

ASSOCIATION WITH POLITICIANS

MACKENZIE photographed with Maxime BERNIER, the leader of the People’s Party of Canada, and Derek HARRISON in what appears to be a hotel room at the beginning of the protest in Ottawa on 2022-01-30.⁵²



MACKENZIE image with Maxime BERNIER and Derek HARRISON on 2022-01-30.

On 2022-02-17, self-described freelance investigative journalist, Justin Ling shared on Twitter account @Justin_Ling a picture of MACKENZIE with MPP Randy HILLIER, independent Conservative for Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston, known to be against COVID-19 mandates and lock-downs. The date the picture was taken is unknown.⁵⁴



MACKENZIE pictured with Randy HILLIER (date unknown)

⁵² O7 DIVISION CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM - This document is the property of the RCMP. It is not to be reclassified, copied, reproduced, used or further disseminated, in whole or in part, without the consent of the originator. In accordance with the Third Party Rule, the originator must be contacted prior to this information being used in an affidavit or any other document. This caveat is an integral part of this document and must accompany any information extracted from it.

LIMITATIONS

The validity and credibility of the information gathered through Open Source is unknown and requires corroboration. This report is not an exhaustive list of suspected DIAGOLON supporters in the NCR.

CONCLUSION/STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

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- Liaising with K Division regarding the two members arrested with ties to MACKENZIE could yield further information of value to Ottawa INSET.
- Reaching out to _____ could assist in identifying further DIAGOLON supporters, members or connections.

DIAGOLON supporters may pose a threat to public and officer safety due to their rhetoric.

DISSEMINATION

Ottawa INSET

¹ [PROT B] PROS 2022-39074, Supplementary Report, C MARSHALL' entered on 2022-02-02.

² [U] Meghan Grant, "The Coutts 13: New details on the men and women arrested at the border blockade", CBC News, published on 2022-02-17, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/coutts-arrests-charges-border-protest-1.6354587>, accessed on 2022-02-18.

³ [PROT B] PROS 2022-101669, _____ C. ANGEL, entered 2022-02-15. Third Party Rule Applies.

⁴ [U] Jeremy Mackenzie "The Raging Dissident2", tagged by _____, Instagram, published on 2022-02-20, https://www.instagram.com/p/caM_PmvaARy8/, accessed on 2022-02-21.

⁵ [U] Meghan Grant, "The Coutts 13: New details on the men and women arrested at the border blockade", CBC News, published on 2022-02-17, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/coutts-arrests-charges-border-protest-1.6354587>, accessed on 2022-02-18.

⁶ [U] Peter Smith, Canadian Anti-Hate Network, "A Holocaust Denier is Travelling Across Canada Building up the Country's Newest Far-Right Militia Movement, Published on 2022-02-11, <https://www.antihate.ca/holocaust-denier-travelling-canada-building-up-far-right-militia-diagolon-alex-vriend>, accessed on 2022-02-18.

⁷ [U] Jeremy Mackenzie "The Raging Dissident2", <https://www.instagram.com/ragingdissident2/>, Profile ID: 49793366419, accessed on 2022-02-18.

⁸ [U] Meghan Grant, "The Coutts 13: New details on the men and women arrested at the border blockade", CBC News, published on 2022-02-17, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/coutts-arrests-charges-border-protest-1.6354587>, accessed on 2022-02-18.

- ⁹ [U] Meghan Grant, "The Coutts 13: New details on the men and women arrested at the border blockade", CBC News, published on 2022-02-17, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/coutts-arrests-charges-border-protest-1.6354587>, accessed on 2022-02-18
- ¹⁰ [U] Meghan Grant, "The Coutts 13: New details on the men and women arrested at the border blockade", CBC News, published on 2022-02-17, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/coutts-arrests-charges-border-protest-1.6354587>, accessed on 2022-02-18
- ¹¹ [U] Meghan Grant, "The Coutts 13: New details on the men and women arrested at the border blockade", CBC News, published on 2022-02-17, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/coutts-arrests-charges-border-protest-1.6354587>, accessed on 2022-02-18
- ¹² [U] Canadian Anti-Hate network "@antihateca, Twitter, Posted on 2022-02-15 18:20, https://twitter.com/search?q=canadian%20anti%20hate&src=typed_query, accessed on 2022-02-18.
- ¹³ [U] _____, Twitter posted 2022-02-16 16:10, <https://twitter.com/status/1494056513215811588>, accessed on 2022-02-18.
- ¹⁴ [U] Candyce Kelshall, "The police, not the military, must stop the "freedom convoy and Canada's far-right uprising", The Conversation, <https://theconversation.com/the-police-not-the-military-must-stop-the-freedom-convoy-and-canadas-far-right-uprising-176872>, Posted 2022-02-14, accessed on 2022-02-18
- ¹⁵ [U] The Canadian Anti-Hate Network, "Jeremy "Raging Dissident" Mackenzie arrested after allegedly waving handgun in local business", AntiHate.ca, <https://www.antihate.ca/jeremy-raging-dissident-mackenzie-arrested-waving-handgun-local-business>, published on 2022-02-02, accessed on 2022-2-02-18.
- ¹⁶ [U] Jeremy Mackenzie "The Raging Dissident2", Photo with @zoolander95, Instagram, published on 2022-02-13 <https://www.instagram.com/ragingdissident2/>, accessed on 2022-02-18.
- ¹⁷ [U] Plaid Army, Youtube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGc7n9uls7o>, posted on 2022-02-17, accessed on 2022-02-18.
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- ²² [U] Justin Ling @Justin_Ling, Twitter, https://twitter.com/Justin_Ling/status/1495209748651823108, Twitter ID: 16753407, posted on 2022-02-19 at 20:32, accessed on 2022-02-21.
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- ²⁴ [U] Jeremy Mackenzie "The Raging Dissident2", tagged by _____ Instagram, published on 2022-02-20, https://www.instagram.com/p/CaM_PmvARy8/, accessed on 2022-02-21.
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- ²⁸ [U] _____, Instagram, published on 2022-02-21, <https://www.instagram.com/p/CaRFUI2OosT/>, accessed on 2022-02-22.
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³¹ [U] , Instagram, <https://www.instagram.com/> , on 2022-02-17, accessed on 2022-02-21

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³⁴ [PROT B] PROS 2022-101669, C. ANGEL, entered 2022-02-15. Third Party Rule Applies.

³⁵ [U] . accessed on 2022-02-18.

³⁶ [PROT B] (queried on 2022-02-18)

³⁷ [U] , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/> /status/1495526422173077505, Twitter ID: Twitter Thread: //twitter.com/ /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 20220-02-21.

³⁸ [U] , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/> /status/1495526422173077505, Twitter ID: Twitter Thread: //twitter.com/ /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 20220-02-21.

³⁹ [U] , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/> /status/1495526422173077505, Twitter ID: Twitter Thread: //twitter.com/ /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 20220-02-21.

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⁴¹ [U] , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/> /status/1495526422173077505, Twitter ID: Twitter Thread: //twitter.com/ /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 20220-02-21.

⁴² [U] , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/> /status/1495526422173077505, Twitter ID: Twitter Thread: //twitter.com/ /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 20220-02-21.

⁴³ [U] , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/> /status/1495526422173077505, Twitter ID: Twitter Thread: //twitter.com/ /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 20220-02-21.

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⁴⁵ [U] , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/> /status/1495526422173077505, Twitter ID: Twitter Thread: //twitter.com/ /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 20220-02-21.

⁴⁶ [U] , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/> /status/1495526422173077505, Twitter ID: Twitter Thread: //twitter.com/ /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 20220-02-21.

⁴⁷ [U] , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/> /status/1495526422173077505, Twitter ID: Twitter Thread: //twitter.com/ /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 20220-02-21.

⁴⁸ [U] , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/> /status/1495526422173077505, Twitter ID: Twitter Thread: //twitter.com, /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 20220-02-21.

⁴⁹ [U] . . . , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/.../status/1495526422173077505>, Twitter ID: /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 2022-02-21.

⁵⁰ [U] . . . , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/.../status/1495526422173077505>, Twitter ID: /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 2022-02-21.

⁵¹ [U] . . . , Twitter, <https://twitter.com/.../status/1495526422173077505>, Twitter ID: /status/1495526470277545994, posted on 2022-02-20 at 17:31, accessed on 2022-02-21.

⁵² [U] Jeremy Mackenzie "The Raging Dissident2", Photo with @hon.maximebernier and@zoolander95, Instagram, posted on 2022-01-30, <https://www.instagram.com/ragingdissident2/>, accessed on 2022-02-21.

⁵³ [U] Jeremy Mackenzie "The Raging Dissident2", Photo with @hon.maximebernier and@zoolander95, Instagram, posted on 2022-01-30, <https://www.instagram.com/ragingdissident2/>, accessed on 2022-02-21.

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Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism DIAGOLON Movement



National Security Operational Analysis
NSOA-2022-OPS-xxx
2022-05-12

PROTECTED B



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Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism

- In 2019, the Government of Canada officially adopted new terminology for categorizing terrorism in Canada. The new categories capture violence motivated by Religion (RMVE), Ideology (IMVE), or Politics (PMVE).



IMVE Defined & Categorized

- Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism (IMVE) refers to individuals from across the traditional left/right ideological spectrum who are suspected of advocating, supporting, and/or engaging in ideologically-motivated violence.



Anti-Authority Violence

- Directed against perceived power imbalances between individuals and authority figures (eg: conspiracy theorists).
- Narratives can evolve rapidly and are often linked to contemporary developments (5G conspiracy, COVID-19 pandemic).
- Since 2014, AAV responsible for:
 - 3 dead and 2 wounded (all RCMP members).
 - 1 disrupted attack at Rideau Hall on 2020-07-02 with no victims.
- Trends in social media are correlated to real world violent activities

QANON:

World is run by a cabal of Satan-worshipping pedophiles.

Anti-Covid/Anti-Vaccine:

Uses government mandated COVID protection measures and vaccine requirements to justify the use of defensive violence.

Boogaloo Movement:

Civil war or armed conflict is imminent. Individuals should be prepared to fight and take advantage.

Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism & Canada

- Ideologically motivated violence is not new.
 - Formerly known as Right Wing/Left Wing Extremism
 - Previously covered by FPNI (formerly Criminal Intelligence Directorate)
 - 2018 shift in focus with the Iron March leak and FPNS' attention on the issue
 - Driven by FBI and CSIS
- The greatest threat to Canadian public safety is IMVE.
 - Significant growth: most likely next attack
 - Lack of visibility: the majority of IMVE activity begins and occurs in virtual spaces, often utilizing commonly available encrypted communication applications
 - Canadian IMVE actors are considered influencers within the global IMVE milieu
 - Possibly accelerated by pandemic
- 2014-2021: 7 successful IMVE attacks in Canada resulting in 25 dead (including 3 RCMP members) and 39 wounded.

Accelerationism as a Strategy

- The concept of Accelerationism as an IMVE strategy:
 - Rejection of traditional political processes
 - Multi-cultural societies are inherently unstable and will collapse
 - Accelerationists conduct activities which will escalate tensions between racial/ethnic groups, thereby accelerating the collapse of society.
- Accelerationism is a fundamental strategy held by most IMVE movements (listed entities and non-listed entities).

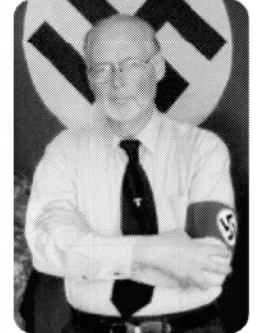
The Base



Atomwaffen



James Mason



Freedom Convoy

- The Freedom Convoy brought together individuals with various interrelated sentiments of opposition to public health measures related to the pandemic.
- OA saw a number of members of gender-based violence and anti-authoritarian subgroups at the Freedom Convoy events.
- The roles played by these subjects of interest were varied: passive observation, logistical support and of the commission of criminal acts.
- In some cases, such as the Coutts' blockade, the arrests revealed that individuals involved posed a serious threat.
- New groups and networks (such as DIAGOLON) were uncovered during the Convoy and related protests.

Arrests at Coutts, Alberta Border Crossing



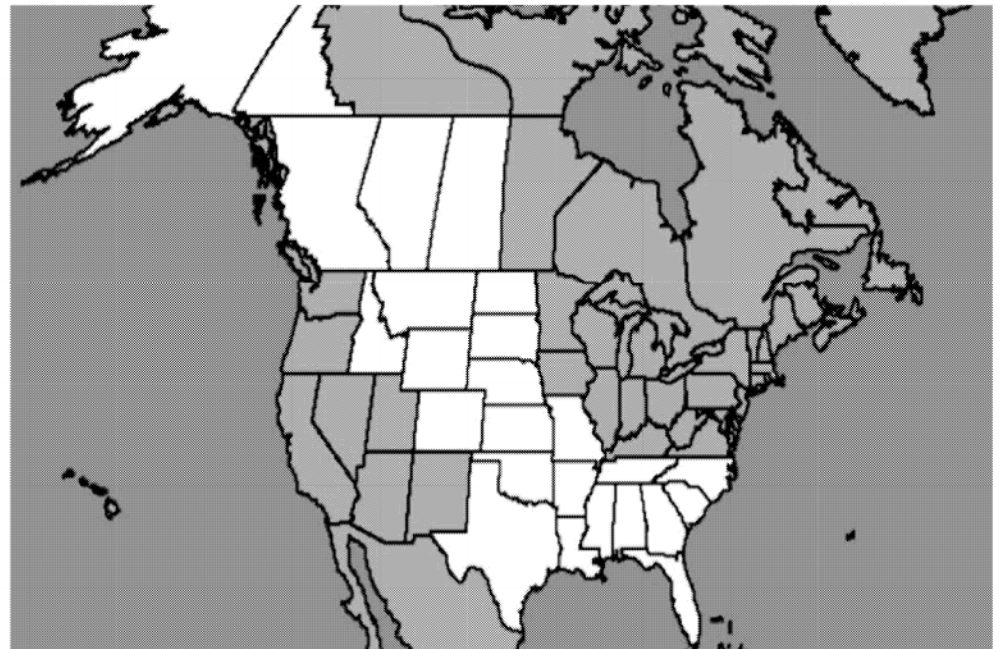
- On 2022-02-14, RCMP executed a number of search warrants. Several weapons and ammunition were seized. Thirteen people arrested.
- In addition to the seized items, nationalist paraphernalia was seized, tying some of the individuals to the DIAGOLON movement.
- Ongoing RCMP investigation.

DIAGOLON - AAV

- OA has discovered the DIAGOLON while investigating subjects of interest of other investigations.
- OA IMVE team is currently working on gathering information on the movement in order to establish if DIAGOLON can be considered as a group, and to assess if the movement pose a risk to National Security.

Key Findings:

- DIAGOLON is a concept created by an Anti-Authority violent influencer.
- DIAGOLON represent the creation of a new Country.
- The DIAGOLON community does not seem to have an established group hierarchy or official membership.



DIAGOLON



- OA are aware of cells/small groups of individuals associated to DIAGOLON accros Canada who did/are currently participating in activites that could pose a great threat do National Security.
- Current efforts by OA :
 - 1) to determine if DIAGOLON correspond to the definition of a group;
 - 2) Identify influential networks and members of DIAGOLON in Canada and abroad;
 - 3) Identify potential criminal activities taken by individual who adhere to the concept.

DIAGOLON – “Leader”

JEREMY MACKENZIE



- - Founder of the PLAID ARMY and DIAGOLON.
 - Designed the DIAGOLON flag.
- Saskatchewan-based former combat veteran (Canadian Armed Forces).
- Known as “ragingdissident”
- Influential during Ottawa Convoy Protests and has indicated he will die for his cause.

Principal subjects of interest

Alexander VRIEND

- - PLAID ARMY, DIAGOLON streamer.
- originally from Ontario
- Known as “The Ferryman’s Toll” ;
-

Principal subjects of interest - cont

Dereck "Rants" HARRISON

-
- One of the PLAID ARMY founder, DIAGOLON streamer.
-
-
-

Principal subjects of interest - cont

Principal subjects of interest - cont

Questions

From: [Allard, Christopher](#)
To: [Piamonte, Kandi](#)
Subject: RE: Diagonon report
Date: March 7, 2022 2:20:00 PM

O.K. I'll let Jordan know..

Chris

From: Piamonte, Kandi <kandi.piamonte@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Sent: March 7, 2022 2:20 PM
To: Allard, Christopher <Christopher.Allard@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Diagonon report

Absolutely it can be shared.

I just have a few more edits to do then it has to go through the approval process.

But I will have it in today so he should be able to get it soon.

From: Allard, Christopher <Christopher.Allard@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Sent: March 7, 2022 2:18 PM
To: Piamonte, Kandi <kandi.piamonte@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Subject: Diagonon report

Hi,

Jordan has asked for a copy of your Diagonon report if you can send it to me.. or if it can be shared?

Thanks,

Chris

Christopher Allard
Web Investigative Analyst
Federal Policing – Tactical Internet Operational Support (TIOS)
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Analyste de recherche tactique sur Internet en soutien aux opérations
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christopher.allard@rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ Tél: Bureau: 613-843-5177

Cellulaire: 343-552-0446

From: [Pillay, Simon](#)
To: [Arthur, Jordan](#)
Subject: Hey
Date: February 24, 2022 11:19:51 AM

If you would like to get in on the Diagonon SVTC it is in room 303 at 1200. We might be tight for space but will try to squeeze you in.

KS (Simon) PILLAY, Inspector
OIC Ops 1, PRT 2

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**FEDERAL POLICING NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
IDEOLOGICALLY MOTIVATED CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE TEAM**

PROTECTED A
IMCIT INT PACKAGE 2202-01 - 2021-02-18

This assessment is intended to provide situational awareness of threats to public order, public safety, and the security of public officials arising from violent online rhetoric opposing new and ongoing public health restrictions (Information current as of 18 February 2022, 1200hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.

INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT – DIAGOLON GROUP

“INDICATORS OF MOBILIZATION TO TERRORISM” ASSESSMENT

The IMCIT conducted an assessment of the DIAGOLON group using the RCMP “Indicators of Mobilization to Terrorism”¹ methodology and a review of available information contained within RCMP holdings and open source reporting. The following assessment is provided for law enforcement consideration.

THREAT OF WEAPONS AND VIOLENCE: HIGH

“INDICATORS” ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	ASSESSMENT OF DIAGOLON
Motive – Indications of attachment to an ideology, movement, or group promoting extremist violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extreme anti-authority and anti-government.
Intentions – Indications of intent to commit or actively support violence motivated by the ideology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At times, online blatant terms reference violent accelerationism. Accelerationists believe that contemporary society is failing under the current system of government and that violent action must be taken to hasten its collapse.• Four members of the group have been charged with plotting to murder police officers in connection with the Coutts border protest.
Capabilities – Indications of financial, technical, mental and physical capability to commit violent acts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Several members have military experience and weapons.
Preparations – Indications of planning and preparing to commit an attack	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weapons caches have been discovered in two separate locations.

IMPORTANT: This set of warning indicators above is an aid to judgement which must be used in context. It is one of a series of tools designed to support the professional judgement of RCMP and other police force investigators and analysts at the different stages of police response to information relating to a potential threat

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Federal Policing National Intelligence – Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team

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DIAGOLON - BACKGROUNDER²

DIAGOLON (adjacent to the PLAID ARMY online movement) is a meme-based, online satirical movement (some may refer to this as a group, more analysis by IMCIT is required) which expresses desires to form a country based on conservative political ideology across several Canadian provinces and U.S. states.

Its flag, a white diagonal line across a black backdrop, symbolizes the regions in Canada and the U.S. where DIAGOLON adherents perceive as holding like-minded values rooted in defiance against “politically correct” culture.

Social media accounts associated to DIAGOLON often espouse anti-authority and anti-government sentiments, at times in blatant terms referencing violent accelerationism, under the guise of humour. Self-described “bigot” meetups have been promoted on DIAGOLON social media.



Figure 1. DIAGOLON flag. Source:
<https://twitter.com/tincanfire/status/1492965767670910979/photo/1>

Several figures in the DIAGOLON movement have been observed in Ottawa. One figure had previously been arrested in January 2022 for firearms offences and has been observed in Ottawa, frequently posting online to warn supporters of imminent law enforcement action against the convoy demonstrations, and denouncing police enforcement of such as illegal.

Several members of the group have previous military experience and own weapons.

The seizure of a cache of weapons and ammunition has been seized from two locations to date where a DIAGOLON nexus has been present.

The IMCIT continues to liaise with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on events related to the convoy events which are occurring nationally, and will provide updates as required.

Issued by: Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team (IMCIT)

Approved by: Director, Directorate of Strategic Intelligence, Federal Policing National Intelligence

¹ Indications of Mobilization to Terrorism, RCMP User Guide, July 2017

² Special Threat Advisory – Update 7 Freedom Convoy 2022: Threat Environment Factors IMCIT STA 2022-09 – 2022-02-16



NATIONAL THREAT LANDSCAPE STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

This assessment is intended to provide situational awareness of threats with potential national-level implications related to public order and public safety. The information in this assessment is based on reporting from RCMP Divisions, law enforcement partners, searches conducted against RCMP holdings, and open source resources (current as of 25 May 2022). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates on a periodic or as required basis.

KEY POINTS

- Attendance at weekly protests promoted within anti-public health order networks has decreased over the past month. Opposition to federal travel and employment mandates, as well as fear that public health measures could be reinstated, have been dominant themes within these networks.
- A mass casualty attack in Buffalo, New York on 15 May was the focus in some conspiracy theory-based networks during this reporting period.
- A criminal act involving a fire that destroyed two vehicles at the home of a Royal Bank of Canada executive was communicated on an anarchist blog as being in solidarity with Wet’suwet’en land defenders.

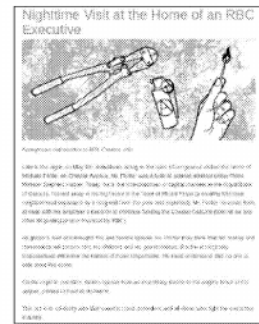
THREATS TO PUBLIC SAFETY

COASTAL GASLINK PIPELINE (CGL) OPPOSITION – MORICE RIVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA (BC)

Potential for continued criminality and solidarity actions which could impact public or officer safety.

A reported violent confrontation in Morice River, British Columbia, which occurred on 17 February 2022, continues to be investigated (see IMCIT STA 2022-11 – 2022-02-24 for details).¹

During the month of May, negative sentiment surrounding the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) persisted within Wet’suwet’en solidarity networks. An incident involving a fire that destroyed two vehicles at the home of a former Conservative Minister and current RBC executive generated mainstream media news coverage² after a communication on a Montreal-based anarchist blog claimed the action was in solidarity with Wet’suwet’en land defenders.³



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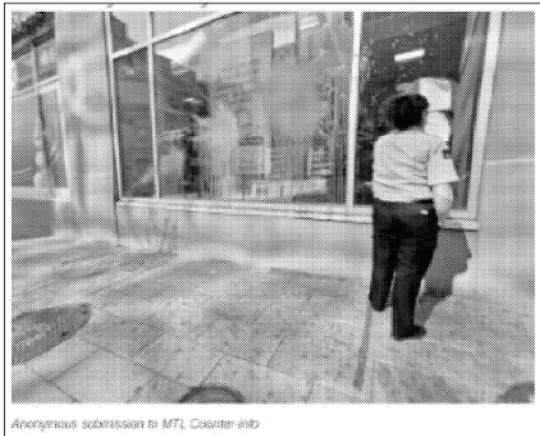
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While the investigation is ongoing, the main social media account associated with providing news related to Wet'suwet'en reposted the blog's claim suggesting potential support for illegal activities of this nature.⁴

Additional actions of concern that took place during this reporting period are as follows:

- On 6 May, an Ontario-based anarchist blog posted an anonymous communication claiming that a Toronto RBC branch was "attacked" with a spray painted message, a damaged lock and red paint in solidarity with Wet'suwet'en.⁵
- On 13 May, a Montreal-based anarchist blog posted an anonymous submission about vandalism involving red paint at an RBC location in downtown Montreal.⁶
- On 18 May, a Manitoba-based climate justice social media account posted that individuals had locked themselves to an RBC location in Winnipeg in solidarity with Wet'suwet'en land defenders.⁷ Additional tweets from the account suggested that the three individuals were arrested for the action.⁸
- On 19 May, a Montreal-based anarchist blog posted an anonymous submission (below) about vandalism involving red paint at an RBC branch in Westmount.⁹



Anonymous submission to MTL Counter-info



Anonymous submission to MTL Counter-info

Despite the above noted actions, peaceful public order events outside some RBC offices within Canada also took place during this reporting period.^{10 11 12}

Negative sentiment specifically towards the RCMP continues to be observed on popular social media associated to Wet'suwet'en solidarity. A new social media account was created with the stated purpose of "sharing daily footage and updates of RCMP & CIRG violence, intimidation, harassment, on unceded Wet'suwet'en land."¹³ Narratives for this reporting period remain focused on claims that the RCMP are harassing and intimidating people at the camp.

On 26 May, a virtual seminar entitled, “Sound the Alarm” is taking place regarding the “imminent threat of drilling under Wet’suwet’en territory”.¹⁴ It is unknown at this time if this event will result in a call out for national solidarity actions.

The IMCIT assesses that, although solidarity protests across Canada have slowed, discussions related to Wet’suwet’en solidarity remain dominant within climate action networks. The praising of illegal actions, such as the arson incident on 4 May and the CGL worksite incident on 17 February 2022, indicate a level of support for activities of violence and sabotage within ideologically motivated networks that organize in solidarity with Wet’suwet’en causes.

OLD-GROWTH LOGGING - SOUTHWEST VANCOUVER ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA (BC)

Potential for criminality and potential for Canada-wide actions which could impact public or officer safety.

There have been no significant updates regarding the temporary injunction that prohibits the obstruction, impediment, or interference with logging at the Teal-Jones Group site on Vancouver Island, BC, which remains in place.¹⁵

During this reporting period, protest activity by the group Save Old Growth have occurred locally in BC. News media reporting indicates that protesters glued themselves to the door of a Vancouver hotel where the Council of Forest Industries held its annual convention.¹⁶ Individuals associated with the Save Old Growth campaign also stated intentions to conduct a citizen’s arrest of the BC Forest Minister, who reported receiving harassing phone calls after her home phone number was shared online.¹⁷

Similar protest activities opposing old growth logging have occurred at the Cooper Creek Cedar logging site in Argenta BC, where there is a court injunction in place and where protesters set up blockades in recent weeks.^{18 19} While there is no apparent connection between the two protest groups in Argenta and Vancouver Island, protesters in Argenta were likely inspired by protest activities and solidarity actions associated with Save Old Growth.

The IMCIT assesses that public order events specific to old growth logging are currently confined to BC. No ongoing or future planned calls for nationwide solidarity actions have been identified, although old growth narratives may occasionally overlap with other environmental actions occurring elsewhere in Canada.

ANTI-PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

Potential for public health restriction violations. Potential for protests that could impact public or officer safety.

OVERALL NARRATIVES

The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on the evolving anti-government and anti-authority grievances discussed within anti-public health order networks. Though weekly protests planned within anti-public health order networks continue in multiple cities throughout Canada and will likely occur for the foreseeable future, open source information and reports from law enforcement partners indicate a

decrease in attendance at these events. In the absence of new government announcements generating hostility and amplifying existing anti-government and anti-authority grievances, some of these weekly public order events have been rebranded as "freedom family" social gatherings. Opposition to federal mandates related to travel and employment and fear that public health measures could be reinstated have been the most dominant themes observed this reporting period.

CANADA DAY

The IMCIT and law enforcement partners have identified online chatter suggestive of planning for Canada Day demonstrations within anti-public health order networks. Since Ottawa will be holding in-person Canada Day celebrations for the first time since 2019, the IMCIT is maintaining visibility in the event that planned demonstrations have national implications.

In addition, a veteran marching from Vancouver to Ottawa has generated chatter within Canadian anti-public health order networks. Though the date of arrival is currently unconfirmed, information online suggests it may coincide with Canada Day. The purpose of the march relates to anti-public health order narratives.¹⁹ An individual associated with DIAGOLON recently made comments regarding the veteran's arrival, claiming that there will be another "sustained presence" in Ottawa.²⁰ At this time, however, no further details to substantiate these claims are known.

ADDITIONAL ANTI-PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER OBSERVATIONS

Additional issues noted during this reporting period are as follows:

- Publicly advertised events that include the presence of federal political leaders continue to see protests mobilized with little formal planning beforehand. Two events involving federal political leaders during this reporting period generated significant news media coverage. On 10 May, the federal NDP leader was met with protesters during an event in Peterborough, ON.²¹ On 24 May, the Prime Minister cancelled an appearance at a fundraising event after it was reported that attendees were met with racial slurs by protesters.²²
- The use of "convoys" remains a trending tactic, typically to travel to weekly protests at a static rallying location. No significant fundraising efforts or plans for long-term convoy disruptions have been identified at the time of this writing.
- Sporadic airport protests opposing federal travel mandates have occurred over the past month²³, although no significant impact because of these protests has been observed.

¹⁹ The stated purpose of the march according to the individual's website is to: 1) Protest federal government mandates that require, as a condition for employment or continued employment, vaccination, testing, quarantine, and/or isolation; 2) Speak on behalf of those personnel employed by the federal government or otherwise who have been denied access to employment and services, who have lost income and have suffered from damaged relationships due to the imposition of a medical procedure; and 3) Speak on behalf of those who have, through the introduction of false constructs surrounding choices and consequences, been pressured into taking part in medical procedures that they would not otherwise have accepted.
<https://www.canadamarches.ca/about>

- Bill C-11^b, Digital ID^c, the World Health Organization pandemic response treaty^d and perceived discrimination against the unvaccinated are additional narratives persisting in anti-public health order spaces.
- An individual who claims that a large group of trained activists will hold ground and arrest politicians has been denounced by popular anti-public health order social media.²⁴ The IMCIT is engaged with law enforcement partners regarding this individual and remains attuned to changes in the threat environment.

The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility and liaise with law enforcement partners on events with potential for national implications.

GLOBAL TRENDS

The IMCIT continues to track global ideologically motivated issues that may impact Canada. The following developments have recently been observed.

ANTI-PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

Anti-public health order movements worldwide have largely cooled off, with no demonstrations on the scale observed earlier in 2022. After circling back to the Washington, D.C. area, the last elements of the “Freedom Convoy”-inspired “People’s Convoy” declared victory and dispersed,²⁵ without causing any meaningful disruptions.

CONSPIRACY THEORIES

A mass casualty attack in Buffalo, New York on 15 May²⁶, which resulted in ten deaths in what law enforcement are investigating as a possible hate-motivated crime^e, was the focus in some conspiracy theory-based networks during this reporting period. Some of the commenters within these networks either downplayed the significance of the attack or claimed it was a “false flag” operation²⁷ undertaken by the US government or law enforcement agencies to justify impending restrictions on firearms, to limit freedom of speech, or to advance anti-White sentiments in North America. Relatedly, conspiracy theorists falsely attributed the recent school shooting in Uvalde, Texas to a trans woman,²⁸ possibly in an effort to drive anti-LGBTQ+ sentiment.

^b Bill C-11, “An Act to amend the Broadcasting Act and to make related and consequential amendments to other Acts” aka Online Streaming Act <https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/44-1/bill/C-11/first-reading> is perceived within anti-public health order networks as media censorship that will eliminate alternative media.

^c According to news sources, the Digital ID program will allow people and businesses to prove who they are, both online and in person, without using a physical card <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-government-won-t-comment-on-progress-of-digital-id-program-1.5852732> Concerns have circulated within anti-public health order networks that this program is part of a government plan of control.

^d See Global Trends section of this report for more details

^e For further information about the “Great Replacement” conspiracy theory allegedly referenced in the suspect’s manifesto, refer to IMCIT SIA 2022-01 - 2022-01-15 (IMCIT Strategic Intelligence Assessment – Racially and Ethno-Nationalist Motivated Threat Landscape).

Several health-related conspiracy theories have also emerged in the past month, including a belief that the recent monkeypox virus outbreak was engineered by Bill GATES,²⁹ and that Western nations are about to sign away sovereignty to the World Health Organization.³⁰ The latter has received traction in Canadian anti-public health order spaces, and may be visible in propaganda seen during future protest actions that attract anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial participation.^f

The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threat issues and will provide updates as required.

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Approved by: Acting Director General, Federal Policing National Intelligence

¹ <https://windsorstar.com/news/canada/three-months-after-axe-attack-on-coastal-gaslink-work-camp-rcmp-has-not-announced-any-leads-in-case>

² <https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/police-investigating-if-anti-pipeline-anarchists-burned-down-cars-of-rbc-executive-and-former-conservative-minister>

³ <https://mtlcounterinfo.org/nighttime-visit-at-the-home-of-an-rbc-executive/>

⁴ https://www.instagram.com/stories/yintah_access/2831689267174902980/

⁵ <https://north-shore.info/2022/05/06/toronto-mayday-bank-attack/>

⁶ <https://mtlcontreinfo.org/vendredi-malchanceux-pour-rbc/>

⁷ <https://twitter.com/mbenergyjustice/status/1526959305362132995>

⁸ <https://twitter.com/mbenergyjustice/status/1526994811437260800>

⁹ <https://mtlcounterinfo.org/thursday-for-truth-and-justice/>

¹⁰ <https://twitter.com/AK4ClimateAct1/status/1525242156918743041>

¹¹ <https://twitter.com/status/1525213643893362690>

¹² <https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd89RliuyH8/>

¹³ <https://www.instagram.com/rcmpoffyintah>

¹⁴ <https://ecosocialistsvancouver.org/emergency-wetsuweten-solidarity-call-out-event-featuring-sleydo%E2%80%99>

¹⁵ <https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/court-reserves-injunction-decision-in-fairy-creek-old-growth-logging-protests-1.5669739>

¹⁶ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8797136/save-old-growth-logging-protest-vancouver-hotel/>

¹⁷ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8793772/old-growth-logging-protest-security-concerns/>

¹⁸ <https://www.nelsonstar.com/news/blockade-set-up-by-protesters-ahead-of-contested-logging-in-argenta-area/>

¹⁹ <https://www.surreynowleader.com/news/rcmp-make-arrests-at-logging-protest-north-of-nelson/>

²⁰ <https://twitter.com/status/1526687192797560832>

²¹ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8842887/no-criminal-charges-peterborough-protesters-accosting-ndp-leader-jagmeet-singh/>

²² <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/trudeau-cancels-appearance-after-protesters-racial-slurs-1.6464856>

²³ <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10167163444950500&set=g.310624427062402;>

https://www.facebook.com/events/575639597094124/?active_tab=about;
<https://www.facebook.com/posts/5144332808989400>

²⁴ <https://policeonguard.ca/news-release-a-call-forpeace/>; <https://twitter.com/JMacKenzie674/status/1516117887571968006>

²⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2711696262309046/>

²⁶ <https://abcnews.go.com/US/reported-mass-shooting-upstate-york-tops-supermarket/story?id=84721175>

²⁷ <https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2022/05/17/disinfo-covers-white-supremacy-after-buffalo-attack>

²⁸ <https://www.newsweek.com/salvador-ramos-transgender-rumors-spread-like-wildfire-despite-no-evidence-1709867>

²⁹ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucelee/2022/05/22/monkeypox-outbreak-triggers-new-conspiracy-theories-about-bill-gates-as-billgatesbioterrorist-trends/>

³⁰ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/05/22/wha-who-pandemic-treaty/>

^f Negative sentiment which includes conspiracy theories surrounding the WHO has been present since March 2020 in rhetoric within ideologically motivated networks in Canada.



This intelligence assessment is intended to provide an overview of the emerging community known as DIAGOLON (information current as of 02 March 2022).

INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT: DIAGOLON

KEY ASSESSMENTS

- DIAGOLON began as a satirical concept and symbol around which likeminded individuals gather in communities – both online and offline – to express ideas and views that would generally fall within the anti-authority/anti-government ideological milieu. Although most community engagement appears to take place online, IMCIT assesses that real world gatherings of DIAGOLON community members have occurred and are likely to continue occurring.
- IMCIT assesses that a substantial volume of individuals is actively or passively consuming anti-authority and anti-government narratives through exposure to podcasts, vlogs and personalities associated with DIAGOLON. Some individuals engaging with DIAGOLON are using private communication methods to converse.
- While DIAGOLON symbols and associated individuals were visible during the 2022 Freedom Convoy protests, some individuals associated with DIAGOLON appear to have advocated for peaceful protest; overt messaging was to “hold the line” but not harm police officers. Certain individuals associated to DIAGOLON during the Convoy, however, have allegedly engaged in serious criminal activity.
- IMCIT assesses that current public-facing activities and expression associated with DIAGOLON itself would generally constitute ideologically motivated threats to the fabric of society (e.g. undermine social cohesion and trust in public institutions, peddling conspiracy theories, etc.) and are not criminal in nature. IMCIT assesses that potential criminal threat actors associated with DIAGOLON are more likely to act as individuals or as cells rather than as representatives acting on behalf of DIAGOLON.
- DIAGOLON appears to meet most, but not all, of the parameters informally used by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service to define a traditional Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremist group.
- There has been no overt planning or facilitating activities conducted on behalf of DIAGOLON in open sources which would suggest financing for the purpose of planning or facilitating terrorist or other criminal activity.

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to provide law enforcement investigators and analysts with the history, background and ideological views of DIAGOLON, including an assessment of whether it constitutes a “group”.

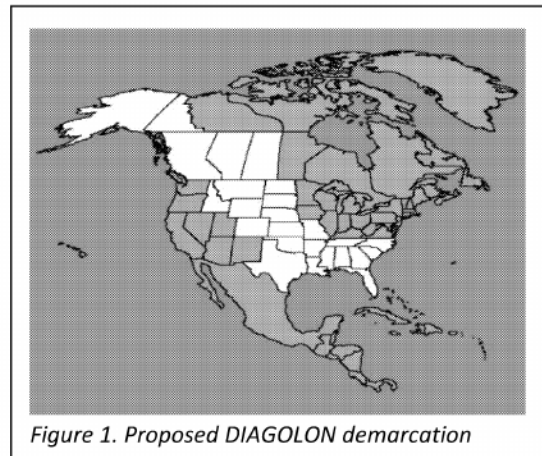
METHODOLOGY

Information to support this assessment was derived from extensive open source research on Jeremy MACKENZIE, the “Raging Dissident” podcast and DIAGOLON itself. The information and assessments are comprised of primary source observations and research. Where possible, information was acquired directly from open sources, freely accessible videos, and comments and posts of individuals or entities associated to DIAGOLON. The parameters informally used by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service to define a traditional Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremist group were employed.

DIAGOLON BACKGROUND

It is believed that podcaster Jeremy MACKENZIE invented the concept of DIAGOLON on 15 January 2021, when he suggested on his Raging Dissident podcast that Canada and the United States (US) could be physically divided by provinces, territories, and states according to their perceived level of interest in secession¹ and common values such as opposition to public health measures and vaccine mandates associated to COVID-19.²

MACKENZIE identified this grouping of areas as a fictitious concept/country called DIAGOLON, named as such because they form a rough diagonal line running from the northwest (Alaska) to the southeast (Florida), subsuming several states, provinces, and territories in between. The land demarcation would include Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, South and North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Montana, Alaska, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and some parts of British Columbia.³



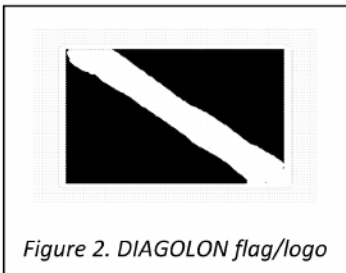


Figure 2. DIAGOLON flag/logo

Although DIAGOLON appears to have originated as a satirical concept represented as a meme on the Plaid Army streams⁴, it has evolved into a rallying point and symbol for a community of likeminded individuals who share certain views and grievances that can generally be categorized as anti-authority in nature. This is consistent with the ideological context in which MACKENZIE introduced the concept.

During the same podcast in which MACKENZIE first mentioned DIAGOLON, he opined that two options are available to citizens who feel oppressed by the government: “Wide-spread civil war, blood bath nightmare kids dead the whole...nobody wants that” or “We’re getting a divorce, everybody goes their separate ways.”⁵ The common ideological thread that sews individuals in the DIAGOLON community together is shared discontent with how the current Government of Canada (GoC) has responded to the COVID-19 crisis, manifested through expressions of anger and frustration at the perceived infringement of Canadians’ Charter protected rights and freedoms. However, individuals in the DIAGOLON community frequently express ideas and grievances beyond COVID-19 public health measures that are ideologically anti-authority/anti-government in tone.

Individuals engaging with DIAGOLON content fall along a spectrum of participation, from contributors and producers of content to active consumers and adherents to passive and casual listeners. While IMCIT assesses that thousands of individuals watch or listen to Jeremy MACKENZIE’s podcasts online, a very small number actively participate in the open online discussion. It is likely that an even smaller number of individuals participate in open or private message boards, purchase paraphernalia, or produce content in support of DIAGOLON. Further, IMCIT assesses that only a small number of individuals participate in real world interactions with fellow members of the DIAGOLON network.

JEREMY MACKENZIE / RAGING DISSIDENT

Jeremy MACKENZIE self-identifies as the *de facto* leader of DIAGOLON and appears to have created the concept. MACKENZIE describes himself as a 14-year veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces, currently residing in Nova Scotia.⁶ He also appears to spend a significant amount of his time in Saskatchewan and has discussed relocating to the province.⁷ MACKENZIE is a prolific, charismatic online influencer known as Raging Dissident (ragingdissident.com) whose content can be found on TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, Entropy, Rumble, and Spotify.

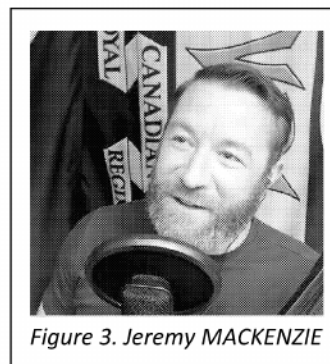


Figure 3. Jeremy MACKENZIE

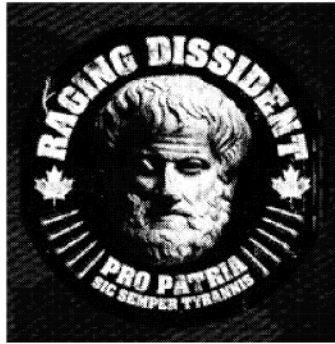


Figure 4. Raging Dissident logo

MACKENZIE grew in popularity after attending a venue hosting Omar Khadr^a in Halifax on February 10, 2020, where he chastised the Canadian government for awarding money to an individual formerly associated with the TALIBAN. MACKENZIE began creating podcast content in 2015 under the name Raging Humanist and uploaded his first podcast as Ragingdissident in 2021. Since that time, he has created and posted over 220 podcasts focusing on a range of topics, including vaccinations, government control, censorship, fake news, and conspiracy theories. He has amassed thousands of followers, often speaking with them directly via chat functions during his live streamed content.

MACKENZIE's following has grown significantly over time, which has increased his income generating potential. He regularly encourages followers to provide financial support such as paying for live stream subscriptions to his channels, purchasing DIAGOLON merchandise, and sending cryptocurrency donations to his Bitcoin account. MACKENZIE sarcastically refers to non-paying followers as "second-class bigots".

IMCIT assesses that MACKENZIE

In October of 2021, for example, he opined that the GoC's vaccination mandate for federal government employees would push these employees towards his cause, which would be a welcome development given their "intimate knowledge of how [their] system works from the inside."⁸ More recently,

^a In 2002, when he was 15 years old, Omar Khadr was captured by the United States Army and was detained for more than eight years for killing a US soldier and injuring two others.



MACKENZIE has asserted that he has “someone on the inside” from whom he has been receiving law enforcement and intelligence-related updates and information. Further, MACKENZIE has taken credit for leaking the group chat messages between RCMP officers attending the Freedom Convoy 2022 in Ottawa.

9

MACKENZIE is a sought-after guest speaker for other vocal anti-authority/anti-government influencers and activists such as Police on Guard for Thee’s Chris VANDENBOS. Police on Guard for Thee is a self-identified group of police officers, both active and retired, who have assembled to “create a haven of truth and justice for all members.”¹⁰ This group has united under the collective belief that public health orders are unconstitutional and have resulted in irreversible damage to the Canadian public, much like the rhetoric associated with DIAGOLON. This group has established connections to entities with similar views, including: Raging Dissident, Mounties for Freedom, Stand Up Canada, Canadian Frontline Nurses, Action 4 Canada, Blue Truth, Police for Freedom, The Liberty Club, and The Freedom Organization, among others.¹¹

MACKENZIE has also become a vocal supporter of the newly established Veterans For Freedom (veterans4freedom) organization comprised of Canadian Armed Forces veterans mobilizing with the explicit intent to restore fundamental freedoms for Canadians by engaging in peaceful, lawful, civic action.¹²

On January 26, 2022, the RCMP executed a search warrant at MACKENZIE’s home and seized five restricted firearms, including rifles and handguns, one unrestricted firearm, prohibited magazines, ammunition, body armour, a duty belt with attached holster and magazine pouches and cellular phones.¹³ Prior to the seizure, MACKENZIE had openly demonstrated his enthusiasm for firearms and bragged about his collection.¹⁴

IMCIT assesses that

On 22 March 2022, Halifax Regional Police arrested MACKENZIE and charged him with criminal harassment, mischief, making harassing phone calls, and intimidation of a health professional stemming from his alleged role in making prank phone calls and protesting outside the home of Nova Scotia’s Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Robert STRANG.¹⁵



IDEOLOGICAL INFLUENCES WITHIN DIAGOLON – IDEAS, GRIEVANCES AND VIEWS

Anti-Authority Views (Primary Categorization)

IMCIT assesses that DIAGOLON would most appropriately be categorized as a loose community or network of individuals defined by shared anti-authority views and grievances. These views appear to primarily revolve around opposition to the GoC's public health responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

DIAGOLON community members also espouse anti-authority views that dovetail with a focus on public health restrictions, such as distrust in medical science and public messaging on the efficacy of vaccines. Other rhetoric emphasizes personal frustrations, perceived damage caused by public health measures, and the perception that vaccine mandates are both unethical and contrary to the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

Individuals in the DIAGOLON community also frequently express views on issues other than public health measures that would generally fall within the anti-authority milieu.



The DIAGOLON community harbors conflicting views on law enforcement.

Individuals associated with DIAGOLON also use personal experiences to justify anger towards police, including alleged incidents in which law enforcement are perceived to have brutalized members of the public underserving of such treatment. Some rhetoric suggests that police are paid “agents” who do as they are told even when they know orders are wrong.

Some individuals associated with DIAGOLON also express support for law enforcement, viewing the current GoC specifically as the perceived instrument of oppression. For example, many individuals associated with DIAGOLON attending the Freedom Convoy 2022 appear to have advocated for peaceful protest; overt messaging was to “hold the line” but not inflict harm to police officers. Further, some members of the DIAGOLON community appear to be either current or former law enforcement officers, or partners of law enforcement officers.¹⁶

The anti-authority tone of DIAGOLON is most clearly reflected in the emphasis on secessionism as a response to collective grievances with the current GoC. The secessionist elements appear to be satirical in nature; community members use sardonic, ironic language to discuss DIAGOLON as a fantasy country but there is no overt discussion indicative of real world secessionist planning.



Nonetheless, secessionist rhetoric emanating from the DIAGOLON community raises the possibility that some individuals associated with the community may harbor intent to engage in activities in furtherance of territorial secession. Activities of this nature are not necessarily criminal; the majority of expression and activities would likely constitute threats to the fabric of society, with some potential for ideologically motivated criminality.

Secessionist planning involving violent criminal activity could constitute an ideologically motivated national security threat and also fall within the sedition, subversion and insurrection threat landscape. Within this narrow context, certain unique criminal offences may be applicable, including treason, sedition, and related conspiracies.¹⁸

Xenophobic Views (Secondary Elements)

While DIAGOLON is primarily defined by its anti-authority ideological views and grievances, there appear to be elements of xenophobic (racially and ethno-nationalist motivated) ideas and views among individuals engaging with the community. DIAGOLON cannot accurately be described as a xenophobic motivated community, however. There are instances in which MACKENZIE and community members espouse racist, anti-Semitic, and ethno-nationalist sentiments, both overtly and cryptically.

MACKENZIE himself has indirectly expressed support for ideas that are xenophobic in nature. During a 2020 podcast, MACKENZIE demonstrated ownership of, and criticized the GoC for allegedly seeking to prohibit the fictional book, *The Day of the Rope*¹⁹ by Devon STACK, which is a novel depicting individuals engaged in a violent revolution as they try to reclaim the land of their forefathers and take down the ruling class. This book uses concepts from *The Turner Diaries*, a novel written by American white supremacist ideologue William Luther PIERCE, which has become a canonical text within the white supremacist accelerationist ideological milieu; the fictional novel depicts a white supremacist revolution, including a “day of the rope” on which enemies of the white race are executed.

The Turner Diaries is believed to have influenced several terrorist entities, including The Order (a former supremacist accelerationist terrorist group named after a group in the novel) and Timothy McVeigh (the white supremacist accelerationist who carried out the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing.)²⁰



The day of the rope and *The Turner Diaries* are well-known concepts within the racially motivated and ethno-nationalist threat landscape. IMCIT assesses that _____ the connection between the day of the rope concept and *The Turner Diaries*, as well as their significance within racially and ethno-nationalist motivated extremist discourse.

IMCIT further assesses that,

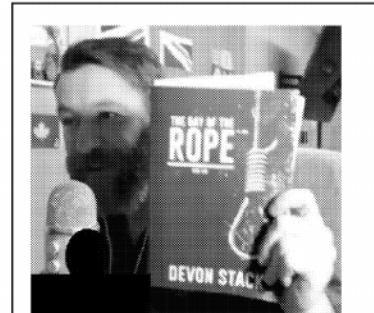


Figure 5. Mackenzie holding "The Day of the Rope"

Some individuals associated with DIAGOLON also appear to harbor grievances associated with what they view as anti-white racial hatred. These individuals perceive a broad movement or societal conspiracy to punish white people more harshly on the basis of their skin color. These ideas softly echo the notion of white genocide prevalent in racially and ethno-nationalist motivated discourse. It is important to note, however, that such views are common and do not, on their own, signify association with ideologically motivated extremism or violence.

The DIAGOLON community includes individuals from many different ethnic, racial, religious, and cultural backgrounds, with worldviews shaped by individual experiences. The idea of DIAGOLON, a place without public health mandates and with libertarian notions of freedom, appears to have appeal among individuals from diverse racial, religious, and ethnic backgrounds.

As noted above, the primary cohesive factor appears to be opposition to GoC-mandate public health restrictions and vaccine mandates. Individuals from different backgrounds may hold personal grievances stemming from their experiences during the pandemic which cause them to gravitate towards an anti-authority concept like DIAGOLON. Individuals appear to be, for the most part, drawn to this community, not to further an ideological objective, purpose, or cause, but to achieve a sense of belonging and camaraderie based on similar views and reciprocated validation.

Gender-Based Views



Bikeshedding is a frequent source of angst for members of the DIAGOLON community, which is closely linked to opposition to political correctness.²²

For example, DIAGOLON community members decry the absurdity of performative political correctness from a bikeshedding perspective; focusing on children’s books or poems deemed racist, street names that should be changed because they reference colonial figures, or movies being removed from circulation to appease the newest inclusionary movement. There is an overarching sentiment among many individuals that Canada and other liberal democracies are eradicating traditions, freedoms, and rights according to the dictates of an aggressive, tyrannical, Marxist, and increasingly totalitarian social justice movement.

DIAGOLON WITHIN THE IDEOLOGICALLY MOTIVATED THREAT LANDSCAPE

The following points and assessments are provided which provide insight into the composition and nature of DIAGOLON.

- DIAGOLON appears to be a concept and symbol around which likeminded individuals gather in communities – both online and offline – to express ideas and views that would generally fall within the anti-authority/anti-government ideological milieu. IMCIT assesses that most individuals engaging with DIAGOLON embraced anti-authority sentiments prior to their engagement with the concept.
- Certain DIAGOLON followers have expressed views and grievances that would appear to be racist, white-supremacist, and ethno-nationalist in nature. IMCIT assesses that DIAGOLON is foremost an anti-authority ideological concept, however, with limited xenophobic influences and adherents.
- Ideologically motivated individuals and extremists are adept at leveraging socio-political and socio-cultural issues and events – such as the 2022 Freedom Convoy protests and the Ukraine/Russia conflict – to spread propaganda and misinformation, fuel conspiracy theories, sow distrust in governments and public institutions, and undermine social cohesion.



- IMCIT assesses that current public-facing activities and expression associated to the majority of individuals engaging with DIAGOLON itself would generally constitute ideologically motivated threats to the fabric of society (e.g., undermine social cohesion and trust in public institutions, peddling conspiracy theories, etc.) and are not criminal in nature.

Extreme opposition to the current GoC's authority does not necessarily equate to a rejection of the concept of organized federal government in Canada. IMCIT assesses that most ideologically motivated individuals associated to DIAGOLON appear to reject the current GoC's authority specifically.

- While some individuals associated with DIAGOLON do espouse hateful, bigoted, and intolerant views, and some reject the GoC's legitimacy and authority, these expressions are Charter-protected and would not constitute criminal offences (e.g., hate propaganda, sedition, etc.).

The rhetoric and ideas associated with DIAGOLON are often extreme and radical manifestations of common grievances. While many individuals in the DIAGOLON community hold views that are radical^b or extreme^c, these views are legal and do not equate to violent threat intent.

- IMCIT assesses that the vast majority of individuals engaging with DIAGOLON are unlikely to pose a criminal or national security threat. However, the anti-authority rhetoric associated with DIAGOLON suggests that certain individuals engaging within the DIAGOLON community may possess criminal threat intent as some individuals self-identifying with DIAGOLON have expressed indirect threatening rhetoric. The DIAGOLON concept and associated rhetoric are of concern because they can potentially facilitate and inspire criminal activity, including terrorism offences. Certain individuals associated to DIAGOLON allegedly engaged in serious criminal activity during the 2022 Freedom Convoy, as an example.
- There has been no overt planning or facilitating activities conducted on behalf of DIAGOLON in open sources that would suggest financing for the purpose of planning or facilitating terrorist or other criminal activity. The majority of threat actors along the ideologically motivated threat landscape use secure messaging software to communicate, however. This is likely to be the case with respect to DIAGOLON community members who may harbor criminal intent.

^b The term radical refers to believing or expressing the belief that there should be great social or political change; characterized by independence of or departure from tradition; innovative or unorthodox.

^c The term extreme is used to denote views that are greatly exaggerated, exceeding the ordinary or expected; reaching a high or the highest degree; very great; furthest from the center or a given point; outermost.



- IMCIT assesses that DIAGOLON community members are not engaging in coordinated training activities with a view to using offensive acts of serious violence for an ideological purpose, objective, or cause.

However, IMCIT assesses that individuals associated with DIAGOLON may engage in preparatory activities related to a perceived need to defend themselves from potential state intrusions on their liberties. These activities are not focused on preparing for offensive action but nonetheless create a more tangible threat capacity. Activities observed include weapons acquisition and training, establishing safe houses, gathering items for an emergency kit, learning first aid, and stocking cash reserves in their homes. These activities are akin to survivalist or “prepper” practices.

- There are indications that some DIAGOLON followers were involved in activities such as shooting weapons and target practice prior to the creation of DIAGOLON.²³ Activities of this nature appear to have been regular hobbies and habits of many subsequent DIAGOLON community members,

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- IMCIT assesses that potential threat actors associated with DIAGOLON are more likely to act as individuals or as cells rather than through the overarching entity itself. DIAGOLON could provide a forum through which small cells of ideologically motivated individuals could form, including extremists with criminal threat intent.
- DIAGOLON has evolved from an online community to gain real world traction. Although most community engagement appears to take place online, IMCIT assesses that real world gatherings of DIAGOLON community members have occurred and are likely to continue. DIAGOLON claims to have community members in several places in the world,

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Recent media attention on DIAGOLON related to the convoy demonstrations is likely to increase visibility and interest in the concept and associated social media content.

IS DIAGOLON A GROUP?

The term “group” is not defined in the *Criminal Code*, although entity is defined as “a person, group, trust, partnership or fund or an unincorporated association or organization.”²⁶



A terrorist group is defined as: (a) an entity that has as one of its purposes or activities facilitating or carrying out any terrorist activity, or (b) a listed entity – and includes an association of such entities described in (a) or (b).²⁷ The *Ali* decision also clarifies that a single person cannot constitute a terrorist group.²⁸ As such, statutory definitions offer little help in arriving at an operative understanding of “group”.

For the purpose of this assessment, IMCIT applied the parameters informally used by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service to determine traditional Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremist (IMVE) groups and considered DIAGOLON factors. These parameters included the following:

- Shared worldviews;
- Social cohesion (i.e.: more than just a collection of individuals - shared objectives, creed, manifesto, statement of principles, a sense of belonging and recognition);
- Vetting for Membership;
- Hierarchical Structure;
- Command and Control;
- Real World Interaction between Members;
- Merchandise and Symbology; and
- Shared Phraseology.

Shared Worldview

IMCIT was unable to locate a specific DIAGOLON creed, manifesto, or written statement of principles. However, DIAGOLON can be categorized as a loose community of individuals defined by anti-authority grievances rooted primarily in shared opposition to public health responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On this basis, IMCIT assesses that there is the semblance of a shared worldview among at least some individuals who engage with the DIAGOLON concept. Passive observers to the DIAGOLON phenomenon do not engage, comment, join or purchase symbolic items; they simply view and ingest the information.

A small subset of individuals, however, adhere to certain narratives, who may comment during live stream videos or in the comment section of a video, and who may observe the open chat boards and ingest additional material.

A smaller subset of individuals is more vocal and active in the community, including individuals who pay the subscription fees to have live access, purchase DIAGOLON paraphernalia, display badges and patches, and join the private chatrooms.



The final and smallest subset of individuals associated to DIAGOLON would be considered active participants seeking real world connections. These individuals may hold important positions in the DIAGOLON network such as site administrators, moderators or chatroom leaders, and content and paraphernalia creators. They seek to organize in-person meetings such as barbecues and camping trips.

Most ideologically motivated individuals associated to DIAGOLON appear to specifically reject the current GoC's authority and legitimacy in relation to public health measures, and view themselves as forming a necessary resistance against what they perceive to be a tyrannical, overreaching, communist-backed government.²⁹

This includes views on issues other than public health restrictions and vaccine mandates. Topics of discussion in forums, websites, YouTube videos, chatrooms, blogs, and podcasts associated with DIAGOLON personas range from mandatory vaccinations, healthcare, taxes, war, treatment of veterans, gun control, abuse of power, foreign influence conspiracies and government corruption, and perceptions of biased media reporting.³⁰

While there are instances in which community members espouse racist and ethno-nationalist sentiments, both overtly and cryptically, DIAGOLON cannot accurately be described as a xenophobic concept or entity. Within the xenophobic category of IMVE, proponents generally harbor racial and/or ethno-nationalist motivated grievances, typically framed through concepts such as white power, antisemitism, anti-immigration, white genocide, and the Great Replacement.³¹

While some members gravitating towards the DIAGOLON concept would appear to be racist, white-supremacist, neo-Nazi, or ethno-nationalist, DIAGOLON is foremost an anti-authority ideological concept, with limited xenophobic influences and adherents. The DIAGOLON community also includes individuals from many different ethnic, racial, religious, and cultural backgrounds.³²

Social Cohesion

IMCIT assesses that there is a sense of social cohesion among the loose community of individuals who engage with the DIAGOLON concept. Individuals appear to have varying levels of engagement in the community, from passive observer to commentator to those who actively seek out real-world events and opportunities to engage directly with other members.

Most individuals appear to be drawn to the DIAGOLON community, not to further an ideological objective per se, but to achieve a sense of belonging and camaraderie based on similar views. DIAGOLON followers demonstrate some social cohesion in the virtual space, including a sense of unity



fostered through a basic level of ideological compatibility, mutually reciprocated emotional responsiveness, and feelings of intellectual validation.³³

Vetting for Membership

There appears to be no formal or practiced vetting process for gaining access to the DIAGOLON community. Jeremy MACKENZIE's podcasts are open to the public and any individual seeking to listen to or watch his content can do so unrestricted. There are also no restrictions on his postings, YouTube videos, and Entropy streams. His sentiments are not original, nor have they been exclusively expressed on forums related to DIAGOLON or MACKENZIE.

To become a DIAGOLON community member or gain entry into the community on public forums, there are no entry initiations, membership dues, pledges of allegiance, specific stipulations, or vetting methodology. While [redacted] disdain for certain public positions – such as police and government employees – and individuals who chose to get vaccinated to maintain employment,³⁴ there is no vetting process to exclude these people from joining the community.

Hierarchical Structure

While MACKENZIE calls himself the *de facto* leader of DIAGOLON, IMCIT is not aware of a visible hierarchy or structured leadership associated with DIAGOLON as an entity in itself. There does not appear to be assigned roles within the community for recruitment, training, financial management, or advertising. However, it is possible that a collection of individuals or other entities could organize into a hierarchical structure and self-identify with the DIAGOLON concept.

Command and Control

Within the DIAGOLON network, Jeremy MACKENZIE is identified as the *de facto* leader, however, IMCIT was unable to identify any control functions held by members of the community such as equipment acquisition, facilities procurement, planning, directing, coordinating or controlling individuals to further a specific objective or purpose.

Some elements of coordination exist in the community with regard to potential meetings, protest mapping, communications and event management. Clear public-facing threat activity or stated objectives have not been observed in open source. Given the significant number of individuals



engaging with DIAGOLON content, it is possible that certain individuals harboring criminal intent could interpret MACKENZIE’s rhetoric as coded calls for direct action, including violence.

Real World Interaction between Members

The vast majority of interactions between individuals associated with DIAGOLON appear to occur online. However, some individuals associated with DIAGOLON appear to have attended several real world gatherings in various locations across Canada.³⁵

MACKENZIE has encouraged followers to meet in person and suggested that real world gatherings may be more difficult for law enforcement to monitor than online communications.³⁶ He has also alleged the presence of regional associations with connections to the DIAGOLON community.^{37 38}

IMCIT assesses that real world gatherings related to DIAGOLON are likely to increase as more individuals are attracted to the community. IMCIT has observed online photographs and videos of gatherings in which individuals pose with the DIAGOLON flag and perform the community’s salute (see Figure 10), as well as photos with comments appearing to reference past and upcoming opportunities to meet in person.³⁹

In Canada, there are three political parties on the right-wing of the political spectrum whose numbered voters are growing rapidly.



MACKENZIE claims to be one of the founders of Maxime Bernier's People's Party of Canada (PPC),

two emerging and controversial political parties: the New Blue Party^d of Ontario and the Ontario First Party which was started by Ontario MPP Randy Hillier.^{41 42}



Figure 8. Maxime BERNIER with the DIAGOLON flag

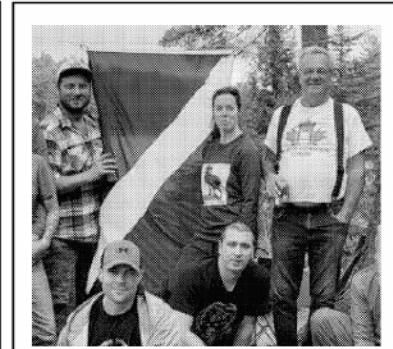


Figure 9. Randy HILLIER with the DIAGOLON flag

These political parties use rhetoric which is more extreme than that associated with Canada's mainstream parties and Bernier has approvingly quoted Jeremy MACKENZIE on his personal Twitter account.⁴³ Both Hillier and Bernier have been photographed alongside the DIAGOLON flag⁴⁴ and separately with Jeremy MACKENZIE.

Publicity of this nature contributes to a mainstreaming of DIAGOLON, making the concept and imagery appear to be part of normal socio-political discourse. Mainstreaming can also break down perceived taboos and apprehension to engage with the DIAGOLON network. Further, the anti-authority views and ethno-nationalist elements expressed in the DIAGOLON community are similar to the grievances and messaging emanating from these political entities.

IMCIT assesses that individuals are likely to perceive open support from registered political parties and other public figures as conferring a sense of legitimacy on DIAGOLON. Further such displays of support are likely to increase visibility of and engagement with DIAGOLON, particularly in the online space.

Merchandise and Symbology

There appears to be merchandise and a set of symbology associated with DIAGOLON. The most recognizable symbol is the black flag with a white diagonal stripe (see Figure 1) , which is referred to colloquially as "OI Slashy".⁴⁵

^d The New Blue Party, which opposes vaccine mandates and lockdowns, was officially registered as a political party with Elections Ontario in February 2021.



Another symbol is the DIAGOLON Salute which involves raising one’s arm diagonally either left to right or right to left. Members of the DIAGOLON community appear to use this gesture to greet and show respect for one another. Several photographs online depict individuals posing in the salute position.⁴⁶

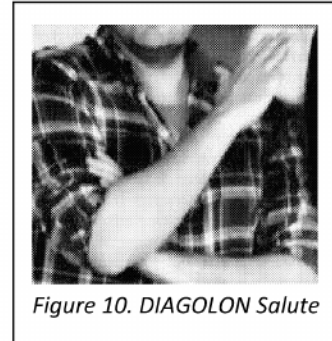


Figure 10. DIAGOLON Salute

In some instances, individuals online have also used the back slash (diagonal lines) to salute and greet MACKENZIE and other members during podcasts.⁴⁷

There is also a DIAGOLON mascot known as “Phillip the Ram”, which appears to be a small goat figurine owned by MACKENZIE. The Ram has been observed and referred to in numerous podcasts. MACKENZIE has used humor, satire and cynicism to explain the Ram and its importance to the DIAGOLON community, including referring to it as the leader of DIAGOLON.⁴⁸

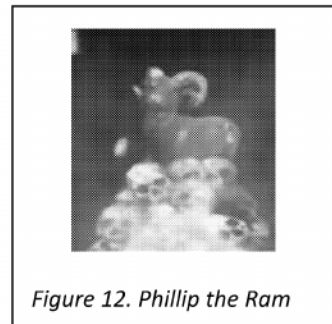


Figure 12. Phillip the Ram

IMCIT assesses that a community mascot can serve to develop and strengthen community cohesiveness by providing a tangible symbol that can be used to signify belonging and identification.

Pepe the Frog^e offers a comparative point of reference. Pepe was appropriated and used as a symbol of satirical, racist, and ethno-nationalist humour in online discussion forums associated with white nationalist, neo-Nazi, and “alternative right” views.

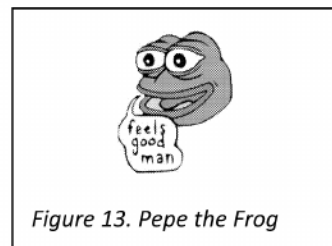


Figure 13. Pepe the Frog

DIAGOLON memes and symbols like the Ram may be used within the community in a similar manner to Pepe; to spread specific ideological views and grievances disguised through ostensibly satire, irony, sarcasm, and humour. This effect is known as irony poisoning,^f whereby individuals become more open to ideas and views expressed through humour because the messages are expressed in a palatable manner that affords plausible deniability.⁴⁹

^e Pepe the Frog is a cartoon character who first appeared in 2005 in the cartoon ‘Boys Club’. He was eventually appropriated as a meme which later became a racist symbol of anti-Semitism depicted as a Nazi himself.

^f Irony Poisoning refers to becoming so enthralled in the culture of ironic humor that what may have once been considered offensive, becomes normalized and internalized.