Mail-in voting, lockdown as an election tactic, and machine voting**
- → **Vote on campus**
- **NEW Concerns about state level foreign interference**

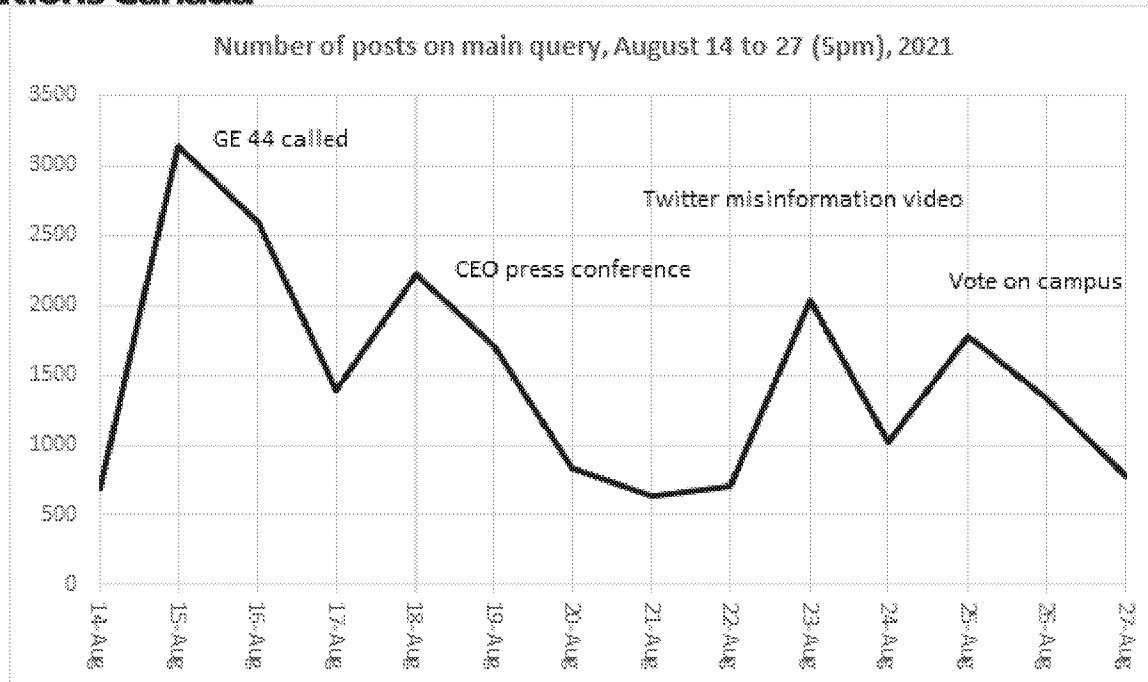
**Nombre de mentions - Trames narratives principales / Number of mentions - Leading narratives**

Narrative*	August 26 (5pm) – August 27 (5pm)	August 25 (5pm) – August 26 (5pm)	August 24 (5pm) – August 25 (5pm)	August 23 (5pm) – August 24 (5pm)	August 22 (5pm) – August 23 (5pm)
<b>Vote by mail</b>	74	58	62	42	43
<b>Dominion/machine voting</b>	21	25	10	8	21
<b>Voter ID/identification</b>	2	7	1	2	0
<b>Rigged/fraudulent elections</b>	22	14	9	21	10
<b>EC corrupt/partisan/incompetent</b>	59	57	29	42	25
<b>Voting with pencils</b>	0	0	0	0	5
<b>Masks in polling places</b>	3	3	4	7	0
<b>Vaccine requirements</b>	13	12	8	9	11

These are approximations based on keyword mentions in collated content

**Volume de messages portant sur Élections Canada/Volume of posts about Elections Canada**

<b>Sur nos comptes officiels / On our official accounts</b>	
Sujets principaux, interactions avec l'auditoire / Key topics of interactions with our audience	Présence des sujets provenant de l'externe / Topics stemming from the external infosystem
<b>(814/2274)</b> Vote on Campus Offices <b>(65/2274)</b> Voter Suppression <b>(58/2274)</b> Machine Voting <b>(49/2274)</b> Elections during a pandemic	<b>(605/2274)</b> Vote by Mail, pandemic / lockdowns as an election tactic, and machine voting <b>(498/2274)</b> Mail-in voting <b>(814/2274)</b> Voting on Campus <b>(28/2274)</b> EC is corrupt / incompetent <b>(0/2274)</b> foreign interference



### Éléments sous observation / On the radar

#### Social media users in BC warn people to vote before September 13 vaccine passport rollout

As the COVID-19 pandemic 4<sup>th</sup> wave progresses, and following British Columbia's announcement that September 13 will mark the start of their vaccine passport system, many social media users have cautioned unvaccinated electors to vote at advance polls in case they will not be allowed in polling stations on election day. This might generate more traffic on early days of advance polls.

#### Comments from Chinese ambassador to Canada draw accusations of foreign interference

On August 26<sup>th</sup>, the Chinese Ambassador to Canada made a statement calling for the release of Meng Wanzhou, and in an interview mentioned some politicians are putting their own "political interests" ahead of the Canada-China relationship, in an apparent reference to some politicians' stance on China.

Prior to this news, the social media monitoring team had observed articles and videos in Chinese suggesting that the Canadian election may have an impact on the status of Meng Wanzhou and Canada-China relations, though never mentioning which parties or candidates was preferred by state media. In the English language social media environment, the ambassador's words were met with accusations of foreign meddling or 'foreign third-party campaigning' in Canada's election.

→ Vote by mail, pandemic/lockdowns as an election tactic, and machine voting

**Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares**

- N/A

#### **Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights**

Comments about vote by mail from August 26-27 have been primarily in response to the issue of vote on campus, though as shown in the first tweet in the table below, some claims that Elections Canada would push for 'easily rigged' vote by mail remain in the environment. This monitoring period also saw an increase in dedicated posts about voting machines allegedly being used in GE44, suggesting that voting machines being doubled-down on as one of the key elements of rigged election conspiracy theories. Claims that lockdowns would be used as a tactic to impact the election rose slightly with the news that BC would be introducing vaccine passports on September 13, close to election




day.

**Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts**

Engage ment	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
3.3K	3.1K, Twitter	Twitter user	<p>Si avec toute la haine que Trudeau récolte il est réélu, il faut s'interroger sur notre système de vote</p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 1:</b> La machine électorale est contrôlée par les Francs-Maçons qui ont infiltré le Financier, le politique, le médiatique, il s'agit d'une grosse machine bien rodée pour nous garder dans l'illusion du choix afin que nous ne voyions pas les barreaux de nos prisons invisibles. <b>(24 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 2:</b> Trudeau va se faire réélire par la fraude. Il a lancé l'élection anticipée car il a reçu l'ordre d'instaurer l'État de Siège et il lui faut du temps pour ça, la durée d'un nouveau mandat. <b>(15 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 3:</b> Trudeau aime la chine. Un machine faite en chine et qui est faite pour lui <b>(13 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 4:</b> Il sera réélu grâce au vote par correspondance qui sera très élevé pour cette élection. Ça ouvre la porte à de la fraude électorale favorisant Trudeau <b>(10 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 5:</b> c'est clair qu'il y aura de la triche...je crains fort qu'il soit tristement réélu avec tous les bulletins de vote par courrier....pareil comme usa....vous saurez me le dire.. <b>(8 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 6:</b> Avec Diminon, ça donne des Biden alors imagine ici vu que personne ne pourra prouver, il sera majoritaire facilement <b>(6 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 7:</b> Après avoir vu le niveau de corruption à tous les niveaux dans la société dans les derniers mois, c prévisible que c exactement cela qui va arriver. <b>(6 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 8:</b> Vous vous êtes fait avoir les cousins ... Dominion ne doit pas être loin ! <b>(6 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 9:</b> Le vote par la poste va "l'aider" <b>(6 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 10:</b> Mailings ballots qu'élection Canada promouvait et le contrat signé avec Dominion. <b>(5 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 11:</b> Non c'est à cause du système élétorale <b>(2 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 12:</b> Oui,je crois que les systèmes de vote sont à regarder de près.<b>(2 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 13:</b> Mail-in... 5 million ballot <b>(2 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 14:</b> Dans plusieurs bureaux de votes les gens peuvent déjà voter par anticipation même si les candidatures n'apparaissent pas encore toutes car pas toutes déposées dans toutes les circonscriptions. Les gens peuvent écrire à la main le candidat pour qui ils veulent voter <b>(1 reaction)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 15:</b> Dominion soccupe de tout, no stress <b>(1 reaction)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 16:</b> vote postal= tricherie avec machine Dominion!!!! <b>(1 r.)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 17:</b> DOMINION ...il sera réélu comme biden ...les pions ne peuvent pas partir !!! <b>(No reaction)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 18:</b> Ils ont dominion au Canada. Vous avez la réponse et le résultat de l'élection. <b>(No reaction)</b></p>	Aug. 26



255	4.1K, Twitter	Twitter user	<p>“Hi, Dominion Voting Machines? I need your help with a little something September 20th.”</p>  <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Twitter user 1:</b> This may not be a joke <b>(3 reactions)</b>  <b>Twitter user:</b> That call was made some time ago <b>(No reaction)</b>  <b>Twitter user:</b> Its the other way around. The Chinese Communist Party (70%) and Geroge Soros (30%) own all of Dominion voting machines. Theyre both his biggest campaign supporters. He is their employee. He will win . No matter who you vote for. He already did it twice!! Mark my words. <b>(No reactions)</b>  <b>Twitter user:</b> 5 million mail in ballots all voting liberal. Nothing to see here ... #future of Canada <b>(No reaction)</b></p>	Aug. 26
167	4.3K, Twitter	Twitter user	<p>He is hated. There is no doubt. This is why we must be vigilant and watch out for mail in voting fraud!</p> <p><b>*Retweeting Twitter user:</b> Si avec toute la haine que Trudeau récolte il est réélu, il faut s’interroger sur notre système de vote</p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Twitter user 1:</b> We have the recent US election as an example of mail-in ballot fraud, Elections Canada needs to have auditable protections against that. As we’ve seen with all the Governments ethics violations to date, their moral compass is not working <b>(1 reaction)</b></p>	Aug. 27

### → Vote on campus

#### **Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares**

- *The cancellation of the Vote on Campus program is an extraordinary mistake – CBC (Total shares: 43 / Total engagement: 408)*

#### **Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights**

Comments on the vote on campus situation have shifted from initial reactions to the news that vote on campus will not be offered, to discussion of Elections Canada’s rationale for not offering campus polls and whether or not the rationale is justified. The major sentiments are that either EC is unjustified because the pandemic has been going on for so long and an election was to be expected in a minority government, or that the lack of campus polls is not a big deal because there are other ways for students to vote. Comparisons to the extensive accommodations to make voting accessible to seniors led many to conclude that EC is partisan and intentionally suppressing youth votes and that someone must be held accountable or significant promises made to include campus polls in the future. While the Social Media Team has noted most of the inbound messages to ECs social media accounts are from concerned parents



of students, in the external media environment most comments are from current or former postsecondary students discussing the issue on their platforms of choice.

**Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts**

Engage ment	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
832	9.4K, twitter	Twitter user	<p>It's absolutely unacceptable that Elections Canada is planning to prevent voting at ballot boxes on campuses. That's voter suppression. We should be making voting easy, especially for first time voters.</p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Twitter user 1:</b> This is a shot at the NDP. Stats have showed the NDP is preferred among people 30 and under. <b>(20 reactions)</b>  <b>Twitter user 2:</b> What is wrong with you people. They are ADULTS they can vote by mail or go to a polling station like the rest of us always had to if we wanted to vote. I managed it I'm certain they can. <b>(18 reactions)</b>  <b>Reply 1:</b> What is wrong with YOU. They are ADULTS and should be given every opportunity to vote. Voting stations on major campuses should be automatic. <b>(1 reaction)</b>  <b>Twitter user 3:</b> Watch for more 'voter suppression' if Trudeau's poll numbers keep dropping. <b>(2 reactions)</b>  <b>Twitter user 4:</b> No. We've always voted in person, we vote at a polling station. There is absolutely no excuse to introduce mass mailing or ballot boxes in this election, unless you want to cheat. <b>(1 reaction)</b>  <b>Twitter user 5:</b> ...all part for people to do mail in #fixisin <b>(No reaction)</b></p>	Aug. 26
143	159K, r/Canada Politics	Reddit user, 66 Karma	<p>OPINION   <i>The cancellation of the Vote on Campus program is an extraordinary mistake</i>   CBC News</p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Reddit user 1:</b> On the flip side, I'm very curious to see what they do with long term care facilities. In 2019, 5334 long term facilities were visited by a mobile polling station so their residents could vote. As of now, Elections Canada has stated that they "have begun engaging with federal, provincial and local public health authorities, and will monitor the situation in order to respect the regulations regarding access to long-term care facilities." Considering this "snap" election wasn't exactly a secret, there wouldn't be much of an excuse as to why they can roll out mobile polls to thousands of long term care facilities, but cannot do the same for colleges and universities... <b>(4 reactions)</b>  <b>Reddit user 2:</b> The youth vote decreased in 2019 even though the Vote on Campus program expanded. It's really not that simple to say it was a game changer. Look into the details a little more and you could see why Elections Canada might have had some issues figuring this out. These were special ballot locations so it's not a simple check the name and move on. It's write the candidate's name, seal the ballot twice and put it in the box. There were huge lines for these. And would campuses even be welcoming students back in person? The minority government excuse is dumb but the</p>	Aug. 26



			unpredictability around COVID most definitely made it difficult to plan. <b>(No reaction)</b>	
63	9.4K, Twitter	Karl Belanger, Political analyst & Columnist , <i>Loonie Politics</i>	<p>I don't buy the challenges of the pandemic - it's been around for 20 months now. Not a new thing. The minority government situation? Is Elections Canada saying that they cannot do their job properly unless there is a strong, stable, majority government in place?</p> <p><b>*Retweeting Elections Canada:</b> With the challenges brought on by the pandemic and the minority government situation, we couldn't give campus administrators firm dates to help them plan. 2/3</p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 1:</b> It's not like they were caught off guard by the timing. Before the writ drop they were even telling people who inquired about mail-in ballots when they thought the writ would be dropped <b>(6 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 2:</b> Elections Canada is saying that because of a minority government, the date of the election could not be determined in advance. <b>(5 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Reply 1 (by original poster):</b> This is not the first minority government. There has been voting booth on campuses before. And there has been talk of a possible federal election for over a year now! <b>(2 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 3:</b> idk but it sure sounds like the voter suppression they tried in the States when they made it hard to vote at school or by mail. <b>(2 r.)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 4:</b> Strong, very strong smell of bullshit emanating from Elections Canada. <b>(2 reactions)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 5:</b> Someone mentioned yesterday that EC is still planning on having polling stations in seniors homes. WTF? <b>(1 reaction)</b></p> <p><b>Reply 1:</b> That makes sense and should be happening. The point is if you can make accommodations for dozens of voters you can make them for thousands of voters <b>(1 reaction)</b></p> <p><b>Reply 2 (by comment author):</b> I'm simply pointing out EC's inconsistency in blaming the pandemic for not having polling stations in universities (low vulnerability to covid) yet having them in seniors homes (high vulnerability to covid).... <b>(No reaction)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 6:</b> Elections Canada has to STOP taking guidance from Butts <b>(0)</b></p>	Aug. 27

#### NEW Concerns about state level foreign interference

##### **Articles les plus partagés; nombre de partages / Most-shared articles; number of shares**

- *Chinese ambassador says some politicians putting 'personal political interests' above Canada-China relationship – (Total shares: 52 / Total engagement: 3091)*

##### **Faits saillants sur les médias sociaux / Social media highlights**

The August 26 statement by the Chinese Ambassador to Canada that “politicians are putting their own political interests ahead of the Canada-China relationship” and the ensuing news coverage that indicated the comment was directed toward the CPC immediately made foreign interference from state actors a highly engaged topic in social media. Most comments were on Twitter and suggested that this ‘interference’ was self-defeating, yet serious enough to qualify as illegal foreign electoral interference and merit Elections Canada’s intervention. Comments also accused China of bankrolling Canadian political parties, media, voting machine companies, and even supplying ballots to GE44.



Publications reliées au sujet / Related posts				
Engage ment	Followers, platform	Account	Post	Date
1.2K	22.4K, Twitter	Terry Glavin, Journalist	<p>Beijing's emissary in Ottawa does not want you to vote for the Conservatives. Good to have that clear and plain. <i>Chinese ambassador says some politicians putting 'personal political interests' above Canada-China relationship</i></p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Twitter user 1:</b> Bending knee to any power from Beijing is a big no, and never. Much less taking advice from same. I know my own mind. I will make my own decisions in matters political. <b>(3 reactions)</b>  <b>Twitter user 2:</b> What will Beijing do if we do vote Conservative? Do they have any other Canadians they can detain until we reverse our decision? <b>(2)</b>  <b>Twitter user 3:</b> election interference aisle 3 <b>(1 reaction)</b>  <b>Twitter user 4:</b> This is quite interesting... a bold move by the Chinese, making claims about governments not recognizing China's sovereignty to media in a country that is currently on an election campaign.... A pretty audacious move IMHO... <b>(No reaction)</b>  <b>Twitter user 5:</b> Commenting on breaching an international treaty (Sino British joint declaration) or on the Uyghur genocide? Interference in internal affairs, according to China. Also China: comments on our domestic election <b>(No reaction)</b>  <b>Twitter user 6:</b> Where are Canada's mail in ballots printed? <b>(No reaction)</b></p>	Aug. 26
538	9K, Twitter	Twitter user	<p>Hey Justin Trudeau, China's Ambassador to China is campaigning for you. Just curious; how much has he donated to your campaign?</p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Twitter user 1:</b> I thought third party foreigner campaigning was illegal, elections canada, wake up <b>(21 reactions)</b>  <b>Twitter user 2:</b> The last election, American politicians were campaigning for the Trudeau. We have a problem Ottawa - too much foreign money and influence in Canadian politics. <b>(12 reactions)</b></p>	Aug. 27
142	33.9K, Twitter	Andrew Lawton, Reporter, True North	<p>Conservative leader Erin O'Toole says 2021 election is vulnerable to foreign interference. <i>Erin O'Toole says there are "risks of foreign interference" in election</i></p> <p><b>*Sample comments*</b>  <b>Twitter user 1:</b> Dah?! No kidding. Why do you think Canadians are rejecting an election based on mail in ballots and insisting that every polling station be under "close up and distance" video surveillance? Come on man! <b>(9 reactions)</b>  <b>Twitter user 2:</b> are you going to ask a follow up question as @erinotoole did not answer your question in terms of "who" or "how" our election is at risk of interference? 1. Ask about electronic vote tabulators 2. Ask which nations or groups 3. Is he monitoring US forensic audits <b>(1 reaction)</b></p>	Aug. 27



			<p><b>Twitter user 3:</b> I have to agree with @erinotoole on this. It does seem like Trudeau's early election will be as rigged as the 2020 elections in the USA. China must pay for interfering! <b>(No reaction)</b></p> <p><b>Twitter user 4:</b> Is he saying that Elections Canada is foreign? They are the ones I am worried about. <b>(No reaction)</b></p>	
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**Compte de média sociaux d'Élection Canada / Elections Canada's Social Media Accounts**  
**Volumes entrants et sujets clés / Inbound Volumes and Key Topics**

<u>Vote On Campus Offices</u>	803	<u>Vote by mail</u>	51
<u>students</u>	695	<u>Facebook Face-off</u>	39
<u>Vote by mail</u>	447	<u>SVR</u>	29
<u>negative</u>	299	<u>Green</u>	23
<u>SVR</u>	190	<u>Met - Green</u>	19
<u>Safeguards</u>	135	<u>negative</u>	16
<u>eixn44</u>	129	<u>ways to vote</u>	12
<u>Twitter Spat</u>	128	<u>PM</u>	12
<u>ways to vote</u>	126	<u>recruitment</u>	11
<u>PM</u>	113	<u>Vote On Campus Offices</u>	11
<u>spam</u>	90	<u>students</u>	10
<u>LPC</u>	71	<u>Health &amp; Safety Measures</u>	8
<u>covid19</u>	69	<u>partisan</u>	7
<u>us election</u>	66	<u>eixn44</u>	7
<u>Voter Suppression</u>	62	<u>electoral system of canada</u>	7
<u>fraud</u>	58	<u>covid19</u>	7
<u>Pro vote in person</u>	56	<u>Elections during a pandemic</u>	7
<u>registration</u>	54	<u>EC social</u>	7