



Figure 14. *DIAGOLON National Anthem*

DIAGOLON appears to have an anthem, the song “By God We’ll Have Our Home Again”.<sup>50</sup> The song originated from the Mannerbund<sup>g</sup> which is widely considered a nationalist or ethno-nationalist group/concept across Europe;

The Proud Boys have played the song during previous rallies<sup>51</sup> and it was originally chosen as the anthem for the Plaid Army.<sup>h</sup> The song is written from the perspective of a soldier who returns from war only to find that his home has been overtaken by those he was originally fighting.

MACKENZIE has developed DIAGOLON into a financially marketable concept by encouraging followers to purchase merchandise that can denote association. Some of his followers have created several items for purchase including flags, sweatshirts, t-shirts, mugs, keychains, and patches among other paraphernalia, sold on numerous online websites including mainstream Etsy.com.<sup>52</sup>

Items are customizable but, for the most part, are designed with the DIAGOLON emblem. MACKENZIE has encouraged followers to purchase items from the online store, Unpopular Apparel,

53

He has also encouraged customers to openly display this merchandise to facilitate real-world connectivity between community members.

### Shared Phraseology

Individuals associated with the DIAGOLON community have created and adopted a set of phraseology which can be used to identify sympathizers or supporters. This lexicon includes both original terms and

<sup>g</sup> Mannerbund is a German word meaning “male organization”.

<sup>h</sup> Plaid Army has evolved into a community of podcasters and vloggers known for espousing racist and anti-Semitic views.

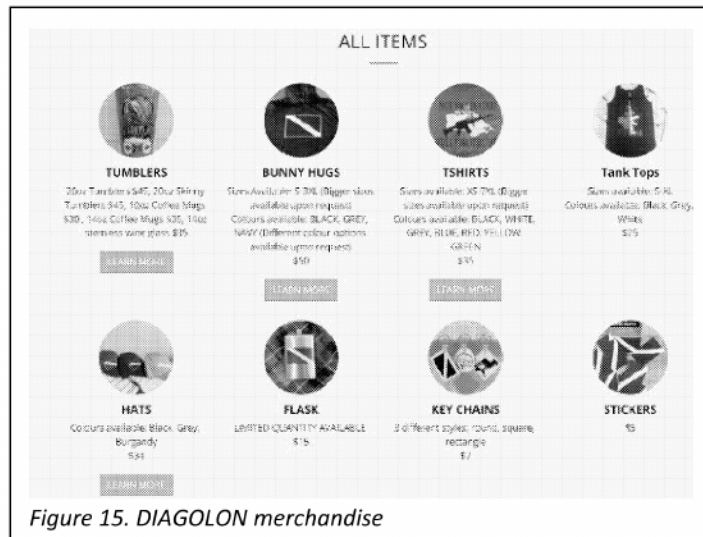


Figure 15. *DIAGOLON merchandise*



references to terminology used in other online communities. In addition to Phillip the Ram, the diagonal line, the salute, and the anthem, the following terms are widely used in the online community:

- The “Beach”: Jeremy MACKENZIE has made numerous comments about the beach or meeting on the beach, which is a reference to D-Day.<sup>54</sup>
- Bigots/Biguettes/Bigettes: Members of the community self-identify as “bigots”, a satirical co-optation of that which they perceive to be accused by mainstream media and others opposed to what DIAGOLON represents (wearing the label like a badge of honour).<sup>55</sup>
- Circulon: This refers to the physical space outside the geographically designated DIAGOLON demarcations. “Circulonians/Circs” denote individuals residing outside the boundaries of DIAGOLON.
- Find Your Friends: MACKENZIE encourages individuals within the DIAGOLON community to “find their friends” in the real world and wear items identifying themselves as DIAGOLON enthusiasts.<sup>56</sup>
- FYMM:<sup>57</sup> This is an acronym for “Fuck You Make Me”, used as a response to the GoC’s vaccination mandates and public health requirements.
- Purebloods:<sup>58</sup> Used to describe members and those who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19.

## CONCLUSION

Based on available open source information, IMCIT assesses that DIAGOLON is an ideological community which meets the majority, but not all, of the CSIS parameters used to define a group.

DIAGOLON appears to be a satirical concept around which likeminded individuals gather in a community – both online and offline – to express ideas and views that would generally fall within the anti-authority ideological milieu. Although DIAGOLON is based on a set of satirical ideas, the community does not appear to have any coherent ideological purpose, objective, or cause. It is



possible that individuals associated with DIAGOLON could form a distinct entity which meets each of the parameters used to define a group, including a shared worldview with more coherent elements.

It appears that DIAGOLON as a distinct entity does not pose a criminal or national security threat at this time, but certain individuals engaging with DIAGOLON have allegedly engaged in serious criminal activity; others could form a distinct entity with criminal or national security threat intent. Lone actors or small associations could be inspired to violence by the DIAGOLON rhetoric.

Given that certain individuals associated to DIAGOLON have engaged in alleged criminal activity, further criminal intelligence analysis of DIAGOLON is warranted from an ideologically motivated criminal perspective.

*Submitted by: Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team*

*Approved by: A/Director General, Federal Policing National Intelligence*

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<sup>4</sup> (U) SMITH, P. 11 Jan 2022. *A Holocaust Denier is Travelling Across Canada Building up the Country's Newest Far-Right-Militia Movement*. *Antihate.ca*.

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  - CCC 464 (a) Counsel An Uncommitted Indictable Offence (Mischief) X2
  - CCC 430 (3) Mischief/Obstruct Property Exceeding \$5000 X1
  - CCC 129 (a) Obstruct/Resist Person Aiding Public/Peace Officer X1
  - CCC 129 (a) Obstruct/Resist A Public Officer X2



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*This special threat advisory 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 15 February 2022, 1000hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.*

## SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY – UPDATE 7 FREEDOM CONVOY 2022: THREAT ENVIRONMENT FACTORS

### KEY POINTS

- The Freedom Convoy continues to force the closure of downtown Ottawa streets. Solidarity actions with international implications arising from convoy demonstrations have occurred at border crossings in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, and Ontario.
- Some observed symbols at convoy protests may be in reference to certain movements involving ideologically motivated violent extremism. While the majority of protestors have denounced violence, the possibility of a lone actor attack cannot be discounted. The seizure of a cache of weapons and ammunition at the Coutts border blockade underscores the potential willingness to use serious violence.
- Logistical support provided by former military and law enforcement to convoy organizers and occupation-style encampments providing material support highlight an increasing level of sophistication and organization among this movement. The assistance of such individuals may inspire ideologically motivated individuals to recruit past or present members of law enforcement or government organizations whose skill sets could be leveraged to circumvent enforcement action.

### INTRODUCTION

The Freedom Convoy 2022 protest continues to disrupt daily life in Ottawa. Ottawa Police have warned protesters of enforcement for illegal activities and have laid 26 criminal charges and issued over 2600 tickets in relation to the convoy demonstrations as of February 13. On February 14, the Prime Minister (PM) invoked the *Emergencies Act* to address ongoing convoy demonstrations across multiple jurisdictions.

This Special Threat Advisory (STA) focuses on threat environment factors observed and detected in relation to convoy demonstrations.

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Federal Policing National Intelligence – Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team (IMCIT)

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## **NATIONWIDE SOLIDARITY ACTIONS**

Nationwide solidarity actions continue. Protest activities affecting Ports of Entry (POE) have occurred in the past week in Surrey (British Columbia), Coutts (Alberta), Emerson (Manitoba), and Windsor (Ontario). Protest activities also occurred near the POEs in Regway (Saskatchewan) and Niagara (Ontario), although protesters did not blockade these particular border crossings. The blockades at international borders are likely attempts at forming national solidarity with convoy protesters in Ottawa, conducted under the perception that affecting critical transportation and economic infrastructure may pressure governments to repeal public health restrictions.

In general terms, shorter-term demonstrations across the country (e.g., those which have lasted a few hours in duration) have been more peaceful in nature. The longer-term demonstrations, such as the protests in Ottawa and at the Coutts and Windsor borders, have become more adversarial and hostile over time.

Dynamic factors continue to cause concern and may be exacerbated with police enforcement.<sup>a</sup> The convoy movement facilitates an ideologically charged environment in which individuals who hold grievances towards public health restrictions may feel this is their one chance to express their frustrations. The movement, given its widespread reach, is attracting individuals who may hold ideologically motivated violent extremist (IMVE) beliefs and may feel emboldened in their views amid the movement's perceived popularity by national and international supporters.

## **SYMBOLISM OBSERVED AT CONVOY DEMONSTRATIONS**

While not all individuals participating in convoy protests adhere to IMVE beliefs, the presence of IMVE adherents has been observed in a few instances, raising the potential for public and/or officer safety concerns. Flags, stickers, and other iconography with ideologically-motivated symbolism have been observed at various convoy demonstrations.

### SYMBOLS OBSERVED

The following section provides contextual information relating to ideologically-charged symbols which have been observed during convoy demonstrations.

#### **DIAGOLON**

DIAGOLON (adjacent to the PLAID ARMY online movement<sup>b</sup>) 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

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<sup>a</sup> Dynamic factors include: the number of people in the crowd, the ongoing circulation of misinformation, exhaustion, substance abuse, potential for altercations amongst counter-protesters and with law enforcement, and the influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers.

<sup>b</sup> The PLAID ARMY is an online content channel whose creator often references DIAGOLON in his podcasts. The PLAID ARMY content has been criticized over racially-charged and violent content in the past.

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<sup>1</sup> often espouse anti-authority and anti-government sentiments, at times in blatant terms referencing violent accelerationism, under the guise of humour.<sup>2</sup> Self-described “bigot” meetups have been promoted on DIAGOLON social media.

Several figures in the DIAGOLON movement have been observed in Ottawa. One figure had previously been arrested in January 2022 for firearms offences<sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>4</sup>



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

The seizure of a cache of weapons and ammunition by RCMP “K” Division at the Coutts blockade on February 14 included a body armour vest adorned with patches of the DIAGOLON flag.<sup>5</sup> (See “WEAPONS”, below.)

### **CANADA FIRST**

CANADA FIRST is a self-described nationalist online content channel inspired by AMERICA FIRST, a network of alt-right U.S.-based personalities who have expressed ethno-nationalist sentiments.<sup>6</sup> The CANADA FIRST flag depicts the letter “C” encircling a white maple leaf and a white letter “F” against a red backdrop. Baseball hats with the words CANADA FIRST in white on red fabric have also been observed at convoy protests.



Figure 2. A CANADA FIRST flag seen at a protest. Source: <https://twitter.com/status/1490045089929965569>

The lead content creator for CANADA FIRST has been criticized for espousing views against immigration and, like DIAGOLON, is known for making offensive and, at times, references to violence under the guise of sarcasm or humour.<sup>7</sup>

One supporter of CANADA FIRST, who is accused of throwing rocks at the Prime Minister during the election campaign in September 2021<sup>8</sup>, has been observed in Ottawa during convoy demonstrations.<sup>9</sup>



### **KINGDOM OF CANADA**

A self-described “Queen” and Head-of-State of the “KINGDOM OF CANADA” has been observed in Ottawa during convoy demonstrations. This individual espouses conspiratorial-based rhetoric denouncing democratically-elected leaders and public health officials as false, and followers are responsible for a nationwide “cease and desist” lettering campaign ordering an end to all COVID-19 protocols.<sup>10</sup>

The self-described “Queen” has made statements in the past referencing using violence to end vaccine mandates and testing.<sup>11</sup> In November of 2021, the leader was detained by RCMP and later released following alleged threats to healthcare workers.<sup>12</sup> One supporter was arrested in December 2021 after threatening to bring a firearm to a school that had announced holding a vaccine clinic for children.<sup>13</sup>



Figure 3. “KINGDOM OF CANADA” flags flown near Parliament Hill. Source: <https://www.hilltimes.com/2022/02/04/that-horn-is-designed-to-be-a-wake-up-call-a-journey-through-the-streets-of-ottawa-during-the-freedom-rally-occupation/342334>

The self-described “Queen” and her supporters have been observed in Ottawa during convoy demonstrations<sup>14</sup> donning purple flags with a white maple leaf overlaid with a gold sword. The presence of this individual at convoy demonstrations may escalate tensions with other protesters, as “KINGDOM OF CANADA” adherents were criticized for burning the Canadian flag at Parliament Hill.

### **THREE PERCENTERS**

In Ottawa, one truck participating in the convoy was found displaying a THREE PERCENTERS (III%) flag.<sup>15</sup> Inspired by the American anti-government and militia movement, chapters of the Three Percenters in Canada espoused anti-immigration and anti-Islam views in the past and were listed as a terrorist entity in Canada in 2021.<sup>16</sup>



Figure 4. American III% flag on a truck in Ottawa. Source: <https://twitter.com/NewPatchMamma/status/1488541557565362183>

No other references to the THREE PERCENTERS have been noted at convoy protests in recent days, however, and the THREE PERCENTERS have not had visible presence in Canada since being listed as a terrorist entity.

## OTHER SYMBOLS OBSERVED DURING THE PROTESTS

Not all protesters carrying ideologically-motivated symbols adhere to specific, identifiable groups. The following flags have been observed in the National Capital Region (NCR) during convoy demonstrations which do not necessarily correlate with alignment to any single ideological group or movement.

### **GADSDEN FLAG**

The Gadsden flag was created by American independence-oriented colonists during the U.S. Revolutionary War. On its own, the flag does not contain references to race and is often used as a symbol for libertarianism. In recent years, the use of the flag by racially and ethno-nationalist groups have associated the flag with white supremacist movements in some contexts.<sup>17</sup> Flags typically depict a snake on a yellow background with the caption “DON’T TREAD ON ME”. Variations of the flag include a black-coloured background and a version with a Canadian goose in place of the snake.



Figure 5. Black Gadsden flag. Source: <https://twitter.com/349475332/status/1487912843>



Figure 6. Yellow Canadian-variant Gadsden flag. Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/canadian-cities-brace-more-anti-vaccine-mandate-protests-2022-02-05/>

### CONFEDERATE FLAG

The Confederate flag was flown by Confederate states and its military during the American Civil War as a battle flag. As the Southern Confederate states were motivated to keep the institution of slavery, the modern use of the Confederate flag has been associated as idealizing rebellious spirit or rural heritage in some contexts, or as a symbol of slavery and white supremacy in other contexts.<sup>18</sup>

The Confederate flag has been observed during convoy demonstrations in Ottawa.

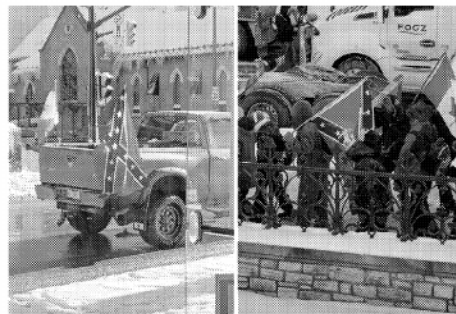


Figure 7. Confederate flags observed in Ottawa. Source: <https://pressprogress.ca/anti-vax-convoy-leader-says-he-welcomes-protesters-displaying-confederate-flags-in-ottawa/>

## NAZI SYMBOLISM

The use of the swastika was adopted by the German Nazi party to represent its fascist regime centering on ethnic cleansing. Its modern use in Western countries is nearly universally regarded as a symbol of hate. The image to the right depicts its use during a convoy demonstration in Ottawa.



Figure 8. Swastika observed in Ottawa. Source: <https://twitter.com/jaybaltz/status/1487520707445764112>

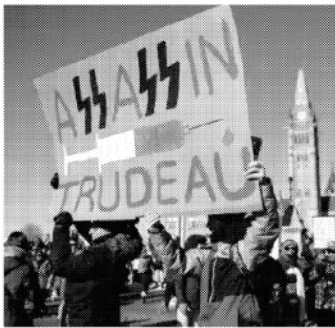


Figure 9. SS Bolts observed in Ottawa. Source: <https://theconversation.com/freedom-convoy-rolls-through-ottawa-encouraging-the-participation-of-canadas-far-right-175902>

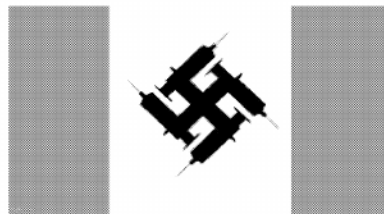


Figure 10. Syringe swastika on Canadian flag. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/HuntersForAFreeCanada/>



Figure 11. Star of David used by a self-described unvaccinated individual. Source: [https://www.reddit.com/r/ontario/comments/srnh62/im\\_ashamed\\_that\\_this\\_is\\_coming\\_out\\_of\\_my\\_country/](https://www.reddit.com/r/ontario/comments/srnh62/im_ashamed_that_this_is_coming_out_of_my_country/)

The movement, given its perceived support by national and international supporters, may be emboldening certain individuals to visibility express their ideologically motivated beliefs.

## **CONVOY FINANCING**

Convoy financial support has likely strengthened demonstrators resolve, despite recent developments with fundraising sites.

Media reporting on Monday and Tuesday indicated that the crowdfunding website GiveSendGo, which hosted a Freedom Convoy financing effort, was the subject of a cyber attack in which the donors' personal information was obtained and subsequently leaked<sup>19</sup>. The released data accounts for 92,844 donations for the period of 2-10 February, totalling \$8,421,806<sup>20</sup>.

Through the media's analysis of names, postal codes and email addresses associated with each donation, open source reporting identified 51,666 donators as originating from the U.S. (56% of the total), while 36,202 were from Canada (39%)<sup>21</sup>. Canadians donated more money, however, accounting for over 50% of donations, or \$4.3 million. American donators collectively gave \$3.6 million dollars, or 43% of the collected sum<sup>22</sup>. Other donations came from jurisdictions such as the United Kingdom, Australia, and Ireland<sup>23</sup>.

The majority of donations were for amounts lower than \$100 (81,402 donations, or 88% overall), however donations over \$100 account for more than half of the funds collected, while the top 1% of donors contributed over 20% of the total funds<sup>24</sup>. The largest donation was \$215,000 USD, but was anonymous in nature and could not be traced to a specific country. The second largest donation was of \$90,000 USD and is associated with an American billionaire who owns an artificial intelligence company<sup>25</sup>. A Canadian businessman from New Brunswick was responsible for a \$75,000 donation<sup>26</sup>. Some email addresses in the list of donations are associated with employees of several U.S. government agencies, including the Department of Justice, NASA, the military, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and the Transport Security Administration<sup>27</sup>.

Media reports indicate that 1500 comments associated with the donations directly named Prime Minister Justin TRUDEAU, but do not specify whether any could be construed as threats<sup>28</sup>. While most of the comments that accompanied the donations were innocuous, some referred to Donald TRUMP or the QAnon conspiracy, while others were violent or threatening<sup>29</sup> (e.g.: "I look forward to the day you tyrants are swinging from a noose"; "Cabal piglets are corrupt criminals who need severe punishment under law"; "Death to all liberal traitors" as examples<sup>30</sup>.)

The government on Monday announced measures under the *Emergencies Act* that would apply to crowdfunding sites like GiveSendGo<sup>31</sup>. Under the new rules, these sites would have to register with the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre (FINTRAC) and report large and suspicious transactions. The rule would also apply to transactions using digital assets, like crypto currencies. Under the emergency rules, the government could also order financial institutions to freeze bank accounts that are linked to the protest<sup>32</sup>.

At the time of this writing, the RCMP has received three related FINTRAC disclosures which are now under investigation.

## POTENTIAL USE OF WEAPONS

On February 14, RCMP "K" Division in Alberta (AB) announced a seizure of a number of firearms and ammunition from convoy vehicles at the Coutts blockade, referencing that some protesters displayed willingness to use force against police should enforcement of the blockade occur.<sup>33</sup> One body armour vest seized during the investigation<sup>34</sup> included patches signifying adherence to the DIAGOLON movement, which has prior histories of referencing the use of violence in order to oppose what they perceive as government overreach. The RCMP continues to investigate.



Figure 22. Body armour with DIAGOLON patches seized at the Coutts blockade. Source: <https://www.rcmp-arc.gc.ca/en/news/2022/alberta-rcmp-make-arrests-coutts-border-blockade>

## CONVOY LOGISTICAL STATIONS

Several logistical stations have been set up by convoy supporters in the NCR to provide material support to demonstrators. Encampments have been observed to include indicators for long-term occupations such as the use of portable toilets, food supplies and preparation, and fuel stockpiles. One encampment on Bronson Avenue was dismantled by police on the weekend.<sup>35</sup>



Figure 13. Encampment at Coventry Road. Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZPv5FKr-OPU>

The presence of an encampment doubling as a supply station at 302 Coventry Road (above) for convoy demonstrators in the NCR has been reported in news media and open sources. Specific activities of imminent concern or threats against law enforcement have not been observed in open sources. Photos and narratives of the activities at the Coventry encampment depict it as a staging ground for the convoy with multiple tent structures, well-stocked food preparation areas, stockpiles of fuel, and regularly-serviced portable toilets.<sup>36</sup>

Based on social media posts, children appear to be intermittently present at the camp, which may pose additional operational enforcement challenges.<sup>37</sup> Over the past week, counter-protesters have attempted to obstruct Coventry Road and surrounding roads to prevent convoy vehicles from moving to downtown Ottawa<sup>38</sup>, which raises potential for escalating public safety concerns.

NCR convoy organizers may also be using the ARC Hotel at 140 Slater Street as a “war room”.<sup>39</sup> Another protest camp (“Commander Center 2”) was established at a private farm field in Embrun ON, approximately 30 minutes’ drive from Ottawa and is managed by a volunteer group and the “Adopt-A-Trucker” support campaign.<sup>40</sup> Logistical support provided by former military and law enforcement to convoy organizers and occupation-style encampments providing material support highlight an increasing level of sophistication and organization among the movement.

## POTENTIAL INSIDER THREAT CONCERNS

For several months, IMCIT has been aware of several high profile websites opposing vaccine mandates and public health restrictions that appear to attract serving and former military and law enforcement individuals. As a result, narratives questioning the loyalty and authority of police have been circulating

on social media surrounding convoy demonstrations in recent days. Claims from individuals with law enforcement and military backgrounds equating vaccine mandates and related restrictions to government authoritarianism have lent perceptions of legitimacy to the overall anti-public health movement which holds similar grievances. Comments supporting convoy demonstrations from specific individuals with professional backgrounds in sensitive law enforcement and military roles are likely to generate perceptions that enforcement personnel are fragmented over vaccine mandates and may raise criticisms from convoy demonstrators over the legitimate authority of police.

Some individuals, referencing that they have former law enforcement or military experience, appear to be providing direct logistical support to convoy demonstrations and may be leveraging their formal training and tactical experience to guide the movement's next steps. The assistance of such individuals supporting the demonstrations underscores the possibility for insider threats, as it may inspire ideologically motivated individuals to recruit past or present members of law enforcement or government organizations whose skill sets could be leveraged to circumvent enforcement action.

Whether real or perceived, key convoy figures have suggested that "sources inside the police infrastructure" are providing convoy supporters with updates about law enforcement strategies. A screenshot of an internal email from the Ottawa Public Transit Service asking for work availabilities to transport Ottawa Police resources the following week was posted to Twitter on February 7, which may indicate potential information breaches occurring from within city services.

The IMCIT is also aware of daily "intelligence reports" produced by convoy organizers, uploaded to a public-accessible online shared drive. The content of such reports have, at this time, offered minimal information of value, consisting primarily of weather forecasts, publicly-available news reporting about convoy events, and general commentary in support of the convoy movement. The online shared drive where these reports are uploaded are associated to a convoy organizer who identifies as a former RCMP employee and military intelligence officer with a professional background in national security, which further underscores the capability of skilled individuals within the movement to conduct counter-intelligence in anticipation of upcoming enforcement strategies.

The IMCIT is liaising 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*

<sup>1</sup> Instagram: @diagolonneverdies, @ragingdissident2, @ferrymans\_toll; ragingdissident.com

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AtiIUVU17rk> ; Odysee.com/@EastCoastCanadian:6/boog-to-the-future-the-plaid-army-movie:d

<sup>3</sup> <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

<sup>4</sup>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/news/2022/alberta-rcmp-make-arrests-coutts-border-blockade>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.adl.org/resources/backgrounders/groyper-army-and-america-first>

<sup>7</sup> Twitter: @CanadaFirstt; Instagram: @tylerlRussell

- <sup>8</sup> <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/former-ppc-staffer-accused-of-throwing-gravel-at-justin-trudeau-makes-brief-court-appearance-1.6201968>
- <sup>9</sup> Instagram @\_sons.of.liberty, [https://www.instagram.com/p/CZaN8\\_7jt1S/](https://www.instagram.com/p/CZaN8_7jt1S/)
- <sup>10</sup> <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/completely-false-anti-vaccine-cease-and-desist-order-prompts-complaints-to-police-1.6088212>
- <sup>11</sup> <https://vancouver.sun.com/news/daphne-bramham-the-absurd-and-disturbing-tragedy-of-romana-didulo>
- <sup>12</sup> <https://globalnews.ca/news/8417379/queen-of-canada-covid-online-threats/>
- <sup>13</sup> <https://www.insider.com/qanon-queen-of-canada-fan-arrested-school-threat-police-said-2021-12>
- <sup>14</sup> <https://www.hilltimes.com/2022/02/04/that-horn-is-designed-to-be-a-wake-up-call-a-journey-through-the-streets-of-ottawa-during-the-freedom-rally-occupation/342334>
- <sup>15</sup> <https://twitter.com/NewPatchMomma/status/1488541557565362183>
- <sup>16</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2021/06/25/canada-three-percenter-terrorist-entity/>
- <sup>17</sup> <https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/the-shifting-symbolism-of-the-gadsden-flag>
- <sup>18</sup> <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/how-confederate-battle-flag-became-symbol-racism>
- <sup>19</sup> Reuters. “Names of Canada truck convoy donors leaked after reported hack”. February 14 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/leak-site-says-it-has-been-given-list-canada-truck-convoy-donors-after-reported-2022-02-14/>
- <sup>20</sup> Cardoso, Tom. “Convoy organizers have raised nearly \$10-million, leaked data show”. *The Globe and Mail*. February 15 2022. A3.
- <sup>21</sup> Idem
- <sup>22</sup> Idem
- <sup>23</sup> Gilbert, David. “Hackers Just Leaked the Names of 92,000 ‘Freedom Convoy’ Donors”. *Vice News*. February 14 2022. <https://www.vice.com/en/article/k7wpax/freedom-convoy-givesendgo-donors-leaked>
- <sup>24</sup> Cardoso, Tom. “Convoy organizers have raised nearly \$10-million, leaked data show”. *The Globe and Mail*. February 15 2022. A3.
- <sup>25</sup> McIntire, Mike; Michael H. Keller. “Leaked Data Shows Donors to Truckers’ Cause, With Canadians in the Lead”. *The New York Times*. February 15 2022. A8.
- <sup>26</sup> Idem
- <sup>27</sup> Gilbert, David. “Hackers Just Leaked the Names of 92,000 ‘Freedom Convoy’ Donors”. *Vice News*. February 14 2022. <https://www.vice.com/en/article/k7wpax/freedom-convoy-givesendgo-donors-leaked>
- <sup>28</sup> Cardoso, Tom. “Convoy organizers have raised nearly \$10-million, leaked data show”. *The Globe and Mail*. February 15 2022. A3.
- <sup>29</sup> McIntire, Mike; Michael H. Keller. “Leaked Data Shows Donors to Truckers’ Cause, With Canadians in the Lead”. *The New York Times*. February 15 2022. A8.
- <sup>30</sup> Gilbert, David. “Hackers Just Leaked the Names of 92,000 ‘Freedom Convoy’ Donors”. *Vice News*. February 14 2022. <https://www.vice.com/en/article/k7wpax/freedom-convoy-givesendgo-donors-leaked>
- <sup>31</sup> Chanthadavong, Aimee. “Canada includes crypto and crowdfunding under laundering and terrorism finance laws”. *Zdnet.com*. February 14 2022. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/canada-expands-terrorism-financing-laws-to-include-crypto-and-crowdfunding/>
- <sup>32</sup> BBC. “Trudeau vows to freeze anti-mandate protesters’ bank accounts”. February 14 2022. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-60383385>
- <sup>33</sup> <https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/mounties-arrest-11-armed-militant-protesters-at-coutts-blockade>
- <sup>34</sup> <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/news/2022/alberta-rcmp-make-arrests-coutts-border-blockade>
- <sup>35</sup> <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/covid-19-counter-protest-trucker-protest-1.6349936>
- <sup>36</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vTk1jXQKuhA;>  
[https://facebook.com/photo?fbid=10158413635650776&set=pcb\\_10158413645015776](https://facebook.com/photo?fbid=10158413635650776&set=pcb_10158413645015776)
- <sup>37</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yylo9DmSldQ>
- <sup>38</sup> <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/covid-19-counter-protest-trucker-protest-1.6349936>
- <sup>39</sup> <https://twitter.com/IntelWalrus/status/1490351450681229313>
- <sup>40</sup> <https://twitter.com/kittiecutie/status/1492951539928948745>



*This special threat advisory is intended to provide situational awareness of threats to public order, public safety, and the security of public officials arising from the Rolling Thunder Ottawa event (information current as of 25 April 2022, 1130hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.*

## SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY

### ROLLING THUNDER OTTAWA/BIKER CONVOY – 29 APRIL TO 1 MAY 2022

#### KEY POINTS

- The Rolling Thunder Ottawa (“biker convoy”) event has circulated predominantly within anti-public health order networks that include anti-government and anti-authority sentiment. The event will attract individuals who have been active in the anti-public health order movement and that may hold a variety of other grievances.
- The RCMP and Police of Jurisdiction maintain visibility on evolving events, but reliable estimates on the number of bikers, vehicles, and people arriving in Ottawa on 29 April are difficult to obtain at this time.
- No solidarity events specific to the biker convoy have been observed. Weekly protests that reference anti-government sentiment regarding Liberal leadership, perceived government overreach, and freedom from all medical mandates and emergency orders continue throughout Canada.
- No formalized plots of violence related to this event have been identified at this time. The IMCIT remains vigilant to changes in the threat environment for this event and continues to maintain visibility on evolving anti-government and anti-authority grievances being discussed within ideologically motivated networks.

#### BACKGROUND

The event entitled “Rolling Thunder Ottawa” (hereafter referred to as the “biker convoy”) is planned to take place in Ottawa from 29 April until 1 May, 2022. Out of province attendance is expected. The specific purpose of the event is unclear, as some individuals and networks indicate that it is not a demonstration but rather an event to honour veterans, while others are promoting the event as another Freedom Convoy. Regardless, the event has predominantly circulated within anti-public health order networks that include anti-government and anti-authority sentiment.

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Federal Policing National Intelligence – Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team (IMCIT)

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## CURRENT STATUS

### Attendance

The biker convoy will likely see participation from people outside of Ontario. A Facebook page has been created to advertise the event.<sup>1</sup>

The event is anticipated to attract individuals who have been active in the anti-public health order movement and who hold a variety of grievances. The IMCIT assesses that ideologically motivated individuals will be present.<sup>a</sup> The presence of ideologically motivated individuals does not necessarily mean that ideologically motivated criminality or violence will occur. The primary grievances observed online have been anti-authority and anti-government in nature, largely rooted in opposition of public health measures from the past two years and enforcement action taken as a result of Freedom Convoy 2022, specifically those which occurred in Ottawa. (See IMCIT STA 2022-10 – 2022-02-23 for more information).

### Scope and Scale

Although this event is receiving national attention and participation from outside Ontario is expected, it has not generated the level of online attention, nation-wide coordination, financial support or disruptive intent that was observed with the Freedom Convoy in Ottawa. At this time, information about the event continues to evolve and it is difficult to estimate attendance.<sup>b</sup>

### Intent Once in Ottawa

There is limited detailed information regarding planned activities from 29 April to 1 May. Thus far, planned activities associated to the biker convoy include events at Parliament Hill, St. Laurent Shopping Centre, the National War Memorial and the Capital City Bikers' Church (see screenshot on page 3).<sup>2</sup> The potential for impromptu protests, organized with little or no social media advertising beforehand, exists due to the ability to mobilize people on short notice.

An Ottawa Police media release on 25 April indicated that there will be vehicle exclusion zones where "no motor vehicle protests, rallies or events will be allowed in the designated downtown core areas."<sup>3</sup> It is unknown how this recent news release will impact the planned activities scheduled at various Ottawa locations.

Prior to the media release, a video posted online by a vocal organizer, who claims to have been in contact with law enforcement, indicated that he received information from the City of Ottawa advising

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<sup>a</sup> In this context, "ideologically motivated" represents individuals or networks known to law enforcement before the Freedom Convoy 2022 event or identified by their online presence espousing racially motivated, ethno-nationalist, anti-government or anti-authority grievances. This also includes individuals who had previously attended events throughout Canada where the aforementioned grievances were expressed.

<sup>b</sup> As an example, Calgary Police have advised that no vehicles were observed at the Calgary meet-up event which had been previously advertised online. It is possible inclement weather may also affect schedules or routes originally posted online.

that vehicles would be blocked from entering downtown.<sup>4</sup> The video has received circulation within the same networks promoting the event, exacerbating negative sentiments and reinforcing a perception of government tyranny and control trying to place limits on personal freedoms. No visibility about other potential leaders (should they exist) is known at this time.

Nationally, solidarity protests in other Canadian cities related to the Ottawa-specific event have not been identified. Since April of 2020, however, weekly protests opposed to public health orders have taken place throughout Canada. As public health measures have largely eased nationally, a variety of themes that include anti-government sentiment aimed at Liberal leadership, perceived government overreach, and freedom from all medical mandates and emergency orders throughout Canada are fueling arguments in favour of these weekly protests, which will likely occur for the foreseeable future.

### General Threats

No plots of violence have been observed at the time of writing. An anti-public health order influencer, who has espoused various ideologically motivated grievances and has a large online following, posted information suggesting that he would be in attendance at the event in Ottawa.<sup>5</sup> An individual associated with Diagonon has also reposted content about the event. At this time, however, no information has been observed indicating their intention to attend.<sup>6</sup>

Currently, no organized counter-protest has been identified. Chatter online has nonetheless referenced the potential for counter-demonstrations.<sup>7</sup> As a result of the disruption caused by the Freedom Convoy, the IMCIT has observed a heightened awareness of Ottawa protests promoted by anti-public health order networks and discussion opposing Rolling Thunder Ottawa has circulated on social media since the initial planning of the event.

The IMCIT is liaising with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on this event 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*

The image is a promotional poster for the Ottawa Freedom Weekend. On the left, the words 'OTTAWA FREEDOM WEEKEND' are written vertically in large, bold, white letters. The right side of the poster features an 'Event Schedule' with the following details:

- APRIL 29**
  - PARLIAMENT HILL**
  - 6:00 PM Rally and march followed by an after party
- APRIL 30**
  - ROLLING THUNDER & FREEDOM FIGHTERS CANADA**
  - 9:00 AM Bikers muster at St Laurent shopping centre
  - 10:00 AM V4F service at the war memorial
  - 11:00 AM Bikes roll out to the war memorial
  - 12:00 PM Bikes leave on routes outside the city
  - 2:00 PM Rally and march at Parliament Hill with special guest speaker: Chris Sky
  - 6:00 PM Bike show TRA
- MAY 1st**
  - BIKERS CHURCH SERVICE**
  - 10:30 AM Capital City Bikers Church, 155 Carillon St, Vanier

At the bottom of the schedule, there are three logos: 'LIFE BEYOND THE SHIELD', 'FREEDOM FIGHTERS CANADA', and 'V4F Veterans for Freedom'. The date 'April 29th - May 1st' is displayed at the bottom of the poster.

Source: <https://rollingthunderottawa.com/schedule>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/272853018255142>,  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1072294070014696/>,  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/752742192776673/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://rollingthunderottawa.com/schedule>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ottawapolice.ca/Modules/News/index.aspx?newsId=3d180865-14b0-4e4f-983d-91ba40a3152c>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=502480674798406>

<sup>5</sup>

<sup>6</sup>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1034437367286627/posts/1076681626395534/>



*This special threat advisory is intended to provide situational awareness of threats to public order, public safety, and the security of public officials arising from the Rolling Thunder Ottawa event (information current as of 29 April 2022, 0900hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.*

## SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY – UPDATE 1 ROLLING THUNDER OTTAWA/BIKER CONVOY – 29 APRIL TO 1 MAY

### KEY POINTS

- At this time, IMCIT is not aware of any formalized plots of violence related to this event, although counter-protests have been planned for 29 and 30 April. Within networks that self-identify as anti-facist (antifa), IMCIT has observed narratives encouraging individuals to tamper with motorcycles and throw various materials at Rolling Thunder participants.
- The Rolling Thunder Ottawa event is attracting individuals who have been active in the anti-public health order movement and hold a variety of anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial grievances.
- RCMP Divisional Criminal Analysis Sections (DCAS) are maintaining visibility on out-of-province participation. Police of Jurisdiction are responsible for maintaining visibility on evolving public order events within Ontario. To date, Divisions have reported minimal Ottawa-bound convoy activity in their jurisdictions.
- No solidarity events specific to the Rolling Thunder Ottawa event have been observed throughout Canada. Weekly protests that reference anti-government sentiment, however, continue throughout Canada.

### BACKGROUND

The event entitled “Rolling Thunder Ottawa” (“biker convoy”) is planned to take place in Ottawa from 29 April until 1 May, 2022. Individuals from out-of-province are expected to attend. Based on current open source information, ideologically motivated individuals will attend the event, including individuals who have been active in the anti-public health order movement and who hold a variety of anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial grievances.

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## CURRENT STATUS

Very little activity has been observed at the meet-up locations across Canada (see Scope and Scale section below)<sup>a</sup>. Significant financial support for this event has not been identified. In addition, IMCIT has not observed indications of preparations for a long-term stay exceeding 1 May. At this point, IMCIT assesses that popular social media accounts falling to the left of the traditional ideological spectrum and news media reporting are giving the event equal or more attention online than the actual Rolling Thunder Ottawa supporters.

Open source information suggests that ideologically motivated individuals will be present at this event.<sup>b</sup> The presence of ideologically motivated individuals does not necessarily mean ideologically motivated criminality or violence will occur. Since the majority of public health restrictions have been eased nationally, this event is unlikely to attract casual attendance from individuals with grievances solely associated to public health restrictions. During April of 2022, travel restrictions for unvaccinated Canadians, employment vaccine mandates, perceived discrimination of the unvaccinated, and fear that public health measures could be reinstated have been prevalent themes circulating anti-public health order networks.

## Scope and Scale

The following information has been provided to IMCIT from RCMP DCAS and law enforcement partners:

- Calgary Police Service advised that they observed no vehicles at the advertised Rolling Thunder meet-up location.<sup>1</sup>
- The Ontario Provincial Police has advised that a social media account posted an image of an out-of-province license plate attached to a passenger vehicle indicating the vehicle was in Manitoba and heading toward Ontario for the Rolling Thunder event. A small convoy of vehicles was also observed via open source at an undisclosed campground west of Ottawa consisting of one RV (possibly from Alberta), one car, and one truck, with indications of travelling to participate in the Rolling Thunder Ottawa events.<sup>2</sup>
- RCMP D Division (Manitoba) has not located any online postings to suggest that a convoy has left Saskatchewan, passed through, or stopped in Manitoba, and advised there has been minimal online activity.<sup>3</sup>
- RCMP B Division (Newfoundland and Labrador) advised that there have been no gatherings of any kind or visible signs or demonstration of support. No motorcycles were present. Marine

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<sup>a</sup> A significant portion of social media during the 2022 Freedom Convoy involved visual promotion of vehicles on their way to Ottawa which was, in part, responsible for an increase in momentum of the event in general.

<sup>b</sup> In this context, “ideologically motivated” represents individuals or networks known to law enforcement before the 2022 Freedom Convoy event or identified by their online presence espousing racially motivated, ethno-nationalist, conspiratorial, anti-government or anti-authority grievances. This also includes individuals who had previously attended events throughout Canada where the aforementioned grievances were expressed.

Atlantic Security also advised that there were no incidents or indication of a gathering or convoy.<sup>4</sup>

- RCMP L Division (PEI) has advised that they have not identified any individuals planning on attending "Rolling Thunder to Ottawa 2022". A law enforcement awareness bulletin was distributed seeking any information or intelligence, which generated no leads.<sup>5</sup>
- RCMP H Division (Nova Scotia) advised that officers attending the "Rolling Thunder" rallying point in Debert, NS observed two vehicles and two motorcycles leaving at the designated time.<sup>6</sup>
- RCMP J Division (New Brunswick) reported four participants in Moncton (first rallying point) - two bikes and two cars, however no one at the second rallying point. Due to operational priorities, the third rallying point could not be observed, however, J Div assessed limited to no participation due to weather.<sup>7</sup>
- RCMP C Division (Quebec) has been providing updates to IMCIT. They are in communication with the provincial POJ and will pass along information on meet-up locations as it becomes available to them.<sup>8</sup>

Based on the information received above and little social media activity identified that indicates national participation, it is anticipated that the majority of participation in the Rolling Thunder Ottawa event will be from within Ontario and Quebec due to the relative proximity to Ottawa.

### General Threats

No plots of violence have been observed at the time of writing. A past video (unrelated to Rolling Thunder) is circulating online where one of the main organizers of Rolling Thunder is allegedly pictured discussing cease and desist orders in relation to public health measures. In the video, the individual used rhetoric related to the Nuremberg trials<sup>c</sup> and crimes against humanity stating, "if you are convicted of crimes against humanity there is only one sentence and that is a death sentence."<sup>9</sup>

Based on recent social media posts, it appears that an individual associated with Diagonol may be traveling to Ottawa.<sup>10</sup> In the past, this individual has been arrested on firearms charges<sup>11</sup> and more recently charged with criminal harassment, mischief, harassing phone calls and intimidation of a health professional related to protests outside the home of Nova Scotia's Chief Medical Officer.<sup>12</sup>

Opposition to Rolling Thunder Ottawa has been identified online. Open source information suggests that community groups have had private meetings to discuss the event, which may have resulted in counter-demonstration planning.<sup>13</sup> Counter-protests have been planned for 29<sup>14</sup> and 30 April<sup>15</sup>, and social media accounts that have historically monitored ideologically motivated individuals and groups are believed to have a presence in closed or private social media networks associated to Rolling Thunder Ottawa. As

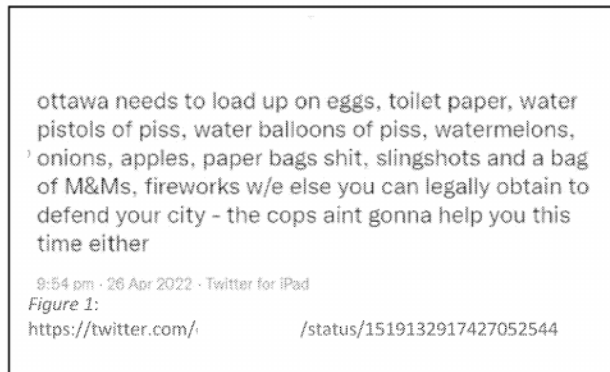
---

<sup>c</sup> Opposition to COVID public health rules have included narratives that public health officials are engaged in crimes against humanity, with advocacy for the punishment of public officials in "Nuremberg Trials 2.0" to rectify these perceived injustices. (See IMCIT NTL #2021-07 -- 2021-12-23)

such, it is likely that impromptu counter-protests at Rolling Thunder event locations may occur with little or no social media visibility ahead of time.

Due to the highly publicized disruptive nature of the Freedom Convoy, Rolling Thunder Ottawa has been met with significant media coverage. Open source information suggests that any of the publicly listed locations (see IMCIT - STA 2022-13 - for locations) that have circulated will potentially be met with opposition.

In addition to counter-protests, a self-described “antifa” social media account posted information about how to cut fuel lines, ignition and brakes on motorcycles.<sup>16</sup> IMCIT has also observed online chatter encouraging those in opposition of Rolling Thunder to use eggs and fireworks, among other materials, to disrupt the bikers (see Figure 1).<sup>17</sup> At this time, posts of this nature appear to be limited, but there is potential for altercations between protesters and counter-protesters due to the highly publicized nature of the event, fear of another long-term occupation of the city, and a perceived lack of police response to the Freedom Convoy.



## National Outlook

Nationally, solidarity protests in other Canadian cities related to this convoy event have not been observed at the time of this writing. It is noteworthy, however, to point out that “biker” type advertisements for upcoming future protests have been identified, which could be drawing inspiration from this event or could simply be due to an increase in more favourable weather.

Though no specific solidarity actions have been observed, there will be protests nationally with similar grievances that take place during the dates of Rolling Thunder Ottawa. These events are part of the regular, weekly anti-public health order protests held throughout Canada since April of 2020.

IMCIT is liaising with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on this event 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*

<sup>1</sup> Email from Calgary Police Counter-Terrorism & Extremism/Security Operations Unit dated 2022-04-25.

<sup>2</sup> 2022-04-27 HENDON 068-22 - SIT REP - Rolling Thunder Ottawa - Update 1

<sup>3</sup> Email from D Division DCAS dated 2022-04-28.

<sup>4</sup> Email from B Division dated 2022-04-28.

<sup>5</sup> Email from L Division DCAS dated 2022-04-28.

<sup>6</sup> Email from H Division Criminal Intelligence Service Nova Scotia (CISNS) dated 2022-04-28.

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<sup>7</sup> Email from J Division DCAS dated 2022-04-29.

<sup>8</sup> Email from C Division DCAS dated 2022-04-29

<sup>9</sup> <https://twitter.com/status/1519318307144445953>

<sup>10</sup>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/news/2022/rcmp-arrest-man-firearms-offences>

<sup>12</sup> <https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/leader-of-far-right-group-woman-charged-in-anti-mask-protests-outside-n-s-top-doctor-s-home-1.5830948>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10166239317955634&set=gm.1079093229487707>

<sup>14</sup> [https://www.facebook.com/groups/1034437367286627/posts/1079093229487707/?comment\\_id=1079616479435382&reply\\_comment\\_id=1079770166086680](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1034437367286627/posts/1079093229487707/?comment_id=1079616479435382&reply_comment_id=1079770166086680)

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7089607199768595717>?is\_copy\_url=1&is\_from\_webapp=v1

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/stories/antifaottawa/2825152434659944740/> ;

<https://www.instagram.com/stories/antifaottawa/2825153933519820209/>

<sup>17</sup> <https://twitter.com/status/1519132917427052544>





*This Special Threat Advisory is intended to provide situational awareness of potential threats to public order and public safety arising from Canada Day events in Ottawa and across the country (information current as of 22 June 2022). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threat issues and will provide updates as required.*

## SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY CANADA DAY 2022 - OUTLOOK

### KEY POINTS

- Canada Day celebrations in Ottawa will be met with protest by individuals with anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial grievances which have evolved out of opposition to public health measures. Overall hostility in online rhetoric has decreased in recent months, however, and no mass protests across Canada have been identified by the Divisions, law enforcement partners or via open source queries.
- No formal organized plot of violence for Canada Day in-person celebrations in Ottawa has been identified at the time of this writing. Altercations between potential counter-protesters, law enforcement or the public are possible and could impact the temperature of crowds and the potential for violence by a lone actor.
- The majority of those taking part in Canada Day protests in Ottawa will likely stem from within Ontario. Open source information suggests that a small number of individuals from out-of-province will be traveling to Ottawa to participate in various public order or networking events within the National Capital Region associated to the self-described “freedom” movement.
- The Veterans 4 Freedom organization has posted open source information suggesting plans to stay near Ottawa for the duration of the summer which could result in future impromptu, sporadic public order activities and/or calls for nation-wide solidarity actions.

### BACKGROUND

In many Canadian provinces, in-person Canada Day celebrations will be held for the first time since 2019 due to the end of public health gathering limits and the improved state of the pandemic. While casual support from individuals involved in protests related to the anti-public health order movement has dropped significantly due to the easing of restrictions, a contingent of individuals involved in the self-

Page 1 of 6

Federal Policing National Intelligence – Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team (IMCIT)

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described “freedom” movement<sup>a</sup> remain active and will be involved in protests related to Canada Day. This includes individuals who espouse anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial grievances specifically aimed at the Liberal government.

Due to the symbolic nature of the National Capital Region (NCR), and an event planned for 30 June 2022 in Ottawa involving a veteran marching across Canada in protest of various federal mandates, it is anticipated that Canada Day events in Ottawa will include some level of national participation.

## NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

### Current Status

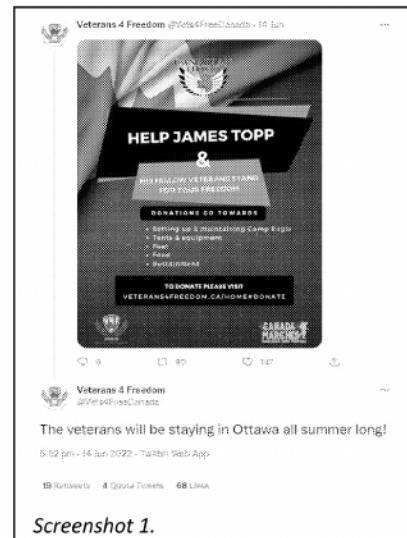
Various Canada Day protests have been planned for Ottawa by individuals who hold a variety of anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial grievances which evolved out of the anti-public health order movement. The IMCIT assesses that ideologically motivated individuals will be present in Ottawa for Canada Day. The presence of ideologically motivated individuals does not necessarily mean that ideologically motivated criminality or violence will occur.

Currently, the majority of participants for protests in Ottawa will likely stem from within Ontario. While there has been no significant, unified out-of-province participation identified at this time, open source information suggests that a small number of individuals will be traveling to Ottawa to participate in various public order activities<sup>1</sup> or networking events within the NCR. This includes the potential for prolonged camping events hosted by individuals associated within the self-described “freedom” movement, who have likely networked online or met in person during the Freedom Convoy 2022.

A veteran<sup>2</sup> who has been walking from Vancouver to Ottawa<sup>3</sup> is currently the focus of online discussions on social media previously dedicated to anti-public health order narratives. He has received widespread support within these networks, with receptions and rallies held throughout Canada as he has passed through various cities.

The veteran is scheduled to arrive in Ottawa on 30 June where he will be met with a reception from the organization Veterans 4 Freedom (V4F)<sup>4</sup> at 53 Elgin Street in Ottawa.<sup>5</sup> V4F leadership consists of some individuals who were prominent figures in the Freedom Convoy that disrupted Ottawa during January and February of 2022.

At the time of this writing, no substantial national fundraising efforts solely geared towards Canada Day in Ottawa have been



Screenshot 1.

<sup>a</sup> The self-described “freedom” movement includes individuals and networks previously involved with opposing public health measures implemented due to COVID-19. In light of provinces easing restrictions, these networks have evolved to focus more directly on ideologically motivated grievances that are anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial in nature.

identified. A post made on 14 June 2022 by V4F, however, shows a request for donations and the intent to stay in Ottawa “all summer long”<sup>6</sup> (see screenshot 1). Financial contributions, accepted through email money transfer, PayPal, or by credit card through the Veterans 4 Freedom website<sup>7</sup> may support preparations for a long-term stay.

A long-term stay in close proximity to Ottawa could increase the potential for impromptu protests to be planned throughout the summer by individuals with anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial grievances. Some individuals associated with V4F were previously members of the military and law enforcement, which increases the possibility that sophisticated logistics and operational security could be employed.

Following the Freedom Convoy, IMCIT observed the increased use of closed online groups on mainstream platforms as well as some transitioning towards lesser known encrypted messaging apps. This limits open source visibility and affects public reporting of concerning content.

### **Potential Threat Factors**

No formal organized plot of violence for in-person Canada Day celebrations in Ottawa has been identified at the time of this writing. There are a number of factors, however, which could impact the situation as protest activities occur, such as:

- The size of the crowds at any of the designated Canada Day celebratory locations in Ottawa.
- The possibility that members of the public who are in Ottawa might join the Freedom movement as an impromptu act. This could potentially create a larger-than-expected group, particularly given the growing national-level attention drawn to the veteran walking from Vancouver to Ottawa.
- Potential for altercations amongst protesters and with law enforcement.
- Potential for altercations amongst protesters and non-protesting members of the public attending Canada Day celebrations.
- The influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers.

Any of the above factors could impact the temperature of crowds and the potential for violence by a lone actor or fringe group cannot be discounted. As with all large public order events, these factors may have the potential to galvanize a portion of the protesters to violence.

Supporters of the Diagonal movement have publicly endorsed V4F and the veteran’s march to Ottawa. Individuals associated with Diagonal are also likely to travel to Ottawa for the Canada Day protests or any subsequent events held during V4F’s encampment near Ottawa. While V4F indicated via open source that they provide information to law enforcement, specific intentions related to their planned actions while staying near Ottawa throughout the summer are currently unknown. Although national participation related specifically to Canada Day activities currently appears minimal, the prolonged stay of V4F near Ottawa<sup>8</sup> and their influence among loosely organized social media groups or networks could

result in various calls for solidarity actions throughout the summer which may have national implications.

Overall hostility in rhetoric observed online within anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial networks has decreased in recent months, however. In the absence of new government announcements generating hostility and amplifying existing grievances within networks formerly dedicated to opposing public health measures, the overall sentiment is anti-Liberal in nature with a focus on opposition to the Prime Minister.

As such, it is anticipated that the attendance of any federal official at any Canada Day event has the potential to be met with protest by individuals converging in Ottawa for Canada Day protests. Individuals within these networks have demonstrated that they monitor the Prime Minister's itinerary and other media indicating his whereabouts.

No formally planned counter-actions have been advertised on open source at this time. The Ottawa Police Service has advised, however, that a counter-protest is being planned for 30 June at the National War Memorial.<sup>9</sup> In addition, there is a heightened level of public knowledge related to Canada Day protest events among social media accounts that monitor the self-described "freedom" movement and that organized counter-actions in opposition of the Freedom Convoy.<sup>10</sup> Online discussions within these networks indicate fear of a similar disruption to Ottawa that was observed in January and February of 2022.

While this is a perception held by individuals in these networks, there is no open source information to suggest any type of national fundraising or out-of-province participation at the level of what was observed with the Freedom Convoy. In addition, recent news media articles focusing on the security response to events in Ottawa indicate that vehicle-based protests will be prohibited.<sup>11</sup>

It is important to note that, in addition to any planned counter-protests which may materialize, impromptu actions are also possible since members of the general public will be attending Canada Day celebrations within Ottawa and may oppose any type of "freedom" actions based on their experiences with the prolonged and disruptive events that occurred during the Freedom Convoy.

## NATIONAL OUTLOOK

### Current Status

The IMCIT is maintaining visibility on provincial events across Canada which could mitigate Canada Day attendance in Ottawa.

No mass protests have been identified at this time by the Divisions, law enforcement partners or via open source queries. In recent months, attendance at public order events nationally appears to have decreased, which is likely as a result of the easing of health measures across Canada.



Some local events occurring in New Brunswick,<sup>12</sup> Winnipeg,<sup>13</sup> and Alberta<sup>14</sup> on or around Canada Day are circulating on networks formerly dedicated to anti-public health orders.

The event in Alberta, in particular, is planned to be held in solidarity with the arrival of the veteran in Ottawa on 30 June. This will involve a march from Red Deer to Innisfail Airport<sup>15</sup> (see screenshot 2).

Historically, Canada Day has also attracted protest activity by networks that support Indigenous causes who perceive 1 July to be a celebration of colonialism, land theft and genocide, which typically attracts individuals who may hold environmental and anarchist grievances.

At this time, however, there is no adverse information that has been identified related to any protests of this nature.

The IMCIT is liaising with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on Canada Day events within Ottawa and across Canada, and will provide updates as required.

*Issued by: Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team (IMCIT)  
Approved by: A/Director General, Federal Policing National Intelligence*

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/683613112631511/posts/774628206863334/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://twitter.com/CanadaMarches>

<sup>3</sup> See IMCIT NTL #2022-04 – 2022-05-26 for additional details.

<sup>4</sup> <https://twitter.com/Vets4FreeCanada/status/1537554600739409920>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.canadamarches.ca/event-details/ottawa-arrival>

<sup>6</sup> <https://twitter.com/Vets4FreeCanada/status/1536828974298374144>

<sup>7</sup> <https://veterans4freedom.ca/Home#Donate>

<sup>8</sup> <https://ottawa.citynews.ca/local-news/freedom-movement-rallies-plan-to-run-in-ottawa-all-summer-organizer-5487774>

<sup>9</sup> Ottawa Police JIG Report dated 2022-06-22

<sup>10</sup> [https://www.horizonottawa.ca/press\\_release\\_cso\\_june2022\\_convoy2](https://www.horizonottawa.ca/press_release_cso_june2022_convoy2)

<sup>11</sup> <https://globalnews.ca/news/8929378/ottawa-police-canada-day-security/>

<sup>12</sup> [https://www.facebook.com/\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_/posts/pfbid0Y53DVA797UrgZg1a9NFCST5KXmAZ6BamK1V2xDfqcwQN3t1X92SScoQC25Q8qL8sI](https://www.facebook.com/_____/posts/pfbid0Y53DVA797UrgZg1a9NFCST5KXmAZ6BamK1V2xDfqcwQN3t1X92SScoQC25Q8qL8sI)

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/739063803764283/posts/769967154007281/>

[https://www.facebook.com/\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_/posts/pfbid02WDMtvTShkNkk3Bt8pGUeHVJF9dMTiSdwAovcwotrfrf6hvd4sXxeBvU4ZH8vBeI](https://www.facebook.com/_____/posts/pfbid02WDMtvTShkNkk3Bt8pGUeHVJF9dMTiSdwAovcwotrfrf6hvd4sXxeBvU4ZH8vBeI)

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/freedomforusall.ca/posts/pfbid02eK5FoNByTdMRGBrqx5YKcW4XhTSCDSqWxQAeV5gtyapjTHR2AhMhpNrBSTJXAoN2I>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/events/479667583963221/>

## Scott, Matthew

---

**From:** Ducharme, Lisa  
**Sent:** June 27, 2022 11:12 AM  
**To:** Tiller, Rod; Tsui, Peter; Eberle, Derek; Smith, Dyson; Popik, Jason; Bridges, Caroline; Wirachowsky, Brad; Abdallah, Rabih; Lane, Eric; Smith, Josee M.; Dolan, Barry; Laliberté, François; Hollingworth, Sheldon; Shorey, Winston  
**Cc:** Poloz, Adriana; Lai, Anna; Cyr, Philippe; Toohey, Mike; Morawiec, Garrett; Chen, Ashley; Strong, Kyle; Moy, Cindy; Chopyk, Vanessa; Bell, Kristen; Fedec, Kari; Beckett, Andi; Lennox, Patrick; Abbott, Geoffrey; Galecki, Christina; Smith, Laura-Lynne; Metcalfe, Jorda; Picard, Claire; Boudreau, Danick; Bouchard, Annie; McCormick, Greg; Massé, Pierre; Asmundson, Jeff; Cote, Marie-claude; FPNI IMCIT / PFRN ERCCI  
**Subject:** Divisional intel inputs re: Canada Day  
**Attachments:** RCMP FPNI IMCIT - STA 2022-15 - Canada Day - FINAL - 240622 - PA.pdf  
**Importance:** High

Good morning everyone, I hope this email finds you well!

I want to thank all the DCAS Managers for their excellent collaboration with the FPNI IMCIT on public order issue reporting leading up to Canada Day. We've issued the STA for Canada Day (attached) which has been shared across the RCMP, with PoJs and with our Government of Canada Security and Intelligence counterparts. We thank everyone for confirming, nil or otherwise, public order issues in their respective areas.

As per Deputy Commissioner Federal Policing, may I ask that Divisions continue to please keep the IMCIT posted / keep sending in any notice of issues related to Canada Day or public order in general? This information is of high interest to the GoC and is critical to help inform the national picture. The IMCIT plans to release their monthly National Threat Landscape product this Thursday which will contain a section on Canada Day (among other public order issues of concern across Canada) with the latest Canada Day developments to date.

As always, your support and contributions are extremely valuable and sincerely appreciated. Please have any updates or changes in posture sent to Garrett Morawiec, Ashley Chen and/or the IMCIT positional mailbox (all .cc'd).

Should you have any questions about this request, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Sincerely, Lisa

---

A/Director General, National Intelligence | I/Directrice Général, Renseignement national  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada  
Desk: 613-843-4925 | Cell: 343-540-9847

## Scott, Matthew

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**From:** Little, Kristen  
**Sent:** September 18, 2021 6:35 PM  
**To:** Chen, Ashley  
**Subject:** FW: O DIVISION Ottawa Criminal Analysis Section Report: Diagonlon  
**Attachments:** CIP-2021-5576-IB-DIAGOLON.pdf

---

**From:** Justin, Jayson <Jayson.Justin@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 17, 2021 4:19 PM  
**To:** Morawiec, Garrett <Garrett.Morawiec@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; Little, Kristen <kristen.little@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; Desjardins, Matthew <matthew.desjardins@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; Drugea, Sebastian <Sebastian.Drugea@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: O DIVISION Ottawa Criminal Analysis Section Report: Diagonlon

For your reading pleasure.

---

**From:** Bornais, Stephane <Stephane.Bornais@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 17, 2021 3:47 PM  
**To:** Laplante, Stephanie <Stephanie.Laplante@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; Pigeon, Jean-Sebastien <js.pigeon@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; Hoskins, Larry <Larry.Hoskins@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; LeBlanc, Alexis <alexis.leblanc@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Justin, Jayson <Jayson.Justin@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** O DIVISION Ottawa Criminal Analysis Section Report: Diagonlon

Greetings,

Please see the ODIV Ottawa INSET CAS report assessing if there are IMVE concerns for DIAGOLON during the elections.

To note, **No specific IMVE threat has been associated with this group at this time.** Please note that any open source information has been gathered passively, meaning that no Dark Web or Password Protected areas of the internet were searched.

Please note:

Information in blue font is 3<sup>rd</sup> party and requests have not been sought due to the time constraints for this task. Should you need to further use 3<sup>rd</sup> party information to share with partners, or for judicial purposes, authorization from the originating source is required.

The report can also be found in PROS 2021-1352152 for future reference.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out,

Steph

*Stéphane Bornais*  
Criminal Intelligence Analyst Supervisor  
Ottawa Criminal Analysis Section  
O Division Criminal Intelligence Branch



Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
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***Stéphane Bornais***

*Superviseur, analyse en renseignement criminel  
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## Scott, Matthew

---

**From:** Morawiec, Garrett  
**Sent:** February 21, 2022 11:17 AM  
**To:** Chen, Ashley; Kruk, James; Little, Kristen; Piamonte, Kandi  
**Subject:** FW: CSIS IMVE Narrative\_February 16 2022\_v1\_ (002).docx  
**Attachments:** CSIS IMVE Narrative\_February 17 2022\_v1\_CLEAN.docx; IMCIT Response: RE: Urgent WHAT WE NEED

**Importance:** High

FYI

---

**From:** Ducharme, Lisa <Lisa.Ducharme@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 21, 2022 10:00 AM  
**To:** Morawiec, Garrett <Garrett.Morawiec@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; Caron, Eliane <Eliane.Caron@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Beaudoin, David <david.beaudoin@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; O'Hayon, Greg <Greg.OHayon@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; Archibald, Andrew <Andrew.Archibald@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: CSIS IMVE Narrative\_February 16 2022\_v1\_ (002).docx  
**Importance:** High

Folks, FYI for SA if you didn't receive this via other means (see CSIS email at bottom, CSIS IMVE narrative, attached).

Note that FPNI has not received any recent RFI's from PCO for convoy-related points (other than the RFI received on Feb 14 – IMCIT Response, attached) but as CSIS has mentioned the RCMP in their response at bottom, future RFIs may come and would have a potential short fuse.

Not tasking anyone, just FYI for awareness...

Take care, Lisa

---

**From:** Poloz, Adriana <adriana.poloz@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 21, 2022 9:49 AM  
**To:** Ducharme, Lisa <Lisa.Ducharme@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: CSIS IMVE Narrative\_February 16 2022\_v1\_ (002).docx

fysa

Adriana Poloz, LL.M  
Executive Director, Intelligence and International Policing, RCMP  
Directrice exécutive, Renseignement et police internationale, GRC

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K1A 0R2

O|B: 613.843.4479  
C: 613.355.4129

---

**From:** McGillis, Sean <Sean.McGillis@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 21, 2022 9:48 AM

**To:** Harvey, Sandy <Sandy.Harvey@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; Poloz, Adriana <adriana.poloz@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: CSIS IMVE Narrative\_February 16 2022\_v1\_(002).docx

Sharing for awareness only.

Sean

---

**From:** ↓  
**Sent:** February 19, 2022 11:51 AM  
**To:** McGillis, Sean <Sean.McGillis@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>; Flynn, Mark <mark.flynn@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: CSIS IMVE Narrative\_February 16 2022\_v1\_(002).docx

As discussed!

This document is simply an unclassified compilation of ia's we have produced and our media lines.

Rcmp friends fysa as well.

Sent from my Bell Samsung device over Canada's largest network.

----- Original message -----

**From:** >  
**Date:** 2022-02-19 11:40 a.m. (GMT-05:00)  
**To:** Jody Thomas <Jody.Thomas@pco-bcp.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** "MacDonald, Mike" <Mike.MacDonald@pco-bcp.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** CSIS IMVE Narrative\_February 16 2022\_v1\_(002).docx

Hi Jody,

Attached is a one page unclassified narrative on CSIS/ IMVE / current context. Hopefully it will be of assistance in your briefings, if you need any further information please let us know.

(ITAC and RCMP would have additional documents/ and complementary but mandate specific perspectives, should Mike wish to pull other elements).

## **CSIS Strategic Context: Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism**

### ***What CSIS has observed since the beginning of the pandemic***

- Over the last few years, CSIS has increased resources dedicated to investigating and analyzing ideologically motivated violent extremism (IMVE) threats. CSIS' understanding of the IMVE milieu has informed advice to Government.
- The combination of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ever-increasing influence of social media and the spread of conspiracy theories has created an uncertain environment ripe for exploitation. Such an environment has the potential to inspire individuals to take violent extremist actions and move their message into the mainstream of society.
- IMVE is a serious threat to the security of Canada. A number of IMVE events have occurred in Canada, including the June 2021 London, Ontario attack on a Muslim family killing four and wounding another.
- IMVE is a complex and constantly evolving threat. Proponents of IMVE are driven by a range of influences rather than a singular belief system. Radicalization is often caused by a combination of ideas and grievances resulting in a personalized worldview, which often centres on the willingness to incite, enable or mobilize to serious violence. IMVE actors often act without a clear affiliation to a specific organized group or external guidance. Past events, such as the London, Ontario attacks, have shown  
before they actually commit violent acts.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated xenophobic (racial and ethno-nationalist) and anti-authority narratives. Some violent extremists view COVID-19 as a real but welcome crisis that could hasten the collapse of Western society (known as accelerationism). Many IMVE threat actors have adopted conspiracy theories about the pandemic in an attempt to rationalize and justify violence.
- While aspects of conspiracy theory rhetoric are a legitimate exercise in free expression, online rhetoric and activities that encourage violence have been of increasing concern. This violent rhetoric is easily disseminated using both mainstream and alternative media and social media platforms. Many of these platforms can be used anonymously or leverage encryption technologies to enable threat actors to conceal their identity and evade detection by law enforcement and security agencies, while spreading their message, inciting violence and recruiting like-minded individuals.
- The spread of violent rhetoric and the manipulation and propagation of information can erode confidence in our democratic values, institutions, and polarize communities while undermining trust in our democratically elected governments. It also normalizes the use of violent rhetoric and the threatening of actual violence as a means to express dissent, which negatively affects societal resilience.
- CSIS has actively been investigating IMVE actors that present a threat of serious violence pursuant to its mandate and authorities under the *CSIS Act*. But to be clear,

CSIS does not investigate lawful advocacy, protest or dissent, but only activities that rise to the level of a threat to the security of Canada.

- In confronting the IMVE threat, CSIS has collaborated with the RCMP, the Department of Justice and the Public Prosecution Service of Canada to align operational efforts, and seek solutions in the interest of public safety.
- In addition, CSIS has worked closely with its domestic and international partners on understanding the evolution of the threat environment to provide assessments and advice to support actions, including by law enforcement where appropriate.

***What CSIS is seeing now***

- Since the beginning of the Freedom Convoy 2022 and the protests and blockades across the country, CSIS efforts have focused on its IMVE subjects of investigation and their activities in relation to those events.
- The protests themselves and the vast majority of protestors are not relevant to CSIS' mandate. However, as demonstrated by the Breach of the US Capitol Building on January 6, 2021, IMVE actors may exploit lawful protests, rallies, demonstrations and other gatherings to carry out IMVE-related violence and criminal activity. Given this trend, CSIS is closely monitoring the opportunities the protests may present to IMVE actors to promote or engage in serious acts of violence in Canada. CSIS is also aware that the protests may offer opportunities to lone wolf actors.
- CSIS is also guarding against other threats to Canada's national security in relation to the protests, such as foreign interference. With respect to foreign sources of funding, CSIS' mandate is engaged when funds are provided at the direction of a foreign state with the goal of engaging in foreign interference activities in Canada, or when those donating the money are doing so to support an act of serious violence or terrorism.
- Since the beginning of the protests, there have been unlawful activities. As the protests continue and frustrations, anxiety and tension increase, it is possible that an individual or small group may be willing to engage in violence.
- This is what appears to have occurred in Coutts, Alberta. On February 14, 2022, the RCMP arrested 13 individuals in relation to the blockade at the Coutts border crossing. These individuals were in possession of firearms, ammunition and body armor. This development is concerning as it indicates the intent and capabilities of individuals to engage in serious acts of violence.
- The Coutts blockade began as part of the broader anti public health measures movement and was driven by a similar range of narratives and grievances as seen in the Ottawa occupation. The bringing together of individuals with differing ideological motivations around a common cause is typical of the IMVE space. However, each radicalization pathway or mobilization to violence is highly individual,

**Forward looking**

- Looking at how best to manage the unfolding situation, the authorities are faced with two sets of concerns, both of which have potentially deleterious effects and the potential to increase threat activities.
- While the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* and the ensuing enforcement actions have the potential to increase the number of Canadians holding extreme anti-government views, it could also have a deterrent effect on many of the protesters and facilitate an end to the protests.
- The invocation of the *Emergencies Act* could also negatively influence the behaviours of CSIS' subjects of investigations and others who may not have yet embarked on a path to radicalization.
- Some individuals involved in IMVE movements are likely to view the announcement relating to the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* as confirmation of their core accelerationist beliefs. This, in turn, could lead to increased volume of extreme online chatter and would likely further their radicalization pathways towards violence.
- As part of its mandate, CSIS remains alive to these different scenarios and maintains awareness of the unfolding situation, and is using all the authorities and tools at its disposal to investigate and assess threats to the security of Canada to provide advice to Government and where appropriate consider the use of threat reduction measures.
- CSIS will continue to assess various intelligence questions to better understand, among others, the catalytic nature of the protests as well as government and enforcement actions (or inactions) on our subjects of investigations, in terms of motivation to mobilize or encourage serious violence, rhetoric, resources and followers.
- While the IMVE threats directly implicate CSIS' mandate, there are broader strategic considerations at play. In particular, the manifestation of IMVE activities affect policy considerations related to online harms, the resilience of our democratic institutions, the security of parliamentarians, dialogue with racialized communities, and engagements on national security issues at all levels of government.

## Scott, Matthew

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**From:** Morawiec, Garrett  
**Sent:** February 20, 2022 2:48 PM  
**To:** Chen, Ashley; Kruk, James; Little, Kristen; Piamonte, Kandi  
**Subject:** FW: Fredericton Convoy - Diagonlon Flag Observed  
**Attachments:** Diagonlon Flag Fredericton.pdf

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**From:** Bouchard, Annie <Annie.Bouchard@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 20, 2022 12:51 PM  
**To:** Morawiec, Garrett <Garrett.Morawiec@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Fredericton Convoy - Diagonlon Flag Observed

FYI

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**From:** Gumley, Matthew <Matthew.Gumley@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 20, 2022 12:16 PM  
**To:** Bouchard, Annie <Annie.Bouchard@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Fredericton Convoy - Diagonlon Flag Observed

Hi Annie,

As discussed, reports on Twitter of a Diagonlon flag being flown during the Federicton convoy last weekend.

## Scott, Matthew

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**From:** Ducharme, Lisa  
**Sent:** February 14, 2022 6:02 PM  
**To:** Morawiec, Garrett; Little, Kristen; Chen, Ashley; Kruk, James  
**Cc:** Archibald, Andrew; O'Hayon, Greg  
**Subject:** FW: RCMP Assessment on Convoy

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Folks, further to the initial IMCIT assessment provided to PCO, this response (below) was based on a quick call between Adriana and Melissa Rusk, Nat'l Div, as we received two more questions that were really outside our space..

-----Original Message-----

From: Poloz, Adriana <adriana.polo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
Sent: February 14, 2022 3:36 PM  
To: Ducharme, Lisa <Lisa.Ducharme@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
Subject: FW: RCMP Assessment on Convoy

FYSA

Adriana Poloz, LL.M  
Executive Director, Intelligence and International Policing, RCMP Directrice exécutive, Renseignement et police internationale, GRC

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M1 3-901, M.S | A.P. 114  
K1A 0R2

O|B: 613.843.4479  
C: 613.355.4129

-----Original Message-----

From: MacDonald, Mike <Mike.MacDonald@pco-bcp.gc.ca>  
Sent: February 14, 2022 3:34 PM  
To: Poloz, Adriana <adriana.polo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
Cc: Duheme, Michael <Michael.Duheme@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>  
Subject: Re: RCMP Assessment on Convoy

Thx!

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 14, 2022, at 3:22 PM, Poloz, Adriana <adriana.polo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca> wrote:

Mike:



At the onset, protests were more celebratory in nature, as of late, however, the posture has become more hostile and adversarial, particularly in locations where protestors have been present for an extended period of time. This extends beyond the protestor and law enforcement dynamic, but also between protestors and private business owners and residents in the downtown core whose livelihoods are being impacted by their presence. This is exacerbated by counter protests aimed at regaining the freedoms that existed prior to the occupation by private citizens and business owners.

There is a Charter protected right to lawful advocacy, however, actions which run contrary to the CCC, are subject to enforcement. In regard to the War Memorial, it is beyond the RCMPs jurisdiction, however, it is not irregular for the POJ to dedicate resources to that site when there is an increased presence/crowds, i.e., Remembrance Day events.

Adriana Poloz, LL.M

Executive Director, Intelligence and International Policing, RCMP Directrice exécutive, Renseignement et police internationale, GRC

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From: MacDonald, Mike <Mike.MacDonald@pco-bcp.gc.ca>

Sent: February 14, 2022 2:52 PM

To: Poloz, Adriana <adriana.poloz@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>

Cc: Duheme, Michael <Michael.Duheme@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: RCMP Assessment on Convoy

Importance: High

Hi,

NSIA thanks you very much for the quick turn around. Do you think you could answer her question within the next 20 minutes?

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From: Poloz, Adriana <adriana.poloz@rcmp-grc.gc.ca<mailto:adriana.poloz@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>>

Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 2:25 PM

To: MacDonald, Mike <Mike.MacDonald@pco-bcp.gc.ca<mailto:Mike.MacDonald@pco-bcp.gc.ca>>

Cc: Duheme, Michael <Michael.Duheme@rcmp-grc.gc.ca<mailto:Michael.Duheme@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>>

Subject: RCMP Assessment on Convoy

Importance: High

Mike

As requested, pls let me know if this suits your requirements.

COVID 19 has amplified the grievances held by ideologically motivated groups and individuals and the pandemic has served as an opportunity to promote their propaganda and ideology.

While it is noted that not all individuals participating in “Freedom Convoy 2022” protests adhere to ideologically motivated violent extremist (IMVE) thinking, the presence of IMVE adherents have been noted in a few instances in relation to these protest events:

- In Ottawa, one truck participating in the convoy was found displaying a THREE PERCENTERS (III%) flag. The Three Percenters were listed as a terrorist entity in Canada in 2021 and have espoused anti-immigration and anti-Islam views in the past. No other references to the THREE PERCENTERS have been noted at convoy protests in recent days and the THREE PERCENTERS have not had visible presence in Canada since being listed as a terrorist entity.

- A few members of the DIAGOLON (adjacent to the PLAID ARMY) movement have also been seen in Ottawa during the convoy protests. DIAGOLON/PLAID ARMY emerged as a meme-based, satirical movement online in 2021, sharing anti-government and anti-vaccine/mandate views under the guise of humour. In recent days, prominent members of DIAGOLON/PLAID ARMY have espoused increasingly violent rhetoric opposing vaccine mandates. One member was arrested in January over firearms related offences and has since been seen attending convoy events in Ottawa, frequently warning supporters of imminent law enforcement action against the convoy demonstrations, and denouncing police enforcement of such as illegal. DIAGOLON adherents express desires to form a country based on right-leaning Canadian provinces and US states. Their grievances extend beyond COVID-19 restrictions and are centered on countering “politically correct” culture.

- CANADA FIRST, a white nationalist group, has also been observed in Ottawa. One CANADA FIRST adherent is accused of throwing rocks at the Prime Minister during the election campaign. This same individual has been observed in Ottawa during the convoy.

Outside of the organized IMVE groups, the convoy movement appears to create an ideologically charged environment in which individuals who may hold frustrations towards public health restrictions may feel this is their one chance to express their frustrations. The movement, given its widespread reach, is attracting individuals who may hold IMVE beliefs and may feel emboldened in their views amid the movement’s popularity. While the majority of convoy protesters are peaceful and denounce violence, the possibility of a lone actor attack, inspired by ideologically motivated beliefs, cannot be discounted. RCMP K Division (Alberta) recently seized a number of firearms from convoy vehicles at the Coutts AB blockade.

The blockades at international borders are also likely attempts at forming national solidarity with convoy protesters in Ottawa, with the knowledge that affecting critical transportation and economic infrastructure may pressure governments to repeal public health restrictions. Narratives questioning the loyalty and authority of police have also been circulating surrounding this movement in recent days.

We continue to track and analyze these developments and will provide updates as products are finalized.

Adriana

Adriana Poloz, LL.M

Executive Director, Intelligence and International Policing, RCMP Directrice exécutive, Renseignement et police internationale, GRC

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