

Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Commissioner



Gendarmerie royale du Canada
Commissaire

Guided by Integrity, Honesty, Professionalism, Compassion, Respect and Accountability

Les valeurs de la GRC reposent sur l'intégrité, l'honnêteté,
le professionnalisme, la compassion, le respect et la responsabilisation

AUG 12 2022

Mr. Paul Cardegna
Joint Clerk of the Committee
Special Joint Committee
on the Declaration of Emergency
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Cardegna:

Please see enclosed copies of Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) records in response to the motion adopted by the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency on May 31, 2022, concerning the production of documents related to the government's invocation of the *Emergencies Act*. This production of documents is to replace those which were delivered to you on June 30, 2022.

The documents enclosed in this package provide information and relevant context on the situation in the National Capital Region and nationwide during the period under study by the Committee, including the RCMP's use of the powers provided through the *Emergencies Act* and related instruments.

Please note that in the preparation of these materials, redactions have been made in order to protect information subject to exemption under the *Access to Information Act*, *Canada Evidence Act*, and/or *Privacy Act*. This disclosure package contains no Cabinet confidences or information protected under solicitor-client and/or litigation privilege.

The materials in this package were created by the RCMP and are being provided to the Committee in two portions:

1. Materials responding to the Committee's May 31, 2022, motion for the production of documents related to the government's invocation of the *Emergencies Act*:
 - **Key messages used to brief deputy ministers and senior officials** (January 27, 2022 – February 14, 2022): Documents prepared for me and that provided a status update on protest activity nationwide and outlined how *Emergencies Act* provisions could be useful for law enforcement;
 - **Intelligence assessments** (December 2, 2021 – February 16, 2022): RCMP Federal Policing National Intelligence – Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team assessments that reported on Freedom Convoy-related activities nationwide;
2. Materials which will provide context on the situation in the National Capital Region and nationwide during the period under study by the Committee:
 - **Briefing Note** (February 18, 2022): A briefing note on the RCMP's use of the *Emergency Measures Regulations*;
 - **Letters** (February 19, 2022 – February 20, 2022): Correspondence to the Minister of Public Safety and Minister of Emergency Preparedness from the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police related to the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*;
 - **Parliamentary Appearances** (February 25, 2022 – May 10, 2022): Briefing binders prepared for RCMP officials, including me, who appeared before different Parliamentary Committees on studies related to the *Emergencies Act*;
 - **Freedom Convoy Gold Silver Bronze Command Structure** (February 12, 2022); and,
 - **Affidavit** (April 4, 2022): An Affidavit of Superintendent Denis Beaudoin filed in the Judicial Review proceedings pending in the Federal Court regarding the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*, which includes information on the RCMP's activities in relation to the *Emergency Economic Measures Order*.

I trust this information will provide the Committee with the relevant context needed.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Lucki".

Brenda Lucki
Commissioner

Enclosures

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

July 18, 2022

Disclosure for the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC)

Inclusions:

1. Materials responding to the Committee's May 31, 2022, motion for the production of documents related to the government's invocation of the *Emergencies Act*:
 - **Key messages used to brief deputy ministers and senior officials** (January 27, 2022 – February 14, 2022) – These were prepared for me and provided a status update on protest activity nationwide and outlined how *Emergencies Act* provisions could be useful for law enforcement;
 - **Intelligence assessments** (December 2, 2021 – February 16, 2022)– These are RCMP Federal Policing National Intelligence - Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team (FPNI - IMCITs) assessments that reported on Freedom Convoy-related activities nationwide;
2. Materials which will provide context on the situation in the National Capital Region and nationwide during the period under study by the Committee:
 - **Letters** (February 19, 2022 - February 20, 2022) – Correspondence to the Minister of Public Safety Canada and Minister of Emergency Preparedness from the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police related to the invocation of *Emergencies Act*;
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DMOC

2022-01-27
16:00 – 17:00

To share with the table

Freedom Convoy (the NSIA has requested an update)

Protest

The situation remains incredibly fluid, with new information continuing to come in.

All key stakeholders (RCMP, OPP, OPS, PPS, SQ, MRC des Collines, the City of Ottawa, Ville de Gatineau, SPVG) are actively planning and collaborating to ensure public safety:

- The **Parliamentary Protective Service (PPS)** is the planning lead for the **Parliamentary Precinct and the grounds of Parliament Hill**;
- The **Ottawa Police Service (OPS)** is leading the planning for the **National Capital Region**;
- **National Division** is planning in support of the RCMP's **protective mandate** and working to ensure that we provide any specialized support services required.

The National Capital Region Command Centre (NCRCC) will be activated as of 13:00 on January 28th, through to at least January 30th. All key internal and external stakeholders will have a presence to ensure ongoing communication and collaboration. A representative from the US Embassy will also be in the Command Centre given the potential impacts on that diplomatic site.

Key timelines as of right now are as follows:

- January 28: Staging in Arnprior
- January 29 – 11:00: Public speakers scheduled in Confederation Park
- January 29 – 12:00: Converge on Parliament Hill
- January 30 – 11:00: Church service in Confederation Park

OPS has advised that Confederation Park will be used as the home base for some participants. This includes the installation of tents, food vendors (2 trucks) and a BBQ in the Park.

The RCMP has located social media posts indicating some participants may stay around the downtown core until January 31st in hopes to disrupt the House of Commons sitting that day.

We have also located a twitter post suggesting that the convoys may at some point converge near 24 Sussex Drive to continue their protest.

Although the majority of information indicates organizers are planning a peaceful event, many social media posts suggest some participants may attempt to disrupt government buildings and further cause disruptions throughout the city.

There has been an increase in online narratives supportive of the convoy among both ideologically motivated networks, as well as in general public discourse. We are also seeing strong resentment on

multiple social media platforms targeting Prime Minister TRUDEAU, Minister of Transport Omar ALGHABRA and politicians in general.

The convoy is attracting individuals who are not aligned with any specific ideology or group, but who have experienced personal hardships (such as job loss) due to COVID-19 and are upset with provincial or federal government responses as COVID-19 continues to impact daily life.

A post to the event Facebook group asks for known MP's addresses in Ottawa including the Prime Minister's residence and cottage. The posts suggest the convoy should break apart to protest at all these locations.

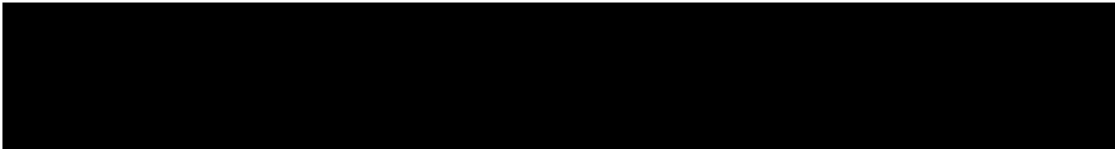
In addition, Open Source reports suggests truck drivers from the U.S. plan to join the Canadian demonstration with the possible intent to cause further disruption.

Over \$5.2M has been raised via GOFUNDME. The funds are being withheld until the event organizer is able to provide the documentation explaining how the funds will be properly distributed.

Estimates on the number of trucks involved have not been reliably confirmed, but range anywhere from 1500 up to over 2500. The OPP is tracking and will be reporting on numbers.

Ministerial Security

Level II packages (announcements and public functions) were previously in place for:



On January 21, 2022, [REDACTED] threat package has been elevated to a Level II.

IF PRESSED ON [REDACTED]

They are two of nine that we have offered level II to – as previously briefed.

This means, we obtaining their itinerary and when they are in public (making announcement etc.) we will be providing protection.

**see note further regarding Ukraine*

We know that MPs are concerned for their safety amid reporting of demonstrators attending their residences. This is being taken into consideration as part of the planning for deployment of resources.

The Sergeant-At-Arms has distributed an email message to MP's with Constituency offices in the NCR, advising them of the potential disruptions and the precautions that can be taken to ensure their safety. It is expected that a similar message will be distributed to all Parliamentarians and Parliamentary employees.

The RCMP's Ministerial Liaison Team will continue to proactively communicate and reach out to Ministers' offices to assess the need for the deployment of protective measures.

The Sergeant-At-Arms received a request for security for the [REDACTED] PPS will be providing security.

The Sergeant-At-Arms also received a request for security for the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] We are in the process of clarifying whether the request is for [REDACTED] or for [REDACTED] and will make arrangements accordingly.

Additional details on Security Posture Convoy Ottawa Jan 28-30 2022

- The RCMP's role is to maintain is Protective policing core VIP duties at all times
- Additionally, RCMP National Division have 6 other teams ready to be deployed as needed, and an additional 15 members on standby
- There is currently no fear of there being a lack of policing resources
- The Ottawa Police, and PPS, with support from the OPP have a vehicle screening process for the downtown core, and can support of to 3000 vehicles for inspection.
- It is unknown how many on foot demonstrators will be present at the Hill, there is not a current best guess. **Trucks will park and truckers will be on foot
- An active plan for the demounting of truck trailers has also been established by the POJ
- The 2 lanes surrounding Parliament are controlled at sites on Kent and Banks street, with mobile command centers set up. (POJ and PPS)

***The RCMP is on standby to deploy any additional tactical troop or additional kinetic nature emergency dealings if required.**

For your situational awareness

Ukraine

The RCMP resources deployed on training missions to Ukraine remain in country as of this time.

Discussions are ongoing with other government departments, including on triggers for potential evacuation.

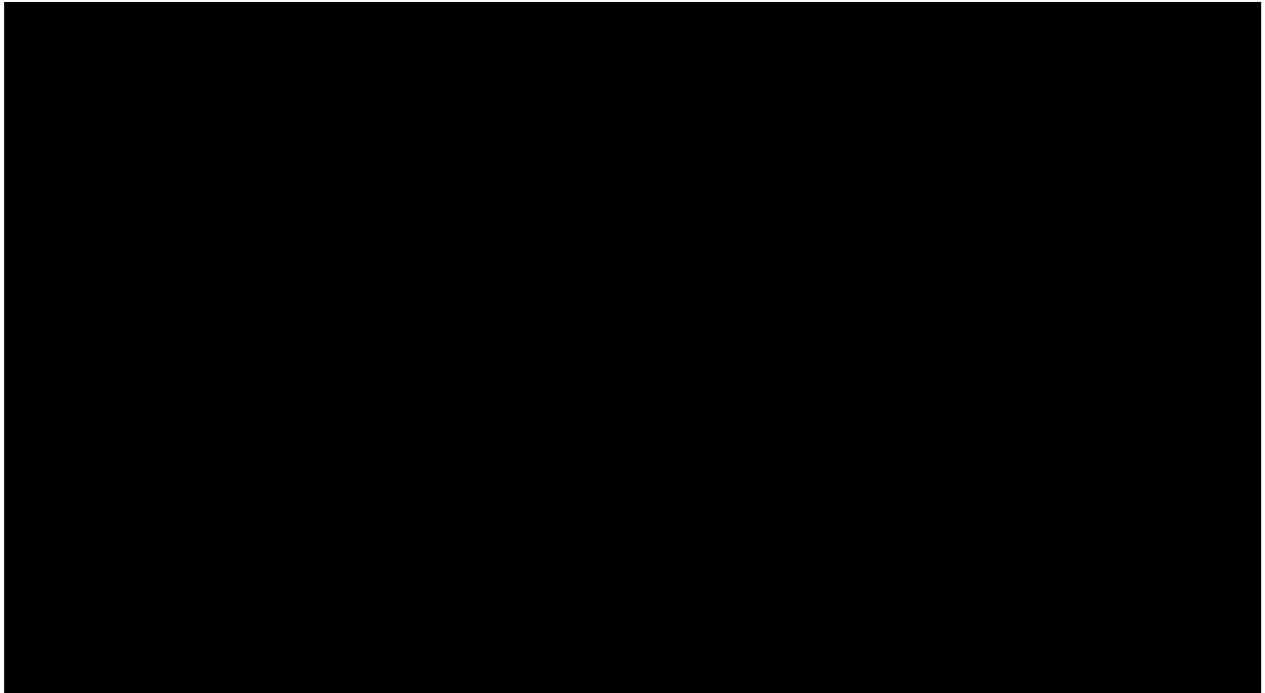
****Minister Anand is to travel to Kyev on January 20th alongside the Chief of Defence and staff.**

- Minister Anand **will not** be provided with IPO for her visit to Kyiv. (*that decision is being reviewed*)
- This is the similar stance as Min. Joly's visit last week.
- POCC determined that Kyiv is stable – for now but if this changes then it would be a war zone for which our members are not equipped. We also have a duty of care to our members.
- **The Chief of Defence staff has a protective package provided by the CAF at all times** domestically and internationally.

Incident in D Division

The RCMP has ongoing investigations regarding the discovery of four deceased persons along the Canada/US border. All IBET technology in the area of the scene has been reviewed with negative results. Autopsies are being conducted, and it has been reported in the media that representatives from the Indian consulate are in Winnipeg to assist with identification of the deceased persons.

The RCMP is engaging with CBSA and IRCC as part of investigative efforts.



Truckers Convoy and Protective Services

Key Messages – January 31, 2022 2:55 PM

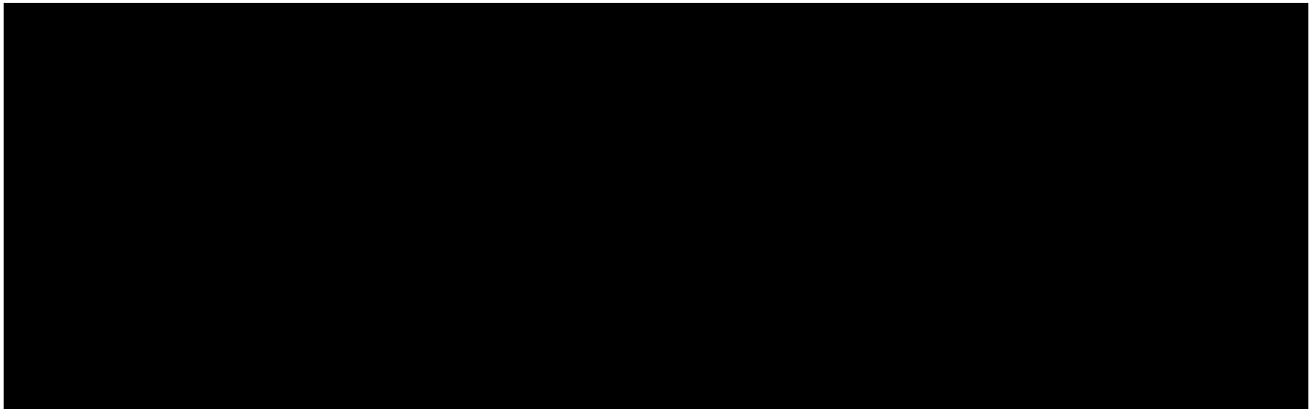
- Good afternoon.
- In terms of the RCMP update, generally the first two days of demonstrations went well. There were no arrests, although Ottawa Police is investigating several incidents – including the one involving the War Memorial.
- On Saturday, we estimate that the crowd peaked at close to 8,000 people on Parliament Hill. Yesterday that number was significantly lower – our estimates are roughly 3,000 people on Parliament Hill and Wellington Street at its peak.
- There has been an agreement by partners to not release data on the number of participants until the end of the protest – so these are just estimates, not official statistics.
- Gridlock was a problem throughout the weekend – and into today. The Ottawa Police has called on residents not to travel downtown, noting large crowds – as well as a large police presence.
- A broadcast was also sent out yesterday to Government employees who work downtown asking them to work remotely unless it was absolutely critical they attend the office.
- I'll go through current statistics in a moment, but want to note that today we are seeing a shift in protest dynamics.
- This morning blockades had been put in place by protesters at a number of bridges and roads downtown.

[APG]



- There are still no incidents involving violence, but should the crowd dynamics turn to violent actions, Public Order Units will be deployed as and when required based on pre-determined operational plans and under a strict command structure. Several Public Order Units are standing by in the NCR, this includes: Ottawa Police, OPP, Toronto Police Service, London Police, Durham Police, York Regional, and the RCMP.
- Parliament did resume this morning as planned. Originally we were advised that 175 MPs planned on attending in person; this number was revised to around 100 MPs earlier this morning.
- Significant efforts have been concentrated on supporting the operational planning requirements for the resumption of Parliament.
- The current process to support the entry and exit of Parliamentarians is running smoothly, and additional resources will be available to support, should the demand for services increase. At this time, both vehicular and pedestrian entry and exit are available options.
- As of 2:15 PM, approximately 30 MPs and 100 Parliamentarians are on-site, including [REDACTED] who were both driven onto the grounds. The majority of Parliamentarians arrived on foot. My understanding is that a number of MPs did not feel the need for our assistance and were able to gain access to the Hill unobstructed this morning.
- VIP movements did need to be put on hold briefly while Ottawa Police were dealing with the ramming incident at Wellington and Elgin.

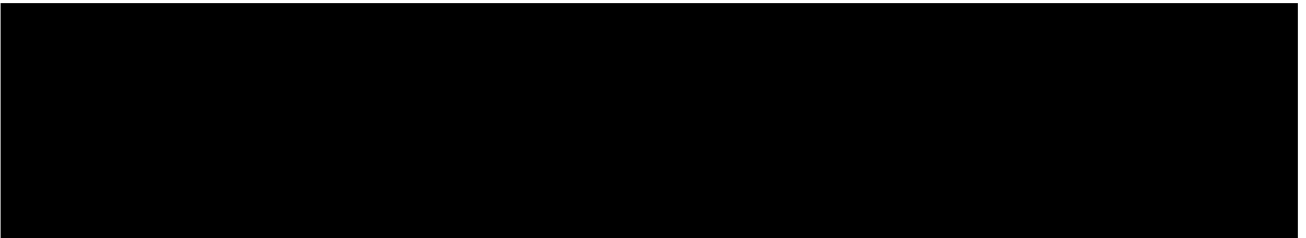
[APG]



- Ottawa has not been alone in dealing with demonstrations. Over the weekend a number of solidarity protests took place across the country.
 1. In BC, there were protests in Terrace, Osoyoos, Vernon, Fort St. John, Lumby, Vernon, and the Lower Mainland.
 2. New Brunswick managed four events: a Nova Scotia/New Brunswick border protest, a New Brunswick/Maine Port of Entry Protest, a private vehicle convoy from, and a severe winter storm. Blockades occurred but did not last longer than 1.5 hours due to severe weather deterioration.
 3. In Windsor, a group of 100 vehicles reported protesting on Huron Church Rd. near Ambassador Bridge POE.
 4. At Woodstock POE, vehicles blocked one of the southbound lanes to the US, with one lane remaining open to commercial motor vehicles. No personal motor vehicles were permitted through the protest location.
 5. And in Manitoba, a Support Freedom Convoy demonstration with around 100-200 vehicles staged in Headingley and was destined for the Manitoba Legislative Building located in downtown Winnipeg. In addition, trucks and demonstration support vehicles lined up at the Emerson border engaged in a continuous slow moving convoy disrupting traffic flow on Highway #75.
- Most of these involved rallies and slow-rolls, ending without incidents other than traffic disruptions.

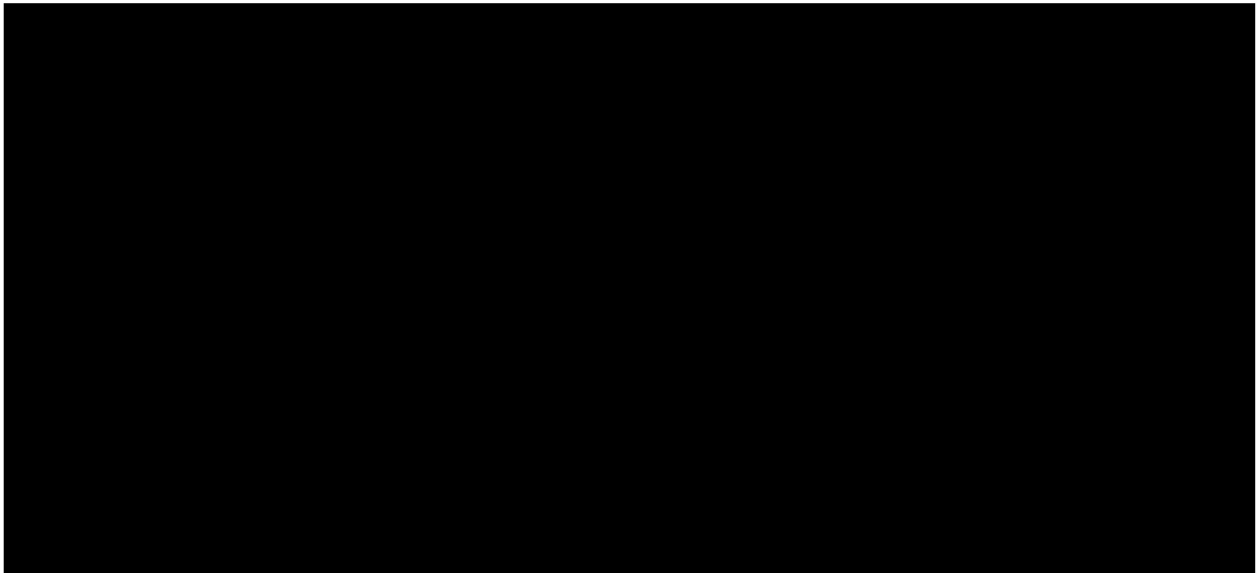
[APG]

- However, that has not been the case in Alberta, where we have seen the Coutts POE blockaded since Saturday. Traffic to and from the Canadian side of the border crossing at Coutts, Alberta was completely blocked, with a jack-knifed semi truck, reinforced with other vehicles, blocking the northbound lane of Highway 4. Enforcement action will be taken soon.
- Some of the newest information we have through Open Source reporting includes:
 1. Just before 7:00 Pm yesterday, Freedom Convoy 2022 organizers held their first live video conference. Information we have is that there was very little engagement, with around 100 views with no comments.
 2. Open source reporting suggests that a large convoy has departed South Dakota and is headed towards a Canada POE. Monitoring is ongoing.
 3. There is also open source reporting suggesting that convoys are on their way to Quebec.
 4. A 'Countdown to Freedom' has been posted to the Freedom Convoy 2022 website. The time remaining is approximate. No details have been provided regarding the purpose of the countdown.
 5. Individuals in front of West Block have taken off their front tires, likely in an attempt to communicate their intentions to continue demonstrate.
- We still do not have an answer to the question of how long this will last.



[APG]

- Chief Sloly has said that any decision to bring the protest to a close early would be based on public safety concerns or a breakdown in communications with protest organizers.
- As long as protestors remain peaceful, they will be able to exercise their democratic rights to protest. Should this extend into several days, whereby undue disturbances are caused to the public and downtown core, judicial authorizations to forcibly remove trucks and protestors may be considered.



- There are a number of risks with all of these options, which are still being assessed. I have raised with Chief Sloly that there is the potential that what is decided here locally could have ramifications nationally.
- At present, my understanding is that the intention of Ottawa Police is to use a measured approach and continue negotiations with the protest organizers. They are holding a press conference at 3:30 today, which will likely touch on next steps.
- I will, of course, keep you informed of developments.

[APG]

Current Statistics – Latest Data (estimates) – 2:00 PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Convoys totalling approximately 2950 vehicles have arrived in the NCR.• Unknown number of vehicles in the downtown core.• Approximately 75 people reported at this time on Parliament Hill and approximately 250 people on Wellington St.• Confederation Park, Majors Hill Park, US Embassy and Sparks St. remain relatively empty, with the exception of what would be considered usual traffic at this time.

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Truckers Convoy and Protective Services

Key Messages – February 1, 2022 12:15 PM

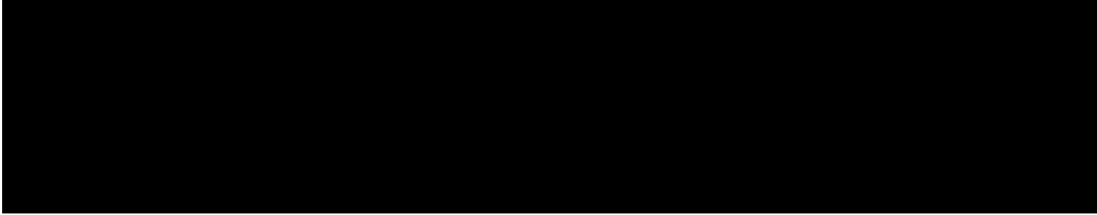
- Good afternoon.
- In terms of the RCMP update, generally the first few days of demonstrations went well. Yesterday there was one arrest, and Ottawa Police is investigating several incidents – including the one involving the War Memorial.
- Yesterday, unofficial numbers have the peak at around 325 people – a significant drop from over the weekend.
- As expected, gridlock remains a problem. The Ottawa Police continues to call on residents not to travel downtown, and broadcasts were sent out Sunday and yesterday to Government employees who work downtown asking them to work remotely unless it was absolutely critical they attend the office.
- I'll go through current statistics in a moment.
- Although blockades put in place by protesters at a number of bridges and roads downtown remain in place, the crowds of parked trucks in the downtown core has thinned again overnight and OPS/OPP teams continue to work with organizers to address any areas of tension with the truckers/demonstrators. The number one priority remains maintaining public safety.
- Parliament did resume yesterday as planned. Originally we were advised that 175 MPs planned on attending in person; ultimately about 120 to 130 Parliamentarians were on site. Everyone accessed Parliament Hill without issue yesterday, the majority by foot.

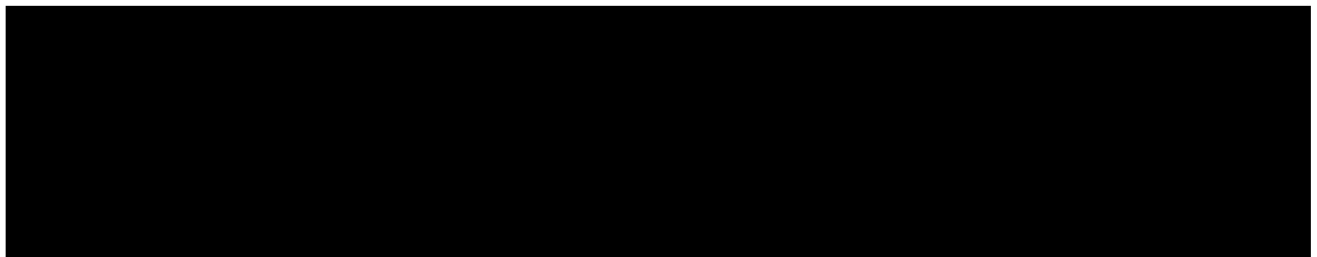
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[APG]

- The SAA has issued another communique to Parliamentarians and employees advising of the best travel routes, at this time, for access to the Precinct and the grounds of Parliament Hill.
- We have seen a fairly significant amount of interest in terms of MP's requesting support for their entry and exit to Parliament Hill. Conversations suggest that the Senate might be requesting the same.
- Moving forward, it is expected that the City of Hall and Museum of Natural History will return to business, which could impact the usage of these venues. We are looking at options for when that occurs.
- Solidarity protests continue, with the most significant one being at the Coutts, Alberta POE.
- The Port of Coutts operates 24 hours a day, and is the largest port of entry in Alberta. Hundreds of commercial and personal vehicles travel through this major thoroughfare on any given day.
- Highway 4 to and from the Canadian side of the border crossing at Coutts was completely blocked, and the blockade is being controlled by splinter groups. The organizers of the Coutts protest are distancing themselves from these splinter groups.
- I can advise that non-protesters that were stuck as a result of the blockade have now been released from that area.
- We are trying to engage protest participants; however, the engagement from the organizers has diminished and the splinter groups have engaged in limited communications; however, have not been receptive to options for opening the roadway to border traffic.

[APG]

- Some of the newest information we have through Open Source reporting includes:
 - A local convoy in Eastern Ontario was expected to begin today at 12:30 pm, starting in Embrun and going through various towns outside Ottawa, such as Casselman and Winchester, before returning to Embrun at 3:00 PM. This convoy is not expected in Ottawa.
 - 
 - We have received reports that a possible convoy may be departing Montreal on February 5th. It remains unclear if this group, of approximately 1000 vehicles, will be going to Ottawa or to Quebec. Information is still being confirmed.
 - The US convoy I reported on yesterday does not appear to be approaching a Canadian POE, but rather looks to be heading towards Washington, DC.
- We still do not have an answer to the question of how long this will last, but we are now planning for a longer-term event.
- We are evaluating the current HR situation and exploring options to establish a plan in terms of future requirements, as well as ensuring that rest and respite options are available for the resources deployed. Temporary adjustments will be made, however these will be driven by operational requirements based on the assessment of threat environment.



[APG]

- At present, my understanding is that the intention of Ottawa Police continues to be to use a measured approach and continue negotiations with the protest organizers.

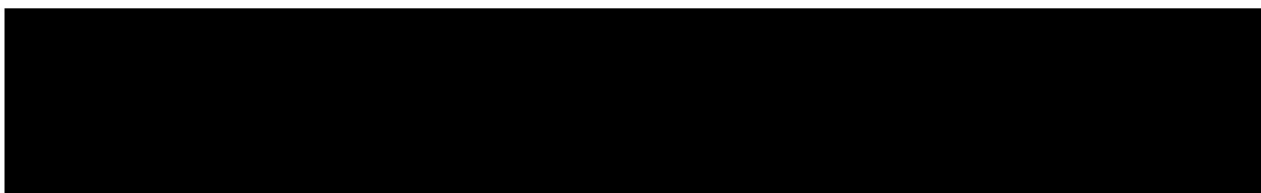
Current Statistics – Latest Data (estimates) – 12:00 PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No demonstrators are reported to be on Parliament Hill at this time.• Approximately 20 demonstrators are on Wellington St.• People are starting to show up slowly on Sussex/Rideau, still a significant presence of trucks.• No movement in front of the US Embassy, as Sussex remains closed to all traffic.

[APG]

Truckers Convoy and Protective Services

Key Messages – February 2, 2022 2:30 PM

- Good afternoon. I will cover the situation in Ottawa first, and then move on to the Alberta protest.
- While we saw significant numbers of protestors in Ottawa over the weekend, numbers have dropped significantly in the last couple of days, with estimates of about 325 people on the Hill and Wellington Street Monday, and around 200 people yesterday. Numbers remain low today.
 - As of 1:00 PM, there were about 50 demonstrators on Parliament Hill and Wellington Street.
 - Another 30 or so have gathered in Confederation Park around an oil drum fire pit.
 - A crowd had also started gathering on Rideau Street, however the area surrounding the US Embassy remained clear and the Byward Market remained quiet.
- We are starting to see more organized counter-protests take place. There is one today at the corner of Metcalfe and Wellington, a small group of about 10 people.



- The City of Ottawa has also received a permit application for a possible counter demonstration on Saturday February 5th. According to the application, the group is expected to protest around the convoy from noon until 7:00 pm. The organizer's objective is to "peacefully March against the terrorists occupying the city centre with the goal to expel them and reduce the noise

[APG]

and fear they are causing to our citizens.” The organizer is expecting approximately 1000 people.

- In addition, we have information that additional convoys are making their way to Ottawa, with an expected arrival of Saturday, as well as a group of farmers similarly planning to attend downtown. Numbers are not available at this time, but there does appear to be the potential for heavy farming equipment to be part of the groups.
- In terms of updates, the City of Ottawa will be replacing the current temporary barricades of dump trucks for concrete ones. The Ottawa Police Service will be holding an information briefing for Members of Council and Ottawa Police Services Board members today from 2-4 PM.
- As you know, Ottawa Police are the lead in this situation; while RCMP resources have been deployed, this has been in support of our protective mandate.
- This morning I did receive a request for specific operational resources from Chief Sloly. While I am absolutely willing to help support our partners, we do have some limitations on what we are able to provide based on the operational pressures we are currently facing across the country, particularly with the various solidarity protests.
- I have advised him that we are looking into the extent to which we can assist, as well as flagging the issue that our members will need to be properly designated under the *Ontario Police Services Act* to be able to have the authority to enforce provincial legislation or municipal bylaws.
- The return to Parliament has generally gone smoothly this week. Over 100 Parliamentarians were on the Hill Monday and Tuesday, and I have been advised that approximately 55 MPs are on the Hill today. There have been no incidents with anyone entering or exiting the site.

[APG]

- We have moved to one rally point – Ottawa City Hall – in support of Parliamentary ingress and egress onto Parliament Hill, as we were not getting any requests on the Gatineau side.
- While we continue to locate social media posts encouraging for trucks to be sent to Harrington Lake, there is no visual confirmation that any trucks are heading to the area.
- Discussions are underway with OSGG to explore the feasibility of reopening the grounds of Rideau Hall to the public, which will be based on the threat and risk assessment.
- It is clear that the residents of Ottawa – as well as the Mayor and City Councillors – want this to end. However, how this will exactly happen and when is unclear. Ultimately, that is a decision that the City and Ottawa Police will be responsible for making.
- As of right now, it is still my understanding that the intention of Ottawa Police continues to be to use a measured approach and continue negotiations with the protest organizers.
- With respect to the situation at the Coutts, Alberta POE, the RCMP continues to maintain the perimeters at protest site. We have reached out to in excess of 80 different tow truck companies in Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan for assistance. However, they have all declined.
- Our team has ongoing communication with the protesters. Unfortunately, this is progressively deteriorating into a tense negative situation as the protestors feel they have nothing to lose, and some have stated they are not leaving.
- Plans are being developed and we continue to attempt to secure towing services.
- We are continuing to see solidarity protests in Manitoba as well. As of this morning, the convoy in Emerson is approximately 3-4 semi-trucks and

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approximately 15 pick up trucks. Activity involves a slow roll 2-mile continuous loop along highway #75. Due to poor road conditions remaining from the blizzard yesterday, the Detachment Commander has established an agreement with event organizers that the trucks will not stop on the highway to impede traffic.

Current Statistics – Latest Data (estimates) – 1:13 PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approximately 20-30 demonstrators are reported to be on Parliament Hill at this time.• Approximately 10-20 demonstrators on Wellington St.• A crowd is building on Rideau Street, however the area surrounding the US Embassy remains clear and the Byward Market remains quiet.• Approximately 30 people have gathered in Confederation Park around an oil drum fire pit.

[APG]

Truckers Convoy and Protective Services

Key Messages for DMOC – February 3, 2022 2:30 PM

- The number of protestors downtown continues to remain low, compared to what we saw this weekend. As of 1:00 PM, there were about 80 people on Parliament Hill, with another 200-200 on Wellington Street. There were also about 30 people in Confederation Park and 1 person at the War Memorial.
- Based on open source reporting, we are expecting those numbers to jump back up this coming weekend, with several convoys appearing to be pulling together to arrive in Ottawa on Saturday February 5th. The exact number of convoys and people is still to be determined, but we do know that there are at least 2 convoys coming from the East and 1 from Kingston.
- There have been references to farm equipment being part of the incoming convoys, and I can advise that there is no bar on these types of vehicles coming into the city – in fact, in the past, there have been convoy demonstrations in the downtown core involving farm equipment.
- As I mentioned yesterday, we are seeing counter-protests starting to take place, and the City of Ottawa has already received applications for 3 counter-protests planned for Saturday. There are also 2 taking place today in front of the Ottawa Police Station.
- So far, I understand that Ottawa Police have made a number of arrests, have at least 13 investigations underway, and they have been issuing a number of tickets. Enforcement is being stepped up.
- From a protective perspective, the return to Parliament continues to go smoothly, with no incidents to note.

[APG]

- Ingress and egress to and from the Supreme Court will also be provided to eight of our Justices. Set-up and resources are already in place to accommodate.
- Although there has been some indication by protestors of their intention to drive to Harrington Lake, we have no further information on any trucks or vehicles heading to Chelsea.
- I know there have been questions about parking around Wellington and the PMO. In normal times, vehicles are only permitted to stop in order to comply with traffic signals or other activity under the bylaw.
- There is no federal statute that prevents vehicles in this area, and enforcement is through municipal bylaws. The street is not part of the Parliamentary Precinct, nor is the Office of the Prime Minister building.
- If the Prime Minister plans to attend the office, an assessment will be made and work will be done with the partners to mitigate any identified risk. If the risk cannot be mitigated, the RCMP would inform the Prime Minister.
- I understand the frustration of Ottawa residents, City Council, and the Ottawa Police as this situation continues on. I spoke with Chief Soly earlier this afternoon, and his team continues to look at every possible option to bring this to an end.
- I'll be honest, this may not be something that can be negotiated out of, or resolved only with enforcement. There may need to be some other solutions, maybe the engagement of an interlocutor.
- With respect to the situation at the Coutts, Alberta POE, yesterday there was good news when protestors agreed to open one lane in each direction.
- The main site continues to remain stable and peaceful.

[APG]

- However, congestion is growing at an RCMP checkpoint that was set up 18 km north of the main site (Checkpoint 10) on highway 4 for safety and security reasons.
- There is no indication that this group at Checkpoint 10 is connected in any way to the protest group at the Coutts Border main site, aside from being sympathizers.
- Communication with the organizers at both the main site and Checkpoint 10 will continue with the intention of trying to stabilize Checkpoint 10 and resume regular escorts for traffic local to Coutts and legitimate border passage.
- For now, our plan is to stabilize the checkpoint and manage traffic flow through there. Efforts are ongoing to engage with the protestors with a view to resolving the situation.

Current Statistics – Latest Data (estimates) – 1:09 PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 60-80 demonstrators are reported to be on Parliament Hill at this time. • Approximately 200-300 demonstrators on Wellington St. • Confederation Park has approximately 30 demonstrators. • There is 1 person at the War Memorial.

[APG]

Truckers Convoy and Protective Services


Key Messages – February 14, 2022 12:59PM

Windsor

- Following yesterday's Ontario Superior Court ruling to remove protesters blocking traffic to the Ambassador Bridge in Windsor, I am pleased to report that as of midnight, normal operations have now resumed.
- In total, 42 arrests were made, and 37 vehicles were towed. Currently, a small number of protesters remain at the scene.
- To maintain order in the area, law enforcement presence and patrols will remain high for the foreseeable future. Local road restrictions and barricades will also remain in place until further notice.
- This morning, I was advised that the Commissioner of the OPP has agreed to swear in RCMP members so that they can respond with enforcement capabilities throughout Ontario. The Solicitor General will streamline those steps.

Ottawa

- In Ottawa, OPS estimates that there are 505 trucks in the downtown core, with minimal demonstrators reported on Parliament Hill and Wellington Street as of 11AM this morning.
- However, the situation remains fluid as trucks relocate from residential neighbourhoods to Wellington Street following reports of a negotiation between Mayor Jim Watson and a key organizer for the Freedom Convoy.

- Over the weekend, there were several confrontational standoffs between convoy participants and anti-convoy protestors.
- As the residents of Ottawa continue to mobilize to take back their city, counter-convoy protests are expected to continue. A counter-convoy demonstration is scheduled to take place this evening in front of East Block, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Participation is expected to be approximately 20 individuals.
- Maintaining order between both pro- and counter-convoy protestors is of utmost importance.
- Ottawa Police continues to receive support from the OPP, RCMP, and other municipal police services. As noted yesterday, the numbers of deployed members fluctuate daily and per shift, but I can tell you that the RCMP continues to offer between 210-250 uniformed members for the frontline as per OPS requirements each day. As of 6:30AM we have been informed that

- The RCMP also continues to have approximately 345 members deployed daily in support of our protective mandate.
- Regarding the Intelligence landscape, I am aware of reports that a retired member appeared in their dress uniform to support the protestors in Ottawa over the weekend. I am deeply concerned of this behaviour from a former member, and am committed to investigating this matter further.
- Intelligence information also suggests that convoy protestors are beginning to weaponize themselves. Officers are constantly monitoring the shift in behaviour, and will respond accordingly.

This special threat advisory is intended to provide situational awareness of RCMP officers being publicly identified online via social media accounts with significant followings or on social media associated to high profile issues. (Information current as of 1 December 2021.) The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.

SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY – OFFICER DOXXING

KEY POINTS

- The IMCIT has identified three instances online which suggest RCMP officers may be at risk for doxxing activities which attract ideologically motivated audiences.
- Doxxing of law enforcement officers is not new. In recent months, however, violent rhetoric online has increased within ideologically motivated movements, along with the online reach of some influencers. The IMCIT assesses that this may increase the threat posed to police officer safety.

INTRODUCTION

The IMCIT has identified three instances where comments in regards to high profile events or influential personalities with large followings have either advocated for or posted identifying information about RCMP officers online. Posting personal, private or identifying information, usually with malicious intent, is commonly referred to as “doxxing”.

BACKGROUND

On November 29, 2021, a well-known, online QAnon influencer, who describes herself as the [REDACTED], livestreamed a video discussing a visit from RCMP officers.¹ During the video, she verbally named and displayed the business card of an RCMP member. A copy of the livestream was recorded and is still available on YouTube.²

Although she made no adverse comments directed towards the officer in her video, in the past, this individual has advocated for her over 70,000 followers^a to “Shoot to kill” anyone who tries to inject children under 19 with COVID-19 vaccines^b. She has also advocated to “#Shoot to #Kill” politicians and

^a The legitimacy of the over 70,000 [REDACTED] followers is unknown at this time. In addition, it is unknown how many reside in Canada. The [REDACTED] regularly posts content consistent with QAnon themes.

^b According to information on [REDACTED] the original post was removed because it contained calls to violence.

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bureaucrats in reference to “military orders” she posted in July 2021 regarding their alleged interference with her follower’s “rescue missions”^c in BC at the time.

She has also made comments calling for the arrest of law enforcement officers assisting with the injection of the “coronavirus bioweapon” into children. Furthermore, she has encouraged followers to send out “cease and desist” letters ordering the end of masking, vaccination, and lockdown mandates. Nationally, medical sites and government offices have reported receiving documents consistent with the “cease and desist” campaign, suggesting her followers have engaged in real world activities as a result of her postings.

On November 25, 2021, a tweet in response to enforcement of an injunction order granted to Coastal GasLink (CGL) advocated for protesters to publicly identify RCMP officers and protest at their personal residences: “Racist RCMPpigs - find their addresses and target their homes, if Canada won't deal with them the public has no other choice (sic).”³ Solidarity actions in support of Wet’suwet’en hereditary chiefs who oppose the CGL pipeline continue to receive international attention online and the overall sentiment towards police, specifically the RCMP, is negative.

On June 17, 2021, posts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram in response to RCMP enforcement of an injunction order at Fairy Creek included photos of individuals claiming they were undercover RCMP officers, “sneaking around River Camp taking photos of license plates”.^{4 5 6} The Facebook post was shared 768 times, the tweet was retweeted 598 times and the Instagram post received 2,272 likes. The posts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram all generated negative comments related to RCMP officers and remain online at the time of this writing.

ASSESSMENT

Doxxing of law enforcement officers is not new. In recent months, however, violent rhetoric online has increased within ideologically motivated movements, along with the online reach of some influencers. The IMCIT assess that this may increase the threat posed to police officer safety. Publicly identifiable information about officers could pose officer safety issues during public interactions with ideologically motivated individuals.

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^c The influencer ordered her followers via a [REDACTED] post on July 17, 2021, to set up emergency shelters for families, pregnant women, seniors, and their animals affected by the wildfires; She also ordered military aircrafts and personnel to facilitate the evacuation.

¹ <https://www.vice.com/en/article/3abb5w/qanons-queen-of-canada-alleges-rcmp-visited-her-after-shoot-to-kill-order>

² <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yfv9-pp5Keo>

⁵ <https://www.instagram.com/p/CQPpdkN2lo/>

⁶ <https://twitter.com/savefairyreek/status/1405720453369397251>

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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 17 January 2022, 1300hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.

SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY

ANTI-PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER: ESCALATION IN ONLINE VIOLENT RHETORIC

KEY POINTS

- The IMCIT assesses that violent online rhetoric opposing public health restrictions has escalated in tone, including threats made against public officials.
- Support and frequency of anti-public health order protests may grow as COVID-19 public health measures continue to impact daily life.
- Public order events outside personal residences of public officials are likely to continue.

BACKGROUND

Protests opposing public health measures have occurred since April 2020. Thus far, the majority of these events have been peaceful, however, some arrests or charges have resulted, including: assault¹, trespassing², and the issuing of tickets for violating gathering limitations or masking rules³.

CURRENT STATUS

The IMCIT assesses that new COVID-19 public health measures and the prolonging of existing restrictions have led to increasingly violent rhetoric appearing online within anti-public health order narratives. The IMCIT has observed an escalation in threatening rhetoric against public officials, including references to assassination, holding “Nuremberg Trials 2.0”^a, and conducting civilian arrests of those perceived to be involved in imposing public health rules. An escalation in the tone of these threats appears to be in response to the recent implementation of vaccine mandates for employment which has resulted in job loss in some sectors, announcements of the potential for financial penalties for

^a The Nuremberg Trials reference is in relation to a set of research ethics developed after German doctors conducted unethical human experimentation during the Second World War. It has been used by COVID-19 vaccine opponents throughout the pandemic to argue that vaccines violate the Nuremberg Code.

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/no-covid-19-vaccines-do-not-violate-the-nuremberg-code-1.5576156>



unvaccinated individuals within Quebec, anticipation of required booster doses, and the continuation of public health restrictions including gathering and capacity limits, business closures and masking rules. While the majority of these threats are indirect, the IMCIT has observed an increase in the severity of threatening rhetoric online.

Additionally, anti-public health order narratives are gaining support from individuals who identify as being fully vaccinated and compliant with public health guidelines but have become frustrated over perceptions that, despite adherence to these rules, governments continue to impose restrictions across the population. The perception that a growing portion of the population are opposed to public health restrictions may further bolster the anti-public health order movement, some proponents of which claim that “united non-compliance” protest actions will apply pressure on governments to reverse public health measures. There are also concerns that lone individuals may be motivated to conduct acts of violence in retaliation against government-imposed restrictions.

Open source information indicates that protesters feel their lives have been disrupted by public health regulations and therefore want to disrupt the private lives of the decision makers they perceive are responsible. The IMCIT assesses that demonstrations outside the private residences of public officials are likely to continue, especially in response to new or enhanced public health restrictions. The following is a list of some of the demonstrations that have occurred outside the residences of public officials in recent months:

- 7 December 2021: Municipal Chief Medical Officer, Dr. David COLBY (Chatham-Kent, ON)⁴
- 9 December 2021: Municipal Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Heather MORRISSON (Charlottetown, PEI)⁵
- 13 and 15 December 2021: Provincial Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Christine ELLIOT (Toronto, ON)⁶
- 14 December 2021: Municipal Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sudit RANAD (Sarnia, ON)⁷
- 20 December 2021: Provincial Premier, Doug FORD (Toronto, ON)⁸
- 21 December 2021: Municipal Councillor, Karrie PORTER (Niagara, ON)⁹
- 21 December 2021: Municipal Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Mustafa HIRJI (Niagara, ON)¹⁰
- 1 January 2022: Provincial Health Minister, Jason COPPING (Calgary, AB)¹¹
- 6 January 2022: Provincial Premier, Blaine HIGGS (Quispamsis, NB)¹²
- 8 January 2022: Municipal Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Mustafa HIRJI (Niagara, ON)¹³
- 8 January 2022: Niagara Health CEO, Lynn GUERRIERO (Niagara, ON)¹⁴
- 9 January 2022: Municipal Mayor, Jyoti GONDEK (Calgary, AB)¹⁵
- 10 January 2022: Provincial Education Minister, Stephen LECCE (Vaughan, ON)¹⁶
- 12 January 2022: Municipal Councillor, Gian-Carlo CARRA (Calgary, AB)¹⁷
- 15 January 2022: Municipal Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Thomas PIGGOTT (Peterborough, ON)¹⁸

OPERATIONAL LIMITATIONS

Threats against public officials have been observed on both mainstream and fringe online spaces^b. Much of the violent rhetoric routinely occurs on platforms that offer user anonymity, which poses challenges for law enforcement's ability to positively identify users' actual identities. It is likely that a significant portion of ideologically motivated violent rhetoric occurring online remains undetected and unreported. The IMCIT continues to track and report on detected threats to law enforcement partners.

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¹ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8222011/assault-charges-anti-vaccine-protest-eaton-centre/> ; <https://www.cp24.com/news/woman-charged-after-assault-during-anti-vaccine-protest-in-downtown-toronto-1.5591874> ; <https://www.cochranetoday.ca/local-news/rancheview-school-anti-vaccine-protesters-charged-with-trespassing-3879407>

² <https://www.insauga.com/noted-anti-vaxxer-arrested-at-whitby-childrens-vaccine-clinic/>

³ <https://bc.ctvnews.ca/43-tickets-given-5-arrested-after-maskless-protest-at-b-c-grocery-store-mounties-say-1.5738858> ; <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-covid-19-news-today-ontario-broadens-vaccine-eligibility-at-some/> ; <https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/one-arrested-and-57-ticketed-for-protesting-quebec-s-curfew-1.5725589> ; <https://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/local-news/maskless-members-of-anti-vaxxer-group-in-kamloops-arrested-fined-at-superstore-4943612>

⁴ <https://windsor.ctvnews.ca/protest-held-outside-chatham-kent-medical-officer-of-health-s-home-1.5698851>

⁵ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-protesters-cpho-home-1.6282708>

⁶ <https://www.blogto.com/city/2021/12/anti-vaxxers-protest-christine-elliott-toronto-home/> ; <https://www.insauga.com/crowd-of-anti-vax-rise-up-durham-members-harass-whitbys-christine-elliott-at-her-toronto-home/>

⁷ <https://lfpres.com/news/local-news/anti-mask-anti-vaccine-protesters-target-public-health-officials-home>

⁸ <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-premier-doug-ford-can-t-get-into-his-home-due-to-anti-vaxx-protesters-outside-spokesperson-1.5714974>

⁹ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/councillor-medical-officer-of-health-protests-1.6295513>

¹⁰ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/councillor-medical-officer-of-health-protests-1.6295513>

¹¹ <https://edmontonjournal.com/news/crime/pawlowski-brothers-arrested-after-alleged-protest-outside-alberta-health-ministers-home/wcm/0ff4dca5-ed54-4eea-a148-eb1626fb16a6>

¹² <https://tj.news/telegraph-journal/101755596>

¹³ <https://www.stcatharinesstandard.ca/news/niagara-region/2022/01/08/antivaxx-protestors-targeting-homes-of-healthcare-officials.html?rf>

¹⁴ <http://www.101morefm.ca/news/local-news/protesters-target-homes-of-two-of-niagaras-top-health-officials/>

¹⁵ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8500630/protest-jyoti-gondek-home-covid-19/>

¹⁶ <https://www.blogto.com/city/2022/01/anti-vax-protest-stephen-lecce/>

¹⁷ <https://calgary.ctvnews.ca/group-protests-outside-home-of-gian-carlo-carra-1.5738282>

¹⁸ <https://kawarthanow.com/2022/01/15/anti-vaxxers-show-up-at-home-of-peterborough-medical-officer-of-health-dr-thomas-piggott/>

^b "Fringe" platforms include websites like 4chan, which allows users to share content anonymously in an image-based forum without creating an account.

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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 25 January 2022, 0900hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.

SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY

FREEDOM CONVOY 2022: CONVERGING IN OTTAWA JANUARY 28/29, 2022

KEY POINTS

- Reliable estimates on the number of convoys, vehicles and people arriving in Ottawa for 28/29 January are unavailable at this time.
- Impromptu protests in places of significance around Ottawa, such as the offices or homes of political figures, public health officials or at media outlets are likely to occur throughout the duration of the convoy's presence in Ottawa, however, reliable information on times and locations remain unknown at this time.
- The IMCIT assesses that there has been an increase in online narratives supportive of the convoy among both ideologically motivated networks, as well as in general public discourse. A significant amount of financial support has also been raised through increasing donations to the main fundraiser associated with the convoy.

BACKGROUND

In early January 2022, the Government of Canada announced a federal vaccine mandate requiring that all truck drivers crossing the border must be fully vaccinated as of January 15, 2022.¹ In response to this requirement, a national event entitled "Freedom Convoy 2022" was planned via social media², which advertised as a fundraiser and then gained momentum on other platforms. The convoy began on January 22 in various provinces and is slated to arrive in Ottawa between January 28 and 29, 2022.

CURRENT STATUS

Opposition to vaccine mandates for truckers continue to drive discussions and receive widespread promotion within anti-public health order networks. As the date of the convoy's arrival in Ottawa draws closer, news of the convoy is receiving more frequent mainstream media attention. It is also important to note that the convoy's progress is being shared on individual social media accounts that, in the past, have not promoted anti-public health order narratives. Some perceive the convoy as a positive showing

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of unity amongst Canadians. Narratives opposing the convoy have also been observed, however, no counter-actions have been identified at the time of this writing.

Scope and Scale

It remains unclear how many transport trucks, passenger vehicles and individuals will arrive in Ottawa between January 28 and 29, 2022. Fundraising efforts for the convoy continue to see an increase, though there is no clear information about how the funds will be dispersed. As of 0900hrs on 2022-01-25, the main GoFundMe page associated to the convoy has reportedly raised \$4,240,370. The length of time that the convoy will be in Ottawa is currently unknown. The overall perception among some supporters and participants of the convoy is that, if enough truckers protest and cause supply shortages, this could be the major push needed to end what the anti-public health order movement calls “government tyranny” (i.e. the perceived overreach of the government related to all things COVID – lockdowns, vaccine mandates, etc.).

Convoy Participants

It is assessed that this convoy will include ideologically motivated individuals with grievances that are anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial in nature. In addition, individuals with racially motivated and ethno-nationalist views may also be attracted to this event, though the purpose of the event is not rooted in these specific grievances. The presence of ideologically motivated individuals does not necessarily mean ideologically motivated criminality or ideologically motivated violence will occur. Note that within these ideologically motivated networks, not all individuals support extreme activities and there is a diversity of views regarding the use of violence. This convoy is also attracting individuals who are not aligned with any specific ideology or group, but who have experienced personal hardships (such as job loss) due to COVID-19 and are upset with provincial or federal government responses as the pandemic continues to impact daily life. In addition, rhetoric observed online in various networks known for more extreme content have made references to the January 6, 2021 events in the US Capitol when discussing the convoy to Ottawa.³

Routes

Information from law enforcement partners, as well as open source networks indicate that the convoys are headed to Ottawa by various east, west and south-bound routes throughout Canada.^{4 5} IMCIT and law enforcement partners across Canada are engaged and sharing rapidly evolving information. Reliable estimates on the numbers of convoys, vehicles and people arriving in Ottawa are not available at this time, however, as some vehicles may participate for a portion of the convoy in solidarity without continuing the entire distance to Ottawa.

After the Convoy's Arrival in Ottawa

Traffic disruptions throughout Canada have already occurred as a result of the convoy, and disruptions within the National Capital Region are expected as convoys arrive in Ottawa. Once in Ottawa, impromptu protests may occur with little or no open source advertising beforehand due to the convergence of a large number of people and the ability to mobilize in the area on short notice. Based

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on past protests opposing public health orders, it is possible that protected sites such as the Prime Minister's residence, as well as businesses such as media outlets, may be attractive locations for protest.

Support from Like-Minded Individuals in the United States

Online narratives indicating support from like-minded individuals within the United States have also been observed, although information is limited at this time. Advertisements for border actions on January 29 in Woodstock Maine, Sault Ste. Marie Michigan, and Sweetgrass Montana have been identified.⁶ A generic flyer has circulated Canadian anti-public health order networks advertising January 29 as a date to block borders, however has no specific locations have been listed.⁷ In addition, a Tweet online from a Canadian individual with 2.2 million followers stated that, "American truckers are joining",⁸ however the validity of the comment at this time remains unknown.

Sentiments Towards the Police

Some convoy organizers have been in contact with local and provincial law enforcement and have expressed positive sentiments towards the police.⁹ However, a report from E Division regarding a solidarity protest on 2022-01-23 in Salmon Arm, BC indicates that approximately 20-30 protesters were verbally abusive to attending police officers.¹⁰

The IMCIT is liaising with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on this event and other events related to the opposition of trucker mandates which are occurring nationally, and will provide updates as required.

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¹ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-truckers-vaccine-reversal-1.6313200>

² <https://www.facebook.com/Freedom-Convoy-2022-100286905896085>

⁴ <https://canada-unity.com/bearhug>

⁵ <https://action4canada.com/convoy-for-freedom-2022/>

⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10159657379640813&set=gm.495450218579821>

⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/310624427062402/posts/493680662090110/>

⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/convoy/posts/367735114726090/>

¹⁰ Email received from E Division Criminal Intelligence Section dated 2022-01-24

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 26 January 2022, 1400hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.

SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY – UPDATE 1

FREEDOM CONVOY 2022: CONVERGING IN OTTAWA JANUARY 28/29, 2022

KEY POINTS

- Reliable estimates on the number of convoys, vehicles and people arriving in Ottawa for 28/29 January continue to be difficult to obtain. [REDACTED]
- The duration of the event in Ottawa is still unknown. Impromptu protests will likely occur with little or no social media advertising beforehand due to the ability to mobilize a large group of people on short notice.
- The IMCIT assesses that opposition to vaccine mandates continues to grow in intensity and could become a potential flash point for acts of violence. This convoy includes individuals with a range of views, some of which are ideologically motivated in nature and others who are not aligned with any specific ideology or group.

BACKGROUND

In response to the Government of Canada's federal vaccine mandate requiring that all truck drivers crossing the border must be fully vaccinated as of January 15, 2022,¹ a national event entitled "Freedom Convoy 2022" was initiated and planned via a social media fundraiser.² Currently, over five million dollars has been fundraised for the event via the crowdfunding platform GoFundMe.³ Since the convoy began on January 22 in various provinces, it has gained momentum on multiple social media platforms and is slated to arrive in Ottawa between January 28 and 29, 2022.

CURRENT STATUS

Opposition to vaccine mandates for truckers continues to drive discussions and receive widespread promotion within anti-public health order networks. As the date of the convoy's arrival in Ottawa draws closer, coverage of the convoy has been reported on Canadian mainstream media outlets, as well as international news and multiple social media platforms.

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Scope and Scale

It remains unclear how many transport trucks, passenger vehicles and individuals will arrive in Ottawa between January 28 and 29, 2022. The Ontario Provincial Police will be providing the most current numbers to law enforcement partners as information becomes available.

Online advertisements for public order events at various overpasses throughout Ontario have been identified with the intent to support and cheer on the convoys coming from various routes. In addition, local events within Canadian provinces are expected to take place on January 29 in solidarity with the main convoy in Ottawa and could occur at border points or government buildings.^{4 5}

Some social media accounts are claiming trucker support from the United States (US) coming to Ottawa⁶, however at this time, this information appears limited to the online chatter and there has been no information from law enforcement verifying widespread participation from US supporters.

Routes

It is expected that starting, January 28, people will begin to arrive in Ottawa.⁷ At this time, confirmed activities of convoy participants for a January 28 arrival are unknown. On January 29, the majority of convoys will be arriving in Ottawa at 1200hrs, meeting at Parliament Hill from the routes below.⁸

- Cornwall to Ottawa;
- Arnprior to Ottawa;
- Vankleek to Ottawa;
- Kingston to Ottawa; and
- Peterborough to Ottawa.

Intent Once in Ottawa

There is limited information at this time regarding planned activities once the convoy reaches Ottawa, however it is likely impromptu protests will occur with little or no social media advertising beforehand due to the ability to mobilize a large group of people on short notice.

Various traffic disruptions are expected throughout the city as the convoy converges and the potential for impromptu traffic interruptions throughout the National Capital Region are expected for the duration of the convoy which is still currently unknown.

Based on past protests opposing public health orders, it is possible that protected sites such as the Prime Minister's residence and media outlets may be attractive locations for protest. It is possible protesters will seek to identify where the Prime Minister is, based on his itinerary or any open source information posting his location. The potential for some individuals involved in the convoy to attend the Prime Minister's location, should it be a reasonable distance to travel, is possible should his location be publicized. Impromptu shopping events defying public health orders may also occur, given the prevalence of such actions throughout the pandemic.

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The length of time protesters plan to remain in Ottawa is unknown. Social media with narratives to “adopt a trucker” have been identified⁹ and online information indicates that there are individuals willing to provide lodging and meals to convoy participants as a means of support. In addition, part of the fundraising efforts from the GoFundMe campaign are supposed to go towards lodging.¹⁰ Initial information posted online which advertised the link to the fundraiser requested donations for hotels and people to help put drivers up for up to 10 days if needed in Ottawa.¹¹ The overall perception among some supporters and participants of the convoy is that this action will be what is needed to end the perceived overreach of government with respect to mandated vaccines, lockdowns and other public health measures.

General Threats

COVID-19 public health measures and the prolonging of existing restrictions have led to increasingly violent rhetoric appearing online within anti-public health order narratives.¹² The IMCIT assesses that opposition to vaccine mandates continues to grow in intensity and could become a potential flash point for acts of violence.¹³

Recent media reports calling attention to hostile rhetoric among some supporters of the convoy has resulted in one of the main organizers speaking out in opposition of violence.^{14 15} It is important to note that there are a range of people with varying views participating in the convoy and event in Ottawa, ranging from those who are not aligned with any specific ideology or group but have experienced hardships due to COVID-19, to those who are ideologically motivated and see the convoy as an opportunity to further their narratives to a wider audience. Within ideologically motivated networks, not all individuals support extreme activities and there is a diversity of views regarding the use of violence.^a Overall sentiment towards law enforcement is mixed. Some online rhetoric within networks promoting the convoy is indicative of a willingness for a peaceful, lawful protest, in some cases with positive comments directed towards working with police.¹⁶ Conversely, anti-authority narratives have also been observed,¹⁷ including rhetoric that calls for disruptive or violent responses to police enforcement.¹⁸

As the convoy nears Ottawa and continues to receive mainstream media attention, narratives opposing the convoy have also been observed, however, no counter-actions have been identified at the time of this writing.

The IMCIT is liaising with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on this event and other events related to the opposition of trucker mandates which are occurring nationally, and will provide updates as required.

^a Based on open source information, this convoy will include ideologically motivated individuals with grievances that are anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial in nature. Though the purpose of the convoy is not rooted in racially motivated or ethno-nationalist specific grievances, individuals with these views may also be attracted to this event since COVID-19 has amplified existing narratives within these networks. The presence of ideologically motivated individuals does not necessarily mean ideologically motivated criminality or ideologically motivated violence will occur.

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

¹ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-truckers-vaccine-reversal-1.6313200>

² <https://www.facebook.com/Freedom-Convoy-2022-100286905896085>

³ <https://www.gofundme.com/f/taking-back-our-freedom-convoy-2022>

⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/Alberta4Liberty/posts/134919755664374>

⁵ <https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/truckers-opposing-covid-19-vaccine-mandate-plan-weekend-protest-at-n-s-n-b-border-1.5754278>

⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=5034569706601284&set=p.5034569706601284&type=3>

⁷ <https://canada-unity.com/bearhug/>

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/427304135763931>

¹⁰ <https://www.gofundme.com/f/taking-back-our-freedom-convoy-2022>

¹² IMCIT STA 2022-01 – 2022-01-18

¹³ IMCIT NTL #2021-07 -- 2021-12-23

¹⁴ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/organizer-extremists-convoy-no-violence-1.6327650>

¹⁵ [REDACTED]

¹⁶ <https://gab.com/skilledtradejobscanada/posts/107690122297853115>

[REDACTED]

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 27 January 2022, 1600hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.

SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY – UPDATE 2

FREEDOM CONVOY 2022: CONVERGING IN OTTAWA JANUARY 28/29, 2022

KEY POINTS

- Reliable estimates on the number of convoys, vehicles and people arriving in Ottawa for 28/29 January continue to be difficult to obtain. [REDACTED]
- The duration of the event in Ottawa is still unknown. Impromptu protests will likely occur with little or no social media advertising beforehand due to the ability to mobilize a large group of people on short notice. News of the Prime Minister isolating at home due to a COVID-19 exposure has resulted in comments suggesting protests wherever he is located.
- This convoy includes individuals with a range of views, some of which are ideologically motivated in nature and others who are not aligned with any specific ideology or group. While there is a significant amount of online chatter encouraging peaceful and lawful protest, concerns exist that the convoy could be exploited by individuals who engage in or promote actions that pose a risk to public and officer safety.

CURRENT STATUS

Opposition to vaccine mandates for truckers continues to drive discussions and receive widespread promotion within anti-public health order networks. As the time of the convoy's arrival in Ottawa draws closer, coverage of the convoy has been reported on Canadian mainstream media outlets, as well as international news and multiple social media platforms. Currently, over six million dollars has been fundraised for the event via the crowdfunding platform GoFundMe.¹

SCOPE, SCALE AND ROUTES

It remains unclear how many transport trucks, passenger vehicles and individuals will arrive in Ottawa between January 28 and 29, 2022. [REDACTED]

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Some social media accounts are claiming trucker support from the United States (US) is coming to Ottawa.³ A video livestreamed on 2022-01-27 by the “Freedom Convoy 2022” main Facebook page makes the claim, “Politicians in the States are encouraging all their citizens to come and stand with us”.⁴ At this time, however, this information appears limited to online chatter and there has been no information from law enforcement verifying widespread participation from US supporters.

Convoys converging in Kingston on January 27 are expected to leave Kingston on January 28 at 0830hrs and begin to arrive in Ottawa.⁵ ⁶At this time, confirmed activities in Ottawa of convoy participants for a January 28 arrival remains unknown. On January 29, the majority of convoys will be arriving in Ottawa at 1200hrs, meeting at Parliament Hill.⁷

INTENT ONCE IN OTTAWA

There is limited information at this time regarding planned activities once the convoy reaches Ottawa. It is likely, however, that impromptu protests will occur with little or no social media advertising beforehand due to the ability to mobilize a large group of people on short notice.

Various traffic disruptions are expected throughout the city as the convoy converges and the potential for impromptu traffic interruptions throughout the National Capital Region are expected for the duration of the convoy, which is still currently unknown.

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Based on past protests opposing public health orders, it is possible that protected sites and media outlets may be attractive locations for protest. News reports on 2022-01-27, as well as a tweet from the Prime Minister (PM), indicate that he is isolating for five days due to a COVID-19 exposure and will be working from home.⁸ Within minutes of the news, the main Instagram account associated to the convoy, which has over 200k followers, posted the news. This generated comments suggesting that he is hiding and chatter indicated a desire to find out where he is located in order to protest.^{9 10} This news may increase frustrations of individuals associated with the convoy, fueling perceptions that the government is ignoring Canadians and may result in an increase of threats directed towards the PM. It is also possible this may prolong the protest until the PM emerges from isolation.

The fundraiser associated with the convoy continues to increase but there is still no clear indication of how the funds will be dispersed. It is possible that the longer the funds remain held in the GoFundMe account, questions of credibility and requests for refunds could discredit the organizers, leading to frustrations and an increased loss of crowd control among the main organizers.^a

Chatter online is also beginning to question what will happen if the protest is ignored by the government.¹¹ Some responses include hostile rhetoric suggesting that the protest needs to “get violent”¹², while other imagery is suggestive of a permanent gridlock around Ottawa until “freedom” is restored.¹³ No credible threat of violence has been observed in these conversations at this time.

NATIONWIDE SOLIDARITY ACTIONS

Online advertisements for public order events at various overpasses throughout Ontario have been identified with the intent to support and cheer on the convoys coming from various routes. In addition, multiple local events within Canadian provinces have been advertised to take place on January 29¹⁴ in solidarity with the main convoy in Ottawa and could occur at border points or the following government buildings:^{15 16}

- Victoria, Legislative Assembly
- Vancouver, Canada Place
- Calgary, Prince Island Park
- Edmonton, Legislature building
- Regina, Legislative building
- Winnipeg, The Forks
- Toronto, Union Station
- Montreal, Place des arts
- Moncton, Riverfront Park
- St John’s, Harbourside Park

GENERAL THREATS

COVID-19 public health measures and the prolonging of existing restrictions have led to increasingly violent rhetoric appearing online within anti-public health order narratives.¹⁷ The IMCIT assesses that opposition to vaccine mandates continues to grow in intensity and could become a potential flash point for acts of violence.¹⁸

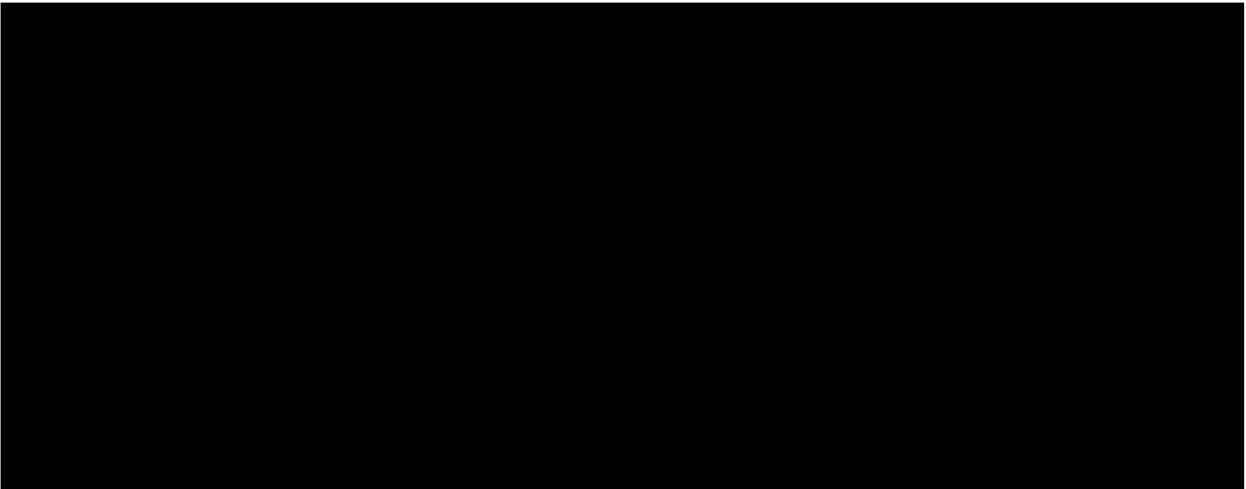
^a Social media indicates there have been donations of meals along the journey, as well as some restaurants planning on providing free food for those associated with the convoy once in Ottawa. These offerings have been highly visible on social media. This may lead to questions about what is being done with the money, as part of the funds raised are supposed to go to food according to information on the GoFundMe page.

It is important to note that there are a range of people with varying views participating in the convoy and Ottawa protest, ranging from those who have experienced hardships due to COVID-19 to those who are ideologically motivated and see the convoy as an opportunity to further their narratives to a wider audience. Not all individuals support extreme activities and there is a diversity of views regarding the use of violence.^b While there is a significant amount of online chatter encouraging peaceful and lawful protest, concerns exist that the convoy could be exploited by individuals who engage in or promote actions that pose a risk to public and officer safety.

Overall sentiment towards law enforcement remains mixed. In one case, a video posted on 2022-01-25 by an individual known for ethno-nationalist grievances included the comments “If a trucker bursts through that wall, for one, that isn’t terrorism, ok, that isn’t it’s not terrorism but for two, that’s epic”¹⁹ in reference to the construction surrounding Parliament Hill.

There are a number of posts online warning convoy participants to be aware of plants or government provocateurs in the crowd who they allege will try to stir up violence.^{20 21} There is also messaging among the movement for the potential for paid actors to be at the protest in order to cause violence and bring a bad name to the group. These perceived predictions are in line with conspiracies that surrounded the initial online discussion after the January 6, 2021 insurrection in the US. Claims that “antifa” were responsible for an anonymous phone call threatening Ottawa Police have been posted online,²² though the call is still under investigation. Narratives opposing the convoy have also been observed, however, no counter-actions have been identified at the time of this writing.

CROSS-BORDER THREATS



^b Based on open source information, this convoy will include ideologically motivated individuals with grievances that are anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial in nature. Though the purpose of the convoy is not rooted in racially motivated or ethno-nationalist specific grievances, individuals with these views may also be attracted to this event since COVID-19 has amplified existing narratives within these networks. The presence of ideologically motivated individuals does not necessarily mean ideologically motivated criminality or ideologically motivated violence will occur.

The IMCIT is liaising with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on this event and other events related to the opposition of trucker mandates which are occurring nationally, and will provide updates as required.

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¹ <https://www.gofundme.com/f/taking-back-our-freedom-convoy-2022>

² [REDACTED]

³ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=5034569706601284&set=p.5034569706601284&type=3>

⁴ https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch_permalink&v=5166848616666775

⁵ <https://canada-unity.com/bearhug/>

⁶ <https://ygknews.ca/2022/01/26/kingston-is-bracing-for-a-truck-convoy-on-thursday/>

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ <https://twitter.com/JustinTrudeau/status/1486704226449379329>

⁹ <https://www.instagram.com/p/CZPL5IVLWft/>

¹⁰ <https://www.instagram.com/p/CZPL5IVLWft/c/17953601452615752/>

¹¹ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/310624427062402/posts/497409821717194>

¹² https://www.facebook.com/groups/310624427062402/posts/497409821717194/?comment_id=497688841689292

¹³ https://www.facebook.com/groups/310624427062402/posts/497409821717194/?comment_id=498077228317120

¹⁴ <https://twitter.com/News24Wide/status/1486564673659023369>

¹⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/Alberta4Liberty/posts/134919755664374>

¹⁶ <https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/truckers-opposing-covid-19-vaccine-mandate-plan-weekend-protest-at-n-s-n-b-border-1.5754278>

¹⁷ IMCIT STA 2022-01 – 2022-01-18

¹⁸ IMCIT NTL #2021-07 – 2021-12-23

¹⁹ [REDACTED]

²⁰ <https://twitter.com/thelinecanada/status/148657457343275008>

²¹ [REDACTED]

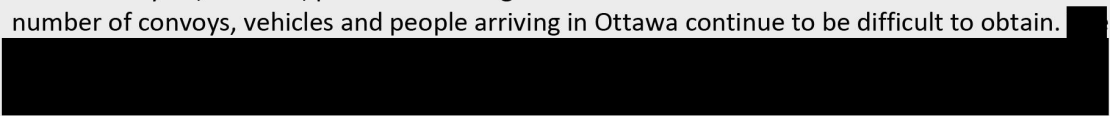
²² <https://www.toronto99.com/2022/01/27/antifa-threatens-police-officers-ahead-of-jan-29-rally/>

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 28 January 2022, 1500hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.

SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY – UPDATE 3

FREEDOM CONVOY 2022: CONVERGING IN OTTAWA JANUARY 28/29, 2022

KEY POINTS

- As of January 28, 1500hrs, protesters have gathered at Parliament Hill. Reliable estimates on the number of convoys, vehicles and people arriving in Ottawa continue to be difficult to obtain. 
- The duration of the event in Ottawa still remains unknown. In addition to planned protests, impromptu protests will occur with little or no social media advertising beforehand. Locations such as hospitals, protected sites, media outlets and personal residences of political figures may be attractive locations for protest.
- No formal organized plot of violence has been identified, however, there are a number of factors which could impact the situation as the protest mobilizes. This could include the number of people in the crowd, potential for altercations amongst protesters and with law enforcement and the influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers. This may impact the temperature of the crowd and the potential for violence by a lone actor or fringe group cannot be discounted as protesters flow into Ottawa. As with all large public order events, these factors may have the potential to galvanize larger portions of the protesters to violence.

CURRENT STATUS

The Freedom Convoy 2022 has started to arrive in Ottawa.¹ Additional vehicles are expected to arrive throughout the day with more convoys converging on January 29. These events are driving discussions online and receiving widespread promotion within anti-public health order networks. Frequent news of the convoy is being reported on Canadian media outlets and social media momentum including live footage of the convoy from various points in Canada continues to grow. The main GoFundMe associated with the account has exceeded seven million dollars as of 1045hrs on January 28, 2022.²

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SCOPE, SCALE AND ROUTES

It remains unclear how many transport trucks, passenger vehicles and individuals will arrive in Ottawa between January 28 and 29, 2022.



While discussions on social media continues to claim support from truckers in the US, there has been no information from law enforcement verifying widespread participation from US supporters. Based on social media posts, solidarity rallies in support at some US borders are being promoted.⁴ Posters advertising international convoys are also circulating Canadian networks.⁵ Real or aspirational international support may serve to further energize the protesters in Ottawa.

On January 29, the majority of convoys will arrive in Ottawa to meet at 1200hrs on Parliament Hill.⁶ However, based on the arrival of a convoy from Kingston today, as well as the current presence of protesters, traffic disruptions will be ongoing in various areas of the National Capital Region (NCR). While definitive numbers of individuals arriving in the NCR remain fluid, it should be noted that images of support on overpasses throughout Canada and specifically within Ontario over the past few days have shown significant support cheering on the convoy. It is also important to note that attendance in Ottawa at various points will also include drivers independent of the convoy who have come from around Ontario.

INTENT ONCE IN OTTAWA

No formal organized plot of violence has been identified, however, there are a number of factors which could impact the situation as the protest mobilizes, including the number of people in the crowd, potential for altercations amongst protesters and with law enforcement and the influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers. This may impact the temperature of the crowd and the potential for violence by a lone actor or fringe group cannot be discounted as protesters flow into Ottawa. As with all large public order events, these factors may have the potential to galvanize larger portions of the protesters to violence.

There is still limited information at this time regarding planned activities once the convoys converge in Ottawa. The leader of the People's Party of Canada (PPC) posted about events at Confederation Park on January 29 at 1500hrs as well as at Parliament Hill on January 30 at 1200hrs.⁷

Impromptu protests will occur with little or no social media advertising beforehand due to the ability to mobilize a large group of people on short notice. Suggestions to protest outside media outlets by blocking parking lots until they start "telling the truth" have circulated social media.⁸ Some chatter has been identified suggesting potential protest activities at hospitals, however, no concrete plans have

^a This includes a count from Sault Ste. Marie to Arnprior, Owen Sound, Huntsville, Kingston to Ottawa, Quebec, Cochrane and Little Current.

been identified.⁹ Protected sites, such as the Prime Minister's (PM) residence will likely be attractive locations for impromptu protests and media reporting indicates concern that protests could occur at personal residences of political figures.¹⁰ Attempts to deliver a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to the Governor General and Senate may also be attempted, according to open source information,¹¹ as one of the organizing webpages involved has been promoting this MOU for months.¹²

Various traffic disruptions are expected throughout the city as the convoy converges and the potential for impromptu traffic interruptions throughout the NCR are expected for the duration of the convoy, which still remains unknown.

Heavy machinery has been identified via open source networks on some of the transports. At this time, it is unknown why this machinery is being transported to Ottawa, however, it is possible it will be used to obstruct areas. Videos circulating social media also show drivers in farming equipment such as plows and tractors joining the convoy.¹³ Further, Parliamentary Protective Service advised of an online post showing a helicopter with a caption claiming it is being used to document the convoy.¹⁴ The post also references a drone pilot embedded in the convoy. Their intended use is unknown at this time.



15



16

Our first chopper is almost ready for take-off to document the convoy!
One of our own squad will be on board, he is in constant contact with
one of our drone pilots embedded in the convoy.



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The fundraiser associated with the convoy continues to receive monetary contributions and social media and news reports indicate the organizer received confirmation that GoFundMe has released the first batch of funds and is initiating their first transfer.^{18 19}

NATIONWIDE SOLIDARITY ACTIONS

Canada-wide solidarity actions continue to see increased promotion and events in several Canadian provinces will be occurring simultaneously with the protest in Ottawa. (See IMCIT STA 2022-04 – 2022-01-27 for a list of some of the identified actions in Canada). Solidarity actions outside news media outlets²⁰ are being planned in addition to actions outside legislative buildings and border crossings. As the situation in Ottawa continues to receive widespread coverage, actions in Ottawa may influence impromptu events in other Canadian provinces.

GENERAL THREATS

COVID-19 public health measures and the prolonging of existing restrictions have led to increasingly violent rhetoric appearing online within anti-public health order narratives.²¹ The IMCIT assesses that opposition to vaccine mandates continues to grow in intensity and could become a potential flash point for acts of violence.²² Overall sentiment towards law enforcement remains mixed. While there is a significant amount of online chatter encouraging peaceful and lawful protest, concerns exist that protest events associated with the convoy could be exploited by individuals who engage in or promote actions that pose a risk to public and officer safety.^b

Narratives referencing the January 6 US Capitol riot continue to be observed in relation to the event in Ottawa. Since the initial formation of the convoy, it has been observed that some protesters intend to stay until public health restrictions and mandates are removed. Other rhetoric indicating a desire to stay until the PM is out of isolation has also been identified. Ideologically motivated individuals who have promoted controversial views will be present at the protest in Ottawa.^c Symbolism associated with anti-government and conspiratorial grievances have been reported as being part of convoy vehicles within Canada,²³ in addition to symbols such as the Confederate flag²⁴ which, depending on the context, can be perceived as racially motivated.

Narratives opposing the convoy have also been observed, and there has been an uptick in chatter calling out specific individuals with historical ties to anti-government, racially motivated and ethno-nationalist grievances which has resulted in further polarization between convoy supporters and opponents online. At this time however, no counter-actions have been identified.

^b It is important to note that there are a range of people with varying views participating in the convoy and Ottawa protest, ranging from those who have experienced hardships due to COVID-19 to those who are ideologically motivated and see the convoy as an opportunity to further their narratives to a wider audience. Not all individuals support extreme activities and there is a diversity of views regarding the use of violence.

^c The presence of ideologically motivated individuals does not necessarily mean ideologically motivated criminality or ideologically motivated violence will occur.

The IMCIT is liaising with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on this event and other events related to the opposition of trucker mandates which are occurring nationally, and will provide updates as required.

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

¹ <https://ottawacitizen.com/news/local-news/truck-convoy-updates-truckers-begin-arriving-in-ottawa>

² <https://www.gofundme.com/f/taking-back-our-freedom-convoy-2022>

⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEI211fWWuc>

⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/310624427062402/posts/498499178274925/>

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ <https://twitter.com/MaximeBernier/status/1486754020899405833>

⁸ <https://www.instagram.com/p/CZQEYFnJudm/>

¹⁰ <https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/mps-warned-about-security-risks-related-to-convoy-o-toole-plans-to-meet-truckers-1.5757134>

¹¹ <https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2022/01/27/tories-voice-support-for-freedom-convoy-as-truckers-head-for-ottawa.html>

¹² <https://canada-unity.com/mou/>

¹⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/313721467377056/posts/313803564035513/>

¹⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/356934086259420/posts/367776031841892/>

¹⁶ <https://gab.com/Herecomesthejudge/posts/107700648541931296>

¹⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/313721467377056/posts/313803564035513/>

¹⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/100286905896085/videos/1056706708206210>

¹⁹ <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/gofundme-releasing-1-million-of-fundraising-money-to-trucker-convoy-1.5757502>

²⁰ <https://twitter.com/quantheoutlaw/status/1487113532558745600>

²¹ IMCIT STA 2022-01 – 2022-01-18

²² IMCIT NTL #2021-07 -- 2021-12-23

²³ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/freedom-convoy-truckers-1.6329870>

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 31 January 2022, 1345hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.

SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY – UPDATE 4

FREEDOM CONVOY 2022: ONGOING IN OTTAWA SINCE JANUARY 28/29, 2022

KEY POINTS

- Disruptions that include 2,950 personal and commercial motor vehicles continue to impact Ottawa as part of the ongoing Freedom Convoy 2022 demonstration. Numbers of individuals arriving and departing the National Capital Region remain fluid and will likely fluctuate daily as the demonstration continues.
- The duration of the event in Ottawa still remains unknown. Individuals are now physically present together in Ottawa and planning can take place in person, without the need to communicate via open sources, resulting in the potential for adverse activities with little to no warning.
- No formal organized plot of violence has been identified. Factors such as the circulation of misinformation, exhaustion, substance abuse, altercations amongst protesters and with law enforcement and the influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers may impact the temperature of the crowd. The potential for violence by a lone actor or fringe group cannot be discounted.

CURRENT STATUS

The Freedom Convoy 2022 events continue to drive discussions online and receive widespread promotion within anti-public health order networks. Frequent news of the convoy is being reported on Canadian media outlets and social media momentum, including live footage of the convoy from various points in Canada, continues to grow. The main GoFundMe associated with the account has exceeded nine million dollars as of January 31, 2022 with donations continuing to increase.¹

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SCOPE AND SCALE

A estimated mix of 2,950 personal and commercial motor vehicles² continue to disrupt downtown Ottawa.³ Numbers of individuals arriving and departing the National Capital Region (NCR) remain fluid and will likely fluctuate daily as the demonstration continues.

As of Monday at 1345hrs, social media shows significantly less individuals in downtown Ottawa than the previous two days. Comments in a video posted January 31 by an individual known for anti-government, anti-Semitic and anti-public health order grievances indicates that “it’s going to be an interesting week.”⁴ While details related to the exact context of this comment are unknown, at the very least, it suggests the protest will continue.

INTENT WHILE IN OTTAWA

No formal organized plot of violence has been identified, however, there are a number of factors which could impact the situation as the protest continues, including the number of people in the crowd, the circulation of misinformation, exhaustion, substance abuse, potential for altercations amongst protesters and with law enforcement and the influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers. This may impact the temperature of the crowd 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 larger portions of the protesters to violence.

Although planned activities took place over the weekend, there is limited information posted about formal activities planned for the coming week. News reports and social media narratives indicate that protesters have a desire to stay in Ottawa,⁵ however no timeframe has been identified. Since the initial formation of the convoy, it has been observed that some protesters intend to stay until public health restrictions and mandates are removed. Recent news that the Prime Minister (PM) has tested positive for COVID-19 has resulted in an increase of conversations attempting to determine his location and claiming that he is at Harrington Lake.⁶ Conversations regarding protesting where individuals think the PM is located continue to circulate social media.⁷

Impromptu protests will continue to occur with little or no social media advertising beforehand due to the ability to mobilize a large group of people on short notice. Over the weekend, multiple businesses proactively closed due to traffic interruptions and safety concerns related to the demonstration. News reports indicate disruptions to businesses continue with the closures of some remaining in place, including one school located in proximity to the demonstration.⁸

The fundraiser associated with the convoy continues to receive monetary contributions and social media and news reports indicate that the GoFundMe account has released the first batch of funds and is initiating their transfer to the organizer.^{9 10} There is no information on what will be done with the remainder of the funds or if GoFundMe has released additional funds to the organizer. Concerns over the cost of policing the protests in Ottawa has resulted in chatter online suggesting the City of Ottawa should sue to organizers to cover the costs.¹¹

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NATIONWIDE SOLIDARITY ACTIONS

Canada-wide solidarity actions have occurred simultaneously with the demonstration in Ottawa and it is likely more will be planned. As the situation in Ottawa is receiving widespread coverage, actions in Ottawa may continue to influence impromptu events in other Canadian provinces.

News reports indicate that Highway 4 near the Coutts border in Southern Alberta is currently blocked.¹² Additionally, over the weekend, several convoys and protests took place within Canadian provinces, some of which include:

- Various protests within British Columbia were held,¹³ some of which disrupted traffic.¹⁴
- A solidarity rally in Saskatchewan took place, which included dozens of trucks around the Saskatchewan Legislature building.¹⁵
- Hundreds of semi-trucks and other vehicles drove through Winnipeg and protesters gathered outside the Manitoba Legislature in solidarity.¹⁶
- In Ontario, a convoy local to Barrie was held and reportedly had hundreds of vehicles participate.¹⁷
- A solidarity demonstration in Whitehorse included a line up of vehicles 2km long.¹⁸

GENERAL THREATS

Significant open source information related to the ongoing demonstration in Ottawa continues to be posted. While online threats may continue to be identified sporadically, individuals are now physically present together in Ottawa and planning can take place in person without the need to communicate via open sources, resulting in the potential for adverse activities with little to no warning. The IMCIT assesses that opposition to vaccine mandates continues to grow in intensity and could become a potential flash point for acts of violence.¹⁹

Information from the Ottawa Police Service indicates that a police cruiser was rammed by a truck the morning of January 31. No injuries were reported as a result of this incident and Ottawa Police is managing the situation.²⁰

Overall sentiment towards law enforcement remains mixed. Negative comments related to police have been observed in relation to claims that a group of truckers is stuck on the Sir John A. MacDonald Parkway.²¹ An individual known for anti-government, anti-Semitic and anti-public health order grievances referenced these truckers in a post with the comments, “holding truckers hostage on a federal road west of downtown with no food or supplies, fuel, etc. They are going to starve them out.”²² Additional adverse comments towards law enforcement have been identified from an Instagram account believed to be associated to the individual who allegedly threw gravel at the PM during the election campaign.²³ A post from January 30 reads, “Spread Out Gentlemen. Fill In The Gaps. Divide The

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Police Line. We Need Distractions Throughout The City.”(sic)²⁴ Both the individuals who made these comments are believed to currently be in Ottawa.

News sources have reported that police resources have been deployed to Ottawa from various jurisdictions,²⁵ in addition to references that the police are stretched thin due to the ongoing demonstration²⁶ and that financial policing costs are totaling \$800,000 per day.²⁷ Narratives like this may give the protesters the perception that law enforcement is vulnerable, and may embolden them to prolong the protest to drain police resources and force pressure on the government to submit to their demands. Additionally, should a major incident unrelated to the demonstration occur in the NCR, law enforcement and emergency response may be impacted.

While chatter encouraging peaceful and lawful protest continues to circulate, concerns exist that protest events associated with the convoy could be exploited by individuals who engage in or promote actions that pose a risk to public and officer safety.^a

Ideologically motivated individuals who have promoted controversial views are present in Ottawa.^b While not all ideological in nature, various incidents which have occurred during protest activities have resulted in widespread coverage opposing the protest²⁸. Some incidents that have generated significant chatter include:

- Photos of flags with swastikas at various locations.^{29 30}
- Video and images of individuals drinking,³¹ dancing,³² and parking³³ on the War Memorial and Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. As well as an image insinuating someone urinated on the memorial.³⁴
- Confederate flags and pro-TRUMP^c flags.^{35 36}
- A sign which stating, “Mandate Freedom” along with an upsidedown Canadian flag attached to the Terry FOX statue.³⁷
- Harrassment of individuals from various mainstream media outlets.³⁸
- Actions showing the MPP from Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston removing a barricade, with the caption, “I call on the PPS to completely open Parliament Hill, or we might have to open it up for ourselves.”³⁹

^a It is important to note that there are a range of people with varying views participating in the convoy and Ottawa protest, ranging from those who have experienced hardships due to COVID-19 to those who are ideologically motivated and see the convoy as an opportunity to further their narratives to a wier audience. Not all individuals support extreme activities and there is a diversity of views regarding the use of violence.

^b The presence of ideologically motivated individuals does not necessarily mean ideologically motivated criminality or ideologically motivated violence will occur.

^c While flags of this nature always need to be taken in context, based on chatter within networks opposing the Freedom Convoy 2022, they are perceived as being symbols that are racially motivated, ethno-nationalist and supportive of “far right” views and are contributing to polarizing narratives regarding the current situation in Ottawa.

- Assault of a service user and security guard,⁴⁰ as well as the harassment of homeless individuals and staff at the Shepherds of Good Hope.⁴¹

In addition to these, Ottawa Police are investigating threatening, illegal, intimidating behaviour to police and city workers.⁴²

Narratives opposing the convoy continue to be observed, and individuals with signs opposing the protest have been visible within the crowds.⁴³ As protesters continue to occupy downtown Ottawa, social media posts expressing frustration with the incessant honking and ongoing traffic disruptions have been observed.⁴⁴ ⁴⁵ Continued disruptions of this nature may increase frustrations among the general public leading to altercations. As of today, various businesses, including restaurants, can reopen at 50% capacity.⁴⁶ It is likely that individuals associated with the convoy will cause disruptions at these venues in defiance of public health orders during the remainder of the demonstration.

The IMCIT is liaising with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on this event and other events related to the opposition of trucker mandates which are occurring nationally, and will provide updates as required.

Issued by: Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team (IMCIT)

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

¹ <https://www.gofundme.com/f/taking-back-our-freedom-convoy-2022>

² RCMP Sit Rep #39: Freedom Convoy 2022- National Capital Region 2022-01-28-2022-01-31

³ <https://www.ottawapolice.ca/Modules/News/index.aspx>

⁴ <https://www.instagram.com/p/CZZfdkLBJ2c/>

⁵ <https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/convoy-organizers-plan-to-stay-in-ottawa-after-weekend-protests-spark-anger>

⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/votecanada/posts/935478017328733>

⁸ <https://ottawa.ctvnews.ca/here-s-what-s-closed-in-ottawa-due-to-the-trucker-protest-1.5760504>

⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/100286905896085/videos/1056706708206210>

¹⁰ <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/gofundme-releasing-1-million-of-fundraising-money-to-trucker-convoy-1.5757502>

¹² <https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/protestors-block-alberta-highway-near-coutts-border-rcmp-tells-drivers-to-stay-away>

¹³ <https://www.vancouverislandfreedaily.com/news/local-truck-convoy-draw-crowds-across-b-c/>

¹⁴ <https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/hundreds-flock-to-b-c-legislature-in-support-of-trucker-convoy-1.5760131>

¹⁵ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8580321/covid-19-trucker-convoy-saskatchewan-scott-moe/>

¹⁶ <https://winnipeg.ctvnews.ca/local-convoy-drives-through-winnipeg-but-not-all-truckers-are-on-board-1.5760225>

¹⁷ <https://barrie360.com/barrie-convoy-freedom-rally/>

¹⁸ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/protestors-congregate-in-whitehorse-in-support-of-ottawa-convoy-1.6333009>

¹⁹ IMCIT NTL #2021-07 -- 2021-12-23

²⁰ RCMP PIU 2022-74888_UPDATE #43_Canada Unity Freedom Convoy 2022_2022-01-31

²¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztpPufR7EAA>

²² <https://www.instagram.com/p/CZX-o8ouN5l/>

- ²³ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/shane-marshall-people-s-party-gravel-trudeau-1.6172690>
- ²⁴ https://www.instagram.com/p/CZX3_n7O09N/
- ²⁵ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8579041/toronto-police-resources-ottawa-trucker-convoy/>
- ²⁶ <https://ottawa.citynews.ca/local-news/continued-police-presence-in-downtown-ottawa-for-second-day-of-demonstrations-5008498>
- ²⁷ <https://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/news-and-community/weekend-demonstration-information-and-updates.aspx#Update-January-30--728-pm>
- ²⁸ https://www.reddit.com/r/ottawa/comments/sg9myo/convoy_megathread_22/huupnt6/
- [REDACTED]
- ³⁰ https://twitter.com/justin_ling/status/1487667177461321728?s=21
- [REDACTED]
- ³² <https://ottawa.ctvnews.ca/top-canadian-defence-officials-condemn-protesters-dancing-on-tomb-of-the-unknown-soldier-1.5760168>
- [REDACTED]
- ³⁴ <https://twitter.com/davidcommon/status/1487777554979332104>
- ³⁵ https://twitter.com/gray_mackenzie/status/1487450201132613638?s=21
- [REDACTED]
- ³⁹ <https://twitter.com/randyhillier/status/1487515969182441474?s=21>
- ⁴⁰ <https://twitter.com/sghottawa/status/1487854425368633344>
- ⁴¹ <https://ottawacitizen.com/news/local-news/convoy-protesters-make-for-a-really-tough-day-at-shepherds-of-good-hope-shelter-ceo>
- ⁴² <https://twitter.com/OttawaPolice/status/1487823600409366530>
- ⁴³ <https://twitter.com/CanadianCentury/status/1487825429566263297>
- [REDACTED]
- ⁴⁶ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ontario-covid-19-reopening-jan-31-1.6333424>

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 03 February 2022, 1000hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.

SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY – UPDATE 5

FREEDOM CONVOY 2022: ONGOING IN OTTAWA SINCE JANUARY 28/29, 2022

KEY POINTS

- Disruptions that include 481 personal and commercial motor vehicles continue to impact daily life in Ottawa as part of the ongoing Freedom Convoy 2022 demonstration. Numbers of individuals arriving and departing the National Capital Region (NCR) remain fluid and will likely increase over the weekend (February 5 and 6). While the duration of the event in Ottawa remains unknown, the presence of counter-protesters has a potential to escalate tensions and lead to altercations.
- Solidarity actions have been identified in every province and at least one territory, and enforcement at any one event will likely be perceived negatively and may spark more solidarity activities or adverse behavior in other parts of the country. The perceived knowledge of solidarity actions globally may also energize ongoing protests throughout Canada.
- No formal organized plot of violence has been identified. The use of convoys as a protest tactic is trending nationally and poses multiple issues to public and officer safety. In addition, factors such as the circulation of misinformation, discussions about military enforcement, exhaustion, substance abuse, altercations amongst counter-protesters and with law enforcement and the influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers may impact the temperature of the crowd. The potential for serious 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 larger portions of the protesters to violence.

CURRENT STATUS

Public order activities associated to the Freedom Convoy 2022 continue. The protest local to the National Capital Region (NCR), as well as public order events nationally, continue to gain widespread media coverage and social media momentum internationally. This Strategic Threat Assessment identifies the potential implications of these events local to Ottawa, as well as nationally and globally.

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Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Canada

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

SCOPE AND SCALE

A mix of 481 personal and commercial motor vehicles continue to disrupt downtown Ottawa as part of the ongoing Freedom Convoy 2022 protest.¹ Media reports indicate that Ottawa Police estimated 8,000 to 15,000 people were in attendance during the peak of the protest over the past weekend.² Numbers of individuals arriving and departing the NCR remain fluid and will likely fluctuate daily as the demonstration continues, with an influx of protesters expected this upcoming weekend. Information from the RCMP Protective Intelligence Unit indicates that the City of Ottawa received a permit for a February 5 counter-protest in opposition of the convoy with 1,000 participants expected by the organizer.³ While the exact number of counter-protesters cannot be confirmed, it adds to the fluidity of protester numbers within the impacted area at any given time.

Open source observations and information from law enforcement partners indicate that February 5 and 6 will draw more protesters in support of the convoy to the NCR. Chatter this week has also suggested the intention for some individuals who were present last weekend to return, as well as others to join, including convoys from Quebec⁴ and supporters local to Ottawa.⁵ Advertisements for a convoy to Toronto on February 5 have also been circulating convoy and anti-public health order social media,⁶ which may divert some Ontario attendance away from Ottawa and to Toronto for a period of time.

INTENT WHILE IN OTTAWA

A “Freedom Dance Party Part II” has been advertised on social media to take place on February 5 from 1200hrs to 1500hrs at Parliament Hill.⁷ Other than this event, very little information regarding planned activities has been observed, which presents challenges for estimating numbers and crowd behaviour. With limited event organization, impromptu protests will continue to occur with little or no social media advertising beforehand due to the ability to mobilize a large group of people on short notice.

Based on open source information, two individuals with significant social media followings will be in Ottawa. The self-proclaimed [REDACTED] inspired by QAnon ideologies, arrived in Ottawa on February 3 and requested 100-500 volunteers to gather at Parliament Hill for her arrival.⁸ Another anti-public health order influencer posted that he arrived in Ottawa on February 3. This individual has engaged in activities in the past which included disrupting businesses by defying public health orders, as well as organizing nation-wide convoys at airports in opposition to mandatory vaccines for air travel.⁹ The presence of these individuals may attract ideologically motivated personalities to the area.

The primary messaging within anti-public health order networks related to the convoy indicates an intention for some individuals to stay until vaccine mandates for truckers are lifted, with overarching narratives indicating a desire for all public health restrictions to be lifted. There is a perception that ongoing acts of civil disobedience gridlocking local traffic in Ottawa will pressure the government to lift all mandates.

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FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

After exceeding \$10 million, the fundraiser associated with the convoy was paused pending a review to ensure it complies with the terms of service, laws and regulations of GoFundMe.¹⁰ There is no information on what will be done with the funds or if GoFundMe ever released additional funds to the organizer.^a Although the purpose of the fundraiser was to support the convoy, which no doubt contributed to the momentum in chatter related to the protest, prior to the pause by GoFundMe, there has been little indication that the funds are being dispersed to those currently occupying space in Ottawa. In addition, multiple other small scale fundraisers and direct donations have been observed, however, the means by which this money is being distributed remains unknown. As a result, it is unlikely the fundraising efforts are solely motivating the ongoing situation.

GENERAL THREATS

No formal organized plot of violence has been identified, however, there are a number of dynamic factors which could impact the situation as the protest continues, including 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. On February 2, news reports indicated that the Ottawa Police are considering all options to address the situation, including potentially calling in the military to end the protest.¹¹ Enforcement measures to remove protesters raise the potential for escalated confrontations.

The presence of counter-protesters is becoming a concern, and there have been sporadic instances identified on social media where individual counter-protesters have confronted convoy protesters. Narratives opposing the protest in Ottawa are growing due to the ongoing disruption it is causing to daily life, local businesses and residents exposed to incessant noise at all hours and allegations of harassment from convoy protesters.¹²

The above noted factors may impact the temperature of the crowd 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 larger portions of the protesters to violence. The IMCIT assesses that opposition to vaccine mandates continues to grow in intensity and could become a potential flash point for acts of violence.¹³

An MPP recently posted content online showing two photos, for example - one with artillery and one with gas cans, both with writing on them and the caption, "LET. FREEDOM. RING."¹⁴ In a subsequent tweet, the MPP writes, "We are regaining our freedom using gerry cans of diesel refueling rigs-not dropping bombs, as was done in the past . A much more civilized manner in my humble opinion."¹⁵



^a Previously, it was reported that \$1 million was released to the organizer by GoFundMe <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/gofundme-money-released-convoy-1.6328029>

The original tweet has since been deleted, however, images of the artillery and gas cans absent the content in the subsequent tweet have been reposted by ideologically motivated individuals who have had images of weapons and violent narratives on their social media in the past.^{16 17} A screenshot of the original tweet which was deleted¹⁸ is provided below:



In addition to three arrests,¹⁹ multiple traffic tickets, as well as other demonstration-related traffic enforcement charges, have been laid by police.²⁰ As of February 2, the costs of policing the multi-day protest have surpassed \$3 million²¹ and 25 active investigations have been initiated.²²

Overall sentiment towards law enforcement remains mixed. Positive police comments on popular social media pages associated with the convoy are likely an effort to counter media reports and contribute to narratives that the police are supportive of this protest, which may be an effort to attract more supporters. Increased enforcement by police is likely to result in an uptick in hostile rhetoric within anti-public health order networks. Misinformation and accusations of false flag operations with anti-government and anti-police narratives continue to circulate with respect to events in Ottawa²³ and enforcement carried out at the Coutts border crossing in Alberta (AB).²⁴ In addition, negative law enforcement comments have been observed from members of the public who oppose the ongoing protest and perceive inaction by police.

NATIONWIDE SOLIDARITY ACTIONS

Canada-wide solidarity actions have occurred simultaneously with the demonstration in Ottawa and more are being planned for this coming weekend, some of which may affect Canada-US border operations. As the situation in Ottawa is receiving widespread coverage, actions in Ottawa may continue to influence impromptu events in other Canadian provinces.

Solidarity actions have been identified in every province and enforcement at any one event will likely be perceived negatively and may spark more solidarity activities or adverse behaviour elsewhere. Reporting from RCMP Divisions indicate that local protests have so far remained peaceful and are expected to continue on weekends to maximize attendance numbers. Sentiments observed by Divisions at local solidarity actions include frustration towards governments for implementing ongoing public health restrictions affecting daily life and businesses, some internal tension over whether supporters should join the convoy in Ottawa or continue to protest locally, and potential for conflict with the general public who may perceive the protests as a nuisance. Within anti-public health order networks, recent Canadian news reports indicating that Quebec will not proceed with a proposed tax on the

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unvaccinated²⁵ are being used to reinforce narratives that pressuring the government through protest activity is working.

The following are other notable actions and issues related to the Freedom Convoy:

- Protesters using tractor trailers, passenger vehicles, and farming vehicles blockaded the Coutts AB port of entry starting January 29, with some reports of protesters using force to breach police barricades.²⁶ Highway lanes to the border reopened on February 2 following negotiations between protesters and police²⁷, however, a new blockade was set up by protesters at another section of the highway which continues to affect traffic at the border.²⁸
- Discussions in anti-public health groups have advocated for supporters of the truckers' convoys to protest at other ports of entry across the country, including at Emerson, Manitoba (MB)²⁹ and Osoyoos, British Columbia (BC).³⁰
- A "slow roll call out" for fishers who oppose vaccine mandates is also being promoted for February 4 at local marine ports across Canada³¹, which may affect commercial fishing or ferry operations.
- Local solidarity convoys converging at provincial legislature buildings are also being planned for this weekend in Victoria BC³², Edmonton AB³³, Regina Saskatchewan (SK)³⁴, Winnipeg MB³⁵, Toronto Ontario (ON),³⁶ Quebec City, Quebec (QC)³⁷, Fredericton New Brunswick (NB)³⁸, and St John's Newfoundland (NL).³⁹
- Open source reporting indicates local solidarity actions including "slow roll" convoys that could affect traffic are also planned for this weekend in cities across Canada including in BC⁴⁰, Whitehorse, Yukon Territories (YT)⁴¹, AB⁴², ON⁴³, Halifax Nova Scotia (NS)⁴⁴, Moncton NB⁴⁵, and Charlottetown Prince Edwards Islands (PEI)⁴⁶.

Impromptu solidarity events are also likely to occur as the weekend approaches. As anti-public health order events Canada-wide continue to occur regularly and include tactics that are disruptive to daily life of local residents, it is likely that some of these solidarity actions will be met with counter-protests.

Based on national events from the past week, the use of convoys as a protest tactic is trending on social media. The use of vehicles in general for demonstrations poses multiple issues to public and officer safety, such as:

- Traffic interruptions that cause disruption to the daily lives of citizens and increase the potential for altercations with the public.
- Threat of weaponization of vehicles.
- Vehicles provide the opportunity to conceal materials which can be dangerous in nature.
- The demobilization of multiple vehicles requires specific operational consideration.

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GLOBAL SOLIDARITY ACTIONS

Truck convoy protests in Canada have also attracted international attention and solidarity.

- American public figures with large audiences, including former President Donald TRUMP⁴⁷, businessman Elon MUSK⁴⁸, and talk show host Tucker CARLSON⁴⁹, have spoken in support of the convoy. Solidarity demonstrations in the US have been held along the border, including at the Detroit-Windsor Bridge⁵⁰ and along the Montana/Alberta border.⁵¹ A Facebook page called “Convoy to DC 2022”, which promoted a similar cross-country convoy for March 2022 to converge in Washington, D.C., reached approximately 100,000 members before the page was suspended.⁵²
- Anti-public health order demonstrators in Australia, who have been engaged in sporadic volatile protests since mid-January 2022, also held a “Convoy to Canberra” rally with reference to events in Canada.⁵³
- The IMCIT has observed social media postings expressing interest in holding similar rallies in cities around the world including in Belgium⁵⁴ and the UK.⁵⁵ While there is no reliable information on whether these events will materialize, the perception that they are influencing events globally is energizing Canadian protesters based on sentiments shared in popular convoy social media pages.

The IMCIT is liaising with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on events related to the opposition of trucker vaccine mandates which are occurring nationally, and will provide updates as required.

Issued by: Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team (IMCIT)

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

¹ RCMP Sit Rep #64: Freedom Convoy 2022- National Capital Region 2022-01-28-2022-02-01

² <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/ottawa-police-city-lawyers-considering-court-order-to-end-convoy-protests-1.5764263>

³ RCMP PIU 2022-74888_UPDATE #64_Canada Unity Freedom Convoy 2022_2022-02-02

⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/755658988740135/posts/756177442021623/>

⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/322864079775435/posts/323515443043632/>

⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1288479498230682/>

⁷ <https://t.me/OttawaFreedomCollective/602>

⁹ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/airport-disruptions-planned-calgary-national-1.6240440>

¹⁰ <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/trucker-convoy-gofundme-suspended-after-reaching-10-1-million-1.5765794>

¹¹ <https://www.cp24.com/news/all-options-on-the-table-to-end-protest-ensnaring-ottawa-says-police-chief-1.5765013>

¹² <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/truck-convoy-downtown-ottawa-residents-mental-health-1.6333674>

¹³ IMCIT NTL #2021-07 -- 2021-12-23

¹⁴ <https://twitter.com/randyhillier/status/1488994525469106182/photo/2>

¹⁵ <https://twitter.com/randyhillier/status/1489060753294430211>

¹⁷ <https://www.instagram.com/stories/sons.of.liberty/2765148784600321693/>

¹⁸ <https://mobile.twitter.com/randyhillier/status/1489060753294430211>

¹⁹ <https://www.ottawapolice.ca/Modules/News/index.aspx?newsId=f915d2c2-0ca0-4258-b821-837fb901be04>

²⁰ <https://www.ottawapolice.ca/Modules/News/index.aspx?newsId=3eae7a92-fdab-4477-9625-e40cf0823eba>

²¹ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/truck-convoy-police-solution-1.6337051>

²² <https://www.ottawapolice.ca/Modules/News/index.aspx?newsId=a1826997-05c5-4f86-83de-467cd3dcdb35>

- ²³ <https://www.instagram.com/p/CZfDDSua7p/>
- ²⁵ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/vax-tax-nixed-1.6334828>
- ²⁶ <https://lethbridgeherald.com/news/lethbridge-news/2022/02/02/tensions-mount-as-rCMP-move-in-on-coutts-blockade-on-tuesday/>
- ²⁷ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8588404/coutts-border-protest-alberta-wide-blockades/>
- ²⁸ <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/partial-reopening-of-alberta-border-crossing-hits-snags-1.5765919>
- ²⁹ https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=114429767813280&id=103484238907833 ;
<https://www.agweek.com/news/vaccine-mandate-protests-disrupt-truck-traffic-at-us-canada-border>
- ³⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/683613112631511/permalink/689027892090033>
- ³¹ https://www.facebook.com/events/448065080348107?context=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%7B%22surface%22%3A%22group%22%7D%7D
- ³² <https://www.facebook.com/groups/409787474271489/posts/419062156677354/> ;
<https://www.victoriabuzz.com/2022/02/another-island-convoy-is-planned-for-vancouver-island-this-weekend/>
- ³³ <https://www.facebook.com/Alberta4Liberty/posts/136560562166960>
- ³⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/saskfreedomrally/posts/481881923548768> ; <https://regina.ctvnews.ca/duelling-public-health-measure-protests-expected-to-converge-on-sask-legislative-building-1.5765405>
- ³⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/354652213148153/permalink/358013812811993>
- ³⁶ <https://toronto.citynews.ca/2022/02/01/covid-truckers-protest-queens-park-ontario/>
- ³⁷ <https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/major-construction-union-says-it-won-t-fund-covid-19-protest-convoy-in-quebec-city-1.5763218>
- ³⁸ https://www.facebook.com/events/265442822388135/?active_tab=discussion
- ³⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/events/484324756625399>
- ⁴⁰ Tofino BC: <https://www.facebook.com/events/497567915101421?ref=newsfeed> ; Vancouver BC: https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=610297670010684&id=346160626424391
- ⁴¹ <https://yukonfreedom.com/events/>
- ⁴² Calgary AB: https://www.facebook.com/events/659824191891049/?active_tab=discussion ;
<https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/calgary-police-aware-of-potential-trucker-blockades-on-city-roadways-this-afternoon> ; Acheson AB: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1390467068076121/> ; La Crete AB: <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=1365473327223563&set=gm.628334591796416>
- ⁴³ Toronto ON: <https://www.narcity.com/toronto/convoy-for-freedom-protest-could-be-coming-to-7-busy-spots-around-toronto-this-weekend> ; Cambridge ON: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/359680178996436/posts/359681512329636/> ;
Welland ON: <https://www.facebook.com/events/624810752064939> ; Kingston ON: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/244050994504886> ; Vaughan ON : <https://www.facebook.com/events/775221200533393> ;
- ⁴⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/freedomnovascotia/posts/310087574496934>
- ⁴⁵ https://www.facebook.com/events/631286368193855/?context=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%7B%22mechanism%22%3A%22group_featured_unit%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22group%22%7D%2C%22ref_notif_type%22%3Anull%7D
- ⁴⁶ https://www.facebook.com/events/1565855437117231/?context=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%7B%22mechanism%22%3A%22search_results%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22search%22%7D%2C%22ref_notif_type%22%3Anull%7D
- ⁴⁷ <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/donald-trump-voices-support-for-truckers-convoy-protest-in-ottawa-1.5760331>
- ⁴⁸ <https://driving.ca/auto-news/local-content/canadian-truckers-rule-tesla-ceo-musk-says-of-vaccine-protest-convoy>
- ⁴⁹ <https://www.foxnews.com/transcript/tucker-trudeau-used-covid-to-short-circuit-democracy-in-canada>
- ⁵⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/events/673128180381888/>
- ⁵¹ <https://www.ktvq.com/news/local-news/people-gather-on-montana-hi-line-to-support-freedom-convoy>
- ⁵² <https://www.thetrucker.com/trucking-news/the-nation/movement-for-vaccine-mandate-protest-convoy-to-washington-d-c-gaining-steam-on-social-media> ; <https://www.dailydot.com/debug/facebook-suspends-trucker-protest-groups-qanon-gab-telegram-4chan/>
- ⁵³ <https://7news.com.au/news/canberra/ugly-scenes-as-police-move-in-on-freedom-protesters-illegally-camped-in-canberra--c-5538993>
- ⁵⁴ <https://www.brusselstimes.com/world-all-news/204546/world-freedom-convoy-eyes-brussels-as-destination-for-massive-trucker-protest>
- ⁵⁵ <https://www.vice.com/en/article/bvnd4v/canada-ottawa-anti-vax-trucker-convoy>

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 10 February 2022, 1400hrs). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates as required.

SPECIAL THREAT ADVISORY – UPDATE 6

FREEDOM CONVOY 2022: NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

KEY POINTS

- The Freedom Convoy continues to force the closure of downtown Ottawa streets. Recent narratives perceiving that mass arrests are imminent have increased tensions observed online. No formal organized plot of violence has been identified.
- Solidarity actions across Canada have occurred in every province and at least one territory in the past week. These actions are expected to continue, with potential international implications arising from convoys at border crossings in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario.
- The convoy specific to Ottawa continues to receive a visible degree of international support, including from prominent American politicians and media personalities, which is promoting an image of a globally unified movement centred on opposing public health mandates.
- Nationally, narratives advising convoy supporters to “hold the line” and adopt protest actions that are likely to significantly disrupt critical transportation and economic infrastructure are indicative of an increase in temperature of rhetoric and protest tactics.
- The convoy protests throughout Canada are assessed to be a continuation of the escalation of tensions in opposition to public health orders which have been observed since April 2020 when anti-lockdown protests first began. Since the General Election last Fall in particular, there has been a notable increase in hostility displayed within online rhetoric and at some protests.

FREEDOM CONVOY 2022 – THE LATEST PROTEST ESCALATION

The Freedom Convoy 2022 and ancillary events which have spread nationwide are representing a continuation of the escalation of tensions in opposition to public health orders first observed as anti-lockdown protests in April 2020. The implementation of proof-of-vaccine systems and mandates in

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Canada

various employment sectors and provinces in Canada has resulted in growing opposition to federal and provincial government responses since that time.¹

Since the first anti-lockdown protests, the following progression in Canada has occurred:

- During the election period, from August 2021 onwards, there was a significant increase in hostility displayed at some protests and in online rhetoric, particularly towards the target^a of the protest.²
- During the month of September 2021, there was a noted increase in protests related to narratives opposing vaccine mandates and passports aimed at Liberal election campaign events, hospitals, schools and businesses.³
- Throughout Fall and early Winter 2021, the disruption of multiple children's vaccine clinics, as well as an uptick in protests outside the homes of public officials⁴, coupled with disruptions of Remembrance Day ceremonies marked another escalation within this movement⁵, as protesters no longer appeared to care about the optics of protesting at such locations.
- The prolonging of existing restrictions in January 2022 led to increasingly violent rhetoric appearing online within anti-public health order narratives⁶ and protests occurred outside provincial legislative buildings and the homes of health officials and medical officers.

The IMCIT assesses that the Freedom Convoy 2022 movement represents the latest escalation of protests in opposition to public health orders. Protesters within Canada perceive an incredible amount of support based on an enormous amount of social media-driven discussions within anti-public health order networks, as well as discussions in international networks opposing public health restrictions.

This Special Threat Advisory report identifies the potential implications of these events local to Ottawa, as well as nationally and globally.

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

SCOPE AND SCALE

Trucks and personal vehicles continue to disrupt daily life in Ottawa as part of the ongoing Freedom Convoy 2022 protest.⁷ Though an injunction was granted on February 7 to stop the honking of horns,⁸ it does not appear to have had an impact on the physical presence of vehicles and protesters disrupting the area. On February 9, Ottawa Police issued a warning to convoy demonstrators that arrests and charges may be laid against those engaged in unlawful activities, including mischief for blocking streets.⁹

Open source observations indicate that protesters have no intention of leaving until they meet with representatives from the government and/or public health restrictions are lifted.¹⁰ In response to information circulating that mass arrests are planned, some individuals who appear as organizers held a press conference on February 7, calling for people to come to Ottawa.¹¹ While these individuals have

^a During the election period, the target of hostility was primarily the Prime Minister.

acted as spokespeople multiple times during the convoy events, due to the variety of individuals with varying ideological grievances that have attended the ongoing public order event, it is unlikely there is central leadership controlling the behaviour or impromptu events that have occurred in Ottawa. Convoy supporters formerly employed in law enforcement and the military have appeared alongside organizers and may be providing them with logistical and security advice¹², which may pose operational challenges for law enforcement should policing techniques and tactics be revealed to convoy participants. These individuals will also have had leadership training which may serve them in leadership roles in the future.

Regardless of real or perceived leadership, the overall sentiment of those supportive of the protest is to "hold the line" in response to the recent uptick in police enforcement. Narratives suggesting that there is no police solution, and only a political solution from the Government of Canada would resolve the grievances espoused by convoy participants, have been circulating popular social media associated with the convoy. Ideologically motivated individuals present in Ottawa are seizing on narratives related to the perception of impeding police enforcement of mass arrests¹³ and contributing to rhetoric that is increasingly anti-authority in nature.

There are a variety of narratives related specifically to protest activities in the National Capital Region (NCR). Some narratives indicate that the protest is extremist in its entirety, based on the presence of known ideologically motivated individuals in attendance and the hateful or controversial symbols that have been observed through mainstream and social media reporting (e.g., photos of swastika flags). Conversely, there are also narratives circulating social media that show the protest is perceived as being peaceful, diverse and a showing unity among Canadians and indicating there are beliefs that the protest demonstrates the majority of Canadians are opposed to restrictions and mandates.

The IMCIT assesses that this protest has attracted both in-person and online support of individuals with a variety of grievances, some ideological in nature, and others who may have experienced personal hardships due to COVID-19 or are experiencing pandemic fatigue. Overall, there is anti-government sentiment based on the fact that the protesters want public health restrictions lifted and the government has the power to do so. However, not all individuals who may hold anti-government views on the specific topic of public health restrictions are believed to support extreme activities and there are diverse views regarding the use of violence during the convoy.

Money to support protesters continues to be raised by various GiveSendGo fundraisers¹⁴ ¹⁵ and Bitcoin,¹⁶ as well as through email money transfers to direct email addresses. In addition to these crowdfunding options, open source information suggests that donations of cash are accepted at Parliament Hill and some organizers intend to auction convoy-branded clothing to raise funds.¹⁷ Financing the ongoing convoy does not appear to be an issue based on the continued publicity of the protest, multiple fundraising methods, and visible donations of supplies from individuals supportive of the convoy. It is unlikely that money is being provided to all individuals attending events in Ottawa, which indicates monetary contributions are not solely motivating the ongoing events.

GENERAL THREATS

No formal organized plot of violence has been identified, however, dynamic factors continue to cause concern and may be exacerbated with police enforcement.^b The potential for violence by a lone actor or fringe group cannot be discounted as protesters remain in Ottawa. As of this writing, Ottawa Police have arrested nine individuals in relation to convoy activities including mischief, driving while impaired, and carrying a weapon to a public meeting.¹⁸

Protesters have recently shown unity in defiance of law enforcement after narratives that the police were stealing fuel from truckers circulated through popular convoy social media pages. In response to news advising that anyone bringing material supports (e.g., gas) to demonstrators could be subject to arrest,¹⁹ protesters filled jerry cans with water²⁰ and also circulated information encouraging people to walk around with empty jerry cans in an effort to mislead police.²¹ In addition to this, media reporting indicated aggressive behaviour observed towards officers in relation to the police enforcement regarding refueling.²² Recent information suggesting a presence of approximately 100 children living in trucks associated to the convoy further complicates future police operations seeking to bring an end to the convoy.²³

Counter protests have also been identified to occur within Ottawa this week on February 12²⁴ and daily rallies are planned to be held outside the Ottawa Police building on Elgin Street.²⁵ The presence of counter protesters near convoy demonstrations may escalate tension and pose additional concerns for public and officer safety.

In addition to the former law enforcement and military participants possibly providing logistical and security advice, the potential exists for serious insider threats. Those who have not lost their jobs, but are sympathetic to the movement and their former colleagues, may be in a position to share law enforcement or military information to the convoy protesters.

NATIONWIDE SOLIDARITY ACTIONS

SCOPE AND SCALE

Canada-wide solidarity actions have occurred simultaneously with the demonstration in Ottawa and continue to be planned. Regional solidarity convoys appear to be inspired by the Ottawa convoy and related enforcement actions. Protesters bringing tents, heaters, and portable toilets have been observed in some regions and may indicate intentions to hold occupation-style solidarity actions.²⁶ Other forms of solidarity actions observed include school “walkouts”, maskless “swarmings” of indoor public spaces, and impromptu rallies.

From open source information, organization of solidarity actions appear to be decentralized, in some cases organized impromptu, and not directly linked to organizers in the Ottawa convoy. Local

^b 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.

fundraisers have been initiated for some solidarity convoys and do not appear to be connected to any national fundraising efforts.

Recent announcements from the provincial governments in Alberta²⁷, Manitoba²⁸, Saskatchewan²⁹, Quebec³⁰, New Brunswick³¹, and Prince Edward Island³² to ease some public health restrictions in the near future appear to be energizing convoy supporters who perceive that these announcements are in response to the convoys and insist that all restrictions will be lifted if they “hold the line”.

Nationally, some solidarity demonstrations have been met with local counter-protests, which may escalate tension and create issues for public and officer safety. Incidents of violence and arrests arising from convoy demonstrations and counter-protests have been reported in several provinces and jurisdictions.

The following summary based on open sources and input from several RCMP Divisional Criminal Analysis Units (DCAS) provides an overview of incidents which have recently occurred and future demonstration events reported at this time.

BRITISH COLUMBIA – “E” DIVISION

- There have been at least four solidarity convoys in the past week in Vancouver³³, Victoria³⁴, Okanagan³⁵, and Surrey.³⁶
- Counter protests were held in Vancouver³⁷ and Victoria³⁸ alongside convoy demonstrations. One convoy truck driver is alleged to have rolled into a counter-protester during the Vancouver rally. Police are investigating.³⁹
- Five individuals were arrested by Vancouver Police during the solidarity action on February 5.⁴⁰
- Two bomb threats were made to Vancouver hospitals this week⁴¹, and while a link to the convoy has not yet been established, the IMCIT assesses these threats are in line with an overall uptick in threats made against healthcare workers in anti-public health order narratives.
- Convoys with potential international implications have occurred in Surrey near the Pacific Highway border crossing and are expected to continue.⁴²
- E Division DCAS assesses that there has been a steady increase in solidarity actions planned for this weekend and next. While no known criminality is predicted, the emergence of lone actors or fringe groups may seek to further individual causes. There has been an increase in online rhetoric, but there is also a narrative online to keep protests in BC peaceful, lawful and safe.
- Upcoming protests are anticipated in Vancouver⁴³, Langley⁴⁴, Cranbrook⁴⁵, the Okanagan and Vancouver Island.⁴⁶

YUKON TERRITORY – “M” DIVISION

- At least one solidarity action occurred in the past week in Whitehorse.
- A counter protest also took place during the convoy demonstration.⁴⁷
- M Division DCAS assesses that there is a low threat of disruption or criminality from the slow-roll convoys taking place in Whitehorse.

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ALBERTA – “K” DIVISION

- There have been at least seven solidarity convoys in the past week, in Calgary, Edmonton, Coutts, Lethbridge, Airdrie, Cochrane, and Okotoks.⁴⁸
- One convoy participant was charged with assault following an altercation with another driver attempting to block a convoy in central Alberta on February 3.⁴⁹
- Calgary Police issued 80 tickets in relation to the convoy over the weekend.⁵⁰
- Investigations into unlawful behaviour at the Coutts blockade are underway.⁵¹ One prominent influencer was arrested and charged with mischief and interrupting the operation of essential infrastructure after rallying protesters at Coutts to maintain the border blockade.⁵²
- Upcoming protests are anticipated at the Alberta legislative building in Edmonton.⁵³
- Convoys with potential international implications are expected to continue at the Coutts port of entry.⁵⁴

SASKATCHEWAN – “F” DIVISION

- Multiple solidarity convoys took place in various communities over the past week (Regina⁵⁵, Saskatoon, and Swift Current).
- Regina Police issued 32 tickets in relation to the convoy over the weekend.⁵⁶
- F Division DCAS reports that flash parades, rallies, and peaceful protests against the vaccine mandates and masks were held in a number of communities in the past week, in Moosomin, Unity, and Yorkton. The demonstration in Unity involved approximately 30 mask-less people who swarmed a convenience store and restaurant, disrupting both businesses.
- A protest has been organized for the Port of Regway U.S. border crossing this weekend. Groups are expected to travel from Regina to the border. Information has also been located suggesting a protest will be held at the North Portal U.S. Border Crossing commencing February 18.
- Information was received encouraging a province-wide school protest February 10.
- Upcoming protests are anticipated in Saskatoon.⁵⁷
- F Division DCAS assesses that, although the number of protests appear to be escalating in Saskatchewan, with the recent announcement regarding the lifting of restrictions, support could wane in the coming days, with only hard-core protestors attending these events.

MANITOBA – “D” DIVISION

- There have been at least two solidarity convoys in the past week, in Winnipeg⁵⁸ and Emerson.⁵⁹
- Once individual was arrested for allegedly driving into and injuring four convoy demonstrators outside the Manitoba legislative building on February 4. Police have not yet released a motive.⁶⁰
- Upcoming protests are anticipated at the Manitoba legislative building in Winnipeg⁶¹ alongside a counter-protest.⁶²
- Convoys with potential international implications have occurred at the Emerson port of entry⁶³ and are expected to continue.

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ONTARIO – “O” DIVISION

- Several solidarity convoys were held throughout the province in the past week, within the Greater Toronto Area⁶⁴, South-Western Ontario⁶⁵, and Northern Ontario⁶⁶.
- Counter protests were held in Toronto⁶⁷ and Waterloo⁶⁸ alongside convoy demonstrations.
- Two individuals were arrested for assault in Toronto during the convoy.⁶⁹ Two drivers were charged with driving infractions during the convoy in Waterloo.⁷⁰ One driver was arrested for dangerous driving at the Ambassador Bridge during the blockade.⁷¹
- Upcoming protests are expected in multiple cities across Ontario, with potential international implications at border crossings in Windsor⁷², Sarnia⁷³, and Niagara.⁷⁴

QUEBEC – “C” DIVISION

- There has been at least one solidarity convoy in the past week, in Quebec City⁷⁵.
- A counter protest took place alongside convoy demonstrations in Quebec City.⁷⁶
- Three individuals were arrested during the convoy in Quebec City. Police also issued 50 tickets for disorderly conduct and 72 tickets for road infractions.⁷⁷
- Quebec politicians have received multiple threats of violence from convoy participants.⁷⁸
- Upcoming protests are anticipated in Quebec City⁷⁹ and Montreal⁸⁰.

NEW BRUNSWICK – “J” DIVISION

- There have been at least two solidarity convoys in the past week, in Fredericton⁸¹ and Moncton⁸².
- J Division DCAS reports that several meeting points throughout New Brunswick have been identified with the common goal of going to downtown Fredericton between 11-12 February and to stay for four days. No overt threats to public or officer safety have been reported. Organizers and supporters have not openly endorsed or promoted violence.
- J Division DCAS assesses that the number of participants remains fluid but is expected to grow noticeably from past events. The intent remains to have a peaceful protest but to “gridlock” streets around the Legislature Building in Fredericton or the Trans Canada Highway should protesters be prevented from accessing the city.
- Protesters have expressed they will continue until all mandates are removed.

NOVA SCOTIA – “H” DIVISION

- There have been at least two solidarity convoys in the past week, in Halifax and Yarmouth.
- Investigations are underway on numerous suspicious packages that were sent to MP offices in Nova Scotia containing rhetoric that references the hanging of politicians and potentially noxious substances, as well as suspicious envelopes that were sent to the Halifax City Hall this past week. While there has not yet been any motivation or link to the convoys publicly released at this time, the

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IMCIT assesses these suspicious deliveries are in line with an overall uptick in threats made against public officials in anti-public health order narratives.

- H Division DCAS reports that upcoming protests are anticipated at the Nova Scotia/New Brunswick (NS/NB) border as well as in Halifax, Kentville, Digby, Amherst, Bridgewater, Shelburne, Berwick, Enfield, and North Sydney.
- There have been increasing calls for marine vessels to join convoys in Nova Scotia and to gather at ports (not named) on land to demonstrate. There has also been a discussion located calling for a “store storming” in the South Shore (no specifics) of the province.
- A number of threats have been noted for the NS/NB border demonstration set for February 12. These include a call to bring ‘arms’ to respond to police if necessary. There has been more than one call to shut the Trans-Canada Highway down; others discuss bringing supplies for a protracted stay and to block feeder roads onto the highway.
- H Division DCAS assesses that, based on new emerging threats and the increase in suspicious packages, combined with luke-warm engagement by organizers and those making threats to police, the NS/NB border event may require more direct police intervention than has been required to date.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND – “L” DIVISION

- There has been at least one small-scale solidarity convoy in the past week, in Borden-Carleton.
- L Division DCAS reports that upcoming protest activity is anticipated from across the province, with small convoys of vehicles (e.g., personal, commercial, and agricultural) meeting to form a larger convoy into Charlottetown, terminating at the Provincial Legislature.
- Information received through the L Division Liaison Team advises that a small group may blockade the mandatory COVID screening facility in Borden Carleton (the provincial point of entry) after the convoy disperses from Charlottetown.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR – “B” DIVISION

- There has been at least one solidarity convoy in the past week, in St John’s⁸³.
- A small group of six to eight people started protesting at the Glovertown Detachment several days ago but have since moved to a local Irving Gas Station and its adjacent lot. The group is expected to protest in the area again today. The organizer is trying to raise funds to travel to St. John’s or Ottawa.
- Another protest is planned for February 12 in North Sydney at the NS Marine Atlantic Ferry Terminal (opposite destination for Port-aux-Basques, NL ferry crossing).
- There are a number of planned Freedom Convoy Rallies (similar to last weekend’s planned events in Newfoundland) which will be held in St. John’s, Corner Brook, Grand Falls-Winsor and Stephenville.
- B Division DCAS assesses that each of the events is receiving significant attention online and is being widely spread throughout various personal and group social media platforms, including local classifieds. It has been noted that organizers are again encouraging the use of a chat group through [REDACTED]

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- B Division DCAS also received reports that suggest there have been talks of a protest/convoy to be held in the Labrador Goose Bay/South Coast area, as well as posters located online which indicates a protest will be held in Fermont, QC on February 12 between 1700-2300hrs, with Labradorians invited to join.

Based on an examination of open source reporting, and in consultation with the Divisional Criminal Analysis Sections, it appears with the convoy receiving a nationally captivated audience, there has been a significant increase in the number, duration and incidents involving criminality associated with public order events related to anti-public health measures. The targeting of critical transportation and economic infrastructure in the form of border blockades also marks another unprecedented escalation for the movement since the beginning of the pandemic.

These national solidarity actions appear to focus on the use of vehicles to conduct “slow-roll convoys” to disrupt local traffic and generate noise. The IMCIT has also observed supporters intending to join solidarity convoys using farming equipment⁸⁴, on horseback⁸⁵, and with marine vessels⁸⁶, which may pose another evolutionary, operational challenge for law enforcement.

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY ACTIONS

SCOPE AND SCALE

Protests have caused disruptions at several Ports of Entry (POE) along the Canada-U.S. border, including causing closures and delays at the Coutts POE in Alberta,⁸⁷ the Blue Water Bridge in Sarnia,⁸⁸ the Ambassador Bridge linking Detroit and Windsor⁸⁹, and the Emerson POE in Manitoba.⁹⁰ Convoys have also been reported gathering in Osoyoos⁹¹ and South Surrey,⁹² British Columbia, with the potential to disrupt the Pacific Highway POE.

Based on chatter online celebrating the perceived effectiveness of the convoys,⁹³ and international camaraderie between anti-public health networks in the U.S. and Canada, it is possible that sporadic disruptions at Canadian border crossings will persist for as long as national solidarity actions related to the current situation in Ottawa continue.

The convoy specific to Ottawa continues to receive a visible degree of international support, including from prominent American politicians⁹⁴ and media personalities,⁹⁵ which is promoting an image of a globally unified movement centred on opposing public health mandates.

GoFundMe’s decision to halt fundraising for the convoy has led to the rising popularity of other international fundraising methods which may not cooperate with government requests, including the crowdfunding website GiveSendGo⁹⁶ and the cryptocurrency platform Tallycoin,⁹⁷ which have quickly raised millions of dollars.

Propaganda associated with events in Ottawa continues to energize solidarity actions internationally, including media reports of demonstrations in New Zealand⁹⁸, Australia⁹⁹, and Alaska¹⁰⁰, and may inspire similar convoys in the United States¹⁰¹ and across Europe.¹⁰²

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

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The IMCIT is liaising with law enforcement partners to maintain visibility on events related to the opposition of trucker vaccine mandates which are occurring nationally, and will provide updates as required.

Issued by: Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team (IMCIT)

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

¹ IMCIT NTL #2021-05 -- 2021-10-27

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BRIEFING NOTE TO THE COMMISSIONER

NOTE D'INFORMATION AU COMMISSAIRE

SECTION 7 DELEGATION AUTHORITY – EMERGENCY MEASURES REGULATIONS// ARTICLE 7 POUVOIR DE DÉLÉGATION – RÈGLEMENTS SUR LES MESURES D'URGENCE

ISSUE: To confirm your decision on the delegation approach under section 7 of the Emergency Measures Regulations (EMR) and provide information on next steps.

BACKGROUND:

- The Governor in Council has proclaimed that a public order emergency exists, pursuant to subsection 17(1) of the *Emergencies Act* (EA), and issued EMRs under subsection 19(1) of the Act on February 15, 2022. The Regulations implicate the RCMP in two key areas:
 - Section 7 authorizes the Minister, Commissioner, or their delegate to request essential services for removal, towing and storage of vehicles, equipment, etc. that are part of a blockade; and,
 - Section 9 provides a mechanism for persons or companies directed to provide such services to be compensated for them at current market value. It also provides a mechanism to apply for compensation for loss, injury or damage as a result of anything done or purported to be done under the regulations.
 - Pursuant to section 7(1) of the EMRs and section 5 of the *RCMP Act*, you have the authority to sign a delegation that would permit a person to exercise these powers on your behalf.
-
- The Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has written to you requesting delegation of this authority for the OPP and the Ottawa Police Services to support enforcement in Ottawa.

CURRENT STATUS:

- Within the RCMP, you have delegated authority under Section 7(1), to any Deputy Commissioner, divisional Commanding Officer, or Criminal Operations Officers, as well as any RCMP member designated by them. This group will have awareness of the operational response in their area of responsibility, including work with other police partners. This group also has the appropriate financial delegations to approve related expenses within the RCMP. Where RCMP is the provincial police of jurisdiction, this will ensure the power is available to all local police services in that province or territory. It will also ensure the power is available in Ottawa, as needed, given the unified command structure.

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- As requested, you have delegated this authority to the OPP Commissioner and those acting on his behalf, who has agreed that the OPP will provide compensation on behalf of Canada to any persons from whom the OPP requisitions essential goods or services. The RCMP will reimburse the OPP for the cost of such payments afterwards. This will ensure that this power is available across Ontario, as the OPP has a legislated responsibility to assist other police forces in the province.

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS:


- The RCMP does not have a source of funds for costs associated with the implementation of sections 7 or 9, and there is significant uncertainty regarding future costs. In the short term, the RCMP has sufficient financial flexibility to cash manage any expenses, while we prepare and submit an off-cycle funding request.
- In addition, there is potential for significant liability for the RCMP, acting on behalf of Canada, given the operational risks associated with the execution of these powers, including where your authority is delegated to other police forces. The RCMP will be assuming a high financial risk on behalf of Canada given there is no established source of funds to address any potential future litigation or provide appropriate compensation for expenses incurred. As such, it will be important to document these risks for the Minister, and clearly indicate that support will be required going forward.

NEXT STEPS

- Operational and financial guidance will be provided by C&IP and Corporate Management to delegates for the exercise of these authorities within the RCMP, and ensure that appropriate systems are put in place to monitor use and cost.
- The CFO has engaged her Ontario provincial counterpart on requirements for reimbursement to ensure compliance with the EMRs and the FAA. A process, which will be dependent on the volume of requests, has been proposed, and will be confirmed in due course.
- Attached at **TAB A** for your approval is a briefing note to the Minister of Public Safety updating him on the approach, outlining the related risks and costs for the RCMP, and the need for Government support to manage these pressures.

IN CONSULTATION WITH:

C&IP; FP; Corporate Management, LSU

Submitted by – Rédigé par e-approved Steve Tharakan Director, Strategic and Horizontal Policy Strategic Policy and External Relations	Date 18-02-2022	Recommended by – Recommandé par e-approved Andrea Howard Executive Director, Strategic Policy Strategic Policy and External Relations	Date 18-02-2022
Approved by – Approuvé par e-approved Alison Whelan Chief Strategic Policy and External Relations Officer	Date 20-02-2022	Reviewed by – Examiné par  Brenda Lucki Commissioner	Date 2022-02-21



Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police

Supporting police professionals through innovative and inclusive police leadership
to advance the safety and security of all Canadians.

February 19, 2022

The Honourable Bill Blair, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Emergency Preparedness
Public Safety Canada
269 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P8
Email: bill.blair@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Marco E. L. Mendicino, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Public Safety
Public Safety Canada
269 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P8
Email: ps.ministerofpublicsafety-ministredelasecuritepublique.sp@canada.ca

Dear Minister Blair and Minister Mendicino:

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP), I am writing to extend our support for the *Emergencies Act*, *Emergency Measures Regulations* and *Emergency Economic Measures Order*.

Over the last three weeks, police services across the country have been responding to unprecedented demonstrations, protests, occupations, and acts of civil disobedience. Canadian and provincial legislation provides significant authorities and powers to police services to maintain the rule of law, although the national coordination of the Freedom Convoy 2022 has presented unique challenges.

The CACP supports the fundamental objectives of the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* that is intended to regulate and prohibit illegal public assemblies that lead to the breach of peace, and to restrict the funding of such illegal assemblies. The Act also supplements existing law enforcement tools and addresses unintended gaps in legislative authorities at the federal and provincial levels required during a state of emergency, including allowing for nation-wide coordination of police resources to enforce provincial and municipal legislation.

The *Emergency Measures Regulations* also enhance the ability for police to manage these illegal assemblies through the protection of minors, prohibiting foreign nationals from entering Canada to participate, limit travel, as well as limit property and assets to support these illegal assemblies. Furthermore, the Regulations allow for directing individuals and/or companies to assist police in providing essential goods and services while protecting critical infrastructure across our country.

The *Emergency Economic Measures Order* is critical to assisting law enforcement in addressing the mass national and international organization of the Freedom Convoy 2022. The prohibition of financial transactions to support unlawful assemblies is critical to bringing a peaceful termination of these assemblies, as well as serving as a deterrent for other pop-up illegal assemblies.

.../2

Freedom of assembly and freedom of expression are hallmarks of our Canadian democracy, and ones that police leaders fundamentally support. As well, our front-line members manage the delicate balancing act while ensuring public and community safety for all citizens. What we are currently experiencing across our nation, and in particular in the city of Ottawa, has crossed the threshold. The ongoing occupation of our nation's capital is affecting the lawful enjoyment and quality of life of the citizens of Ottawa.

The *Emergencies Act* ensures that the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* cannot be limited and/or abridged, even during the national emergency, while police independence and discretion remain independent.

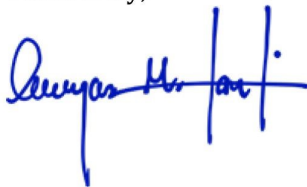
The CACP recognizes that the actions of our police services are, and will be, subjected to various levels of government review. We support and look forward to participating in these reviews as we look towards the future of continued police transformation while ensuring a safe Canada.

We would like to express our appreciation for your leadership in advancing progressive legislation to ensure that our front-line police officers have the ability and legislative authority to manage unique, unprecedented, and challenging public assemblies.

Police leaders are united across the country and are working in partnership, sharing resources and equipment. We remain committed to supporting our members on the front line and are grateful for their unwavering community leadership. We also remain committed to resolving the various assemblies, demonstrations, and occupations across the country peacefully while ensuring the rule of law. We are grateful for the selflessness of all police members across Canada as we work as one – united to ensure safety in all communities across our nation. I would be remiss if I did not recognize the exemplary leadership of Chief Bell, Commissioner Carrique and Commissioner Lucki – we are indebted for their national leadership.

Again, thank you for advancing the introduction of the *Emergencies Act*. We extend our support as we work towards restoring the rule of law across our great nation.

Yours truly,



Chief Bryan M. Larkin
President – CACP

cc. The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P., Prime Minister of Canada
The Honourable Candice Bergen, Interim Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada
Yves-François Blanchet, Leader of the Bloc Québécois
Jagmeet Singh, Leader of the New Democratic Party
Commissioner Brenda Lucki, Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Commissioner Thomas Carrique, Ontario Provincial Police
Interim Chief Steve Bell, Ottawa Police Service



February 20, 2022

The Honourable Bill Blair
President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and
Minister of Emergency Preparedness
and
The Honourable Marco E.L. Mendicino
Minister of Public Safety

Dear Minister Blair and Minister Mendicino:

On behalf of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP), I am writing to express our association's support for the *Emergencies Act*, *Emergency Measures Regulations* and *Emergency Economic Measures Order*.

We believe that the authorities under this legislation have been useful in helping us resolve the threats to public safety and disorder, including in our national capital of Ottawa. In our view, the *Emergencies Act* provides the appropriate authorities and powers for police services to ensure the rule of law and the safety of citizens. This has been our experience, particularly during the "Freedom Convoy 2022" and the threat to public safety it has posed to communities across the nation.

We want to be clear that police leaders in Ontario support the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed to all Canadians. Our police officers have worked incredibly hard in dealing with the current protests to ensure the safety of citizens living and working in Ontario. Unfortunately, the actions of convoy protesters (particularly in the City of Ottawa) have moved beyond peaceful protests to the point where they pose a serious threat to the public's safety and civil order.

The *Emergencies Act* has helped ensure our front-line police officers and commanders have the necessary legislative authority to deal with the unlawful and dangerous protests we have seen across our province.

The OACP understands that the activation of this legislation includes a mandatory review. We fully support this aspect of the legislation and look forward to participating in the review to ensure that police services are able to continue working in a fair and impartial manner in support of public safety in Ontario.

We thank our front-line police officers and police commanders who have worked tirelessly to manage these threats to public safety and civil order with the goal of resolving the various protests across Ontario and Canada peacefully while ensuring public safety for all citizens.

Sincerely,



Gary Conn, M.O.M.
Chief of Police, Chatham-Kent Police Service
President, Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police

- c. The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P., Prime Minister of Canada
The Honourable Candice Bergen, Interim Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada
Yves-François Blanchet, Leader, Bloc Québécois
Jagmeet Singh, Leader, New Democratic Party
Amita Kuttner, Interim Leader, Green Party of Canada
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General for the Province of Ontario
The Honourable Douglas Downey, Attorney General for the Province of Ontario
Commissioner Brenda Lucki, Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Interim Chief Steve Bell, Ottawa Police Service
OACP Board of Directors
Commissioner Thomas Carrique, Ontario Provincial Police and Ontario Director, CACP
Chief Paul Pedersen, Greater Sudbury Police Service and Ontario Director, CACP



**Standing Committee on
Public Safety and National Security**

***Occupation of Ottawa and the Federal
Government's Response to Convoy Blockades***

February 25, 2022

N.B.: The Committee can request a copy of all witness materials.

**House of Commons Standing Committee on
Public Safety and National Security (SECU)**
Occupation of Ottawa and the Federal Government's Response to Convoy

February 25, 2022

12:30 to 14:30

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**House of Commons Standing Committee
on Public Safety and National Security (SECU)**

**February 25, 2022
12:30-14:30
via Zoom**

**RCMP Appearance: *OCCUPATION OF OTTAWA AND THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO CONVOY BLOCKADES***

Key Messages

- The goal of law enforcement is always to maintain public order and keep citizens safe. The challenges that we've faced are unprecedented in their scope and nature.
- The tools provided to law enforcement in the measures enacted under the *Emergencies Act* are targeted, time-limited and proportional measures that will help us bring about a peaceful resolution to a difficult situation.
- While not the police service of jurisdiction for the demonstrations in Ottawa, the RCMP is worked closely with our law enforcement partners, including the Parliamentary Protective Service and the Ottawa Police Service and the Ontario Provincial Police.

APPEARANCE

The Minister of Public Safety (PS) is scheduled to appear before the House Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU) regarding their study on the invoking of the *Emergencies Act* on February 25, 2022, from 12:30 to 14:30. You and other senior officials from PS and the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) will attend to support the Minister. Participants include:

Department of Public Safety (PS)

- Honourable Marco Mendicino, Minister of Public Safety
- Rob Stewart, Deputy Minister
- Officials from Department of Public Safety to be determined

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

- Brenda Lucki, Commissioner
- Dennis Daley, Assistant Commissioner, Contract and Indigenous Policing

Canada Border Services Agency

- John Ossowski, President
- Scott Harris, Vice-President, Intelligence and Enforcement Branch
- Denis Vinette, Vice-President, Travellers Branch

Department of Finance

- Richard Bilodeau, Director General, Financial Institutions Division, Financial Sector Policy Branch

Department of Justice

- Samantha Maislin Dickson, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Safety, Defence and Immigration Portfolio

Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness

- Talal Dakalbab, Assistant Deputy Minister, Crime Prevention Branch

Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada

- Barry MacKillop, Deputy Director, Intelligence

You will appear along with the Minister, Mr. Ossowski and Mr. Stewart from 12:30 to 13:30. Portfolio officials, including Deputy Commissioner Duheme and Assistant Commissioner Daley will appear from 13:30 to 14:30. Officials from Ottawa Police Service or the Ontario Provincial Police will not appear.

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

On February 15, 2022, SECU adopted the following motion:

“That the committee invite the Minister of Public Safety and department officials from both the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, The Ontario Provincial Police, The Ottawa Police Service, and Canada Border Services Agency to appear as soon as possible before the committee to answer questions regarding the occupation of Ottawa and the federal government’s response to convoy blockades disrupting our borders, notably in Windsor, Ontario; Emerson, Manitoba; and Coutts, Alberta.”

During debate of this motion, several LPC members questioned the merit in inviting the officials to appear on an urgent basis as they would not be able to share details of ongoing operations. The LPC members also noted that per the *Emergencies Act*, an inquiry must be held following the end of the declaration of the Act and that SECU had also adopted several other similar studies, one examining extremism financing on crowdfunding platforms and one that will study the rise of Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism.

In response, several SECU members stated why they were interested in having officials appear as soon as possible:

- NDP MP Alistair MacGgregor: “This is really about examining intelligence failures, lack of coordination, that from January 29 up until the present day, how did we get to this point? That’s just really what I want us to focus on.”
- CPC MP Dane Lloyd: “It would be very important for us to review [the] coordination between police services...”
 - MP Lloyd also remarked, “I think it’s very important that we have the RCMP and OPP to give us some context on what their actions have been during this.”

- CPC MP Tako Van Popta: “I want to hear from the various police forces involved here, particularly in the province of Ontario, about how we came to that point, and to what extent were the OPP and the RCMP and the city police working together, and the CBSA. They are also part of this study and how could we improve that? What could have been done better?”
- CPC MP Doug Shipley: “While they may not be able to speak in great detail about current operations, they might be able to give us a lot of information about past similar occurrences that they have dealt with and perhaps ended a little quicker.”

During the February 17, 2022, SECU meeting, a motion was adopted specifying that the organized identified above appear before SECU “the week of February 21st, or as soon as possible thereafter should any witnesses not be available that week”.

BACKGROUND

SECU reviews legislation policies, programs and expenditure plans of government departments and agencies responsible for public safety and national security, policing and law enforcement, corrections and conditional release of federal offenders, emergency management, crime prevention and the protection of Canada's borders.

While SECU has initiated their study on what led to the Emergencies Act being invoked, per the Act itself, the government must also call an inquiry into the circumstances resulting in the declaration of emergency within sixty days of its termination. The government must table the report of this inquiry in Parliament within 360 days after the end of the declaration.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Rounds of Questioning:

Members of the Committee are allotted six minutes to both ask questions and receive responses during the first round of questioning. In the second round (time permitting), the allotted time for questions and answers is reduced to five minutes.

- Typical order of questioning for the first round: Liberal, Conservative, Bloc, NDP.
- Typical order of questioning for the second round: Conservative, Liberal, Conservative, Liberal, then 2.5 minutes each for the Bloc and NDP.

Departmental officials present at Committee are responsible for supporting the Minister's accountability in Parliament. As departmental officials are not primarily responsible for exercising the powers of the Crown, their relationship to Parliament is different from that of Ministers. While Ministers are responsible for political, partisan matters, and for defending public policies before Parliament, deputy heads and officials support Ministers in providing explanations and information on public policies that Ministers could not be expected to provide due to the level of detail or complexity.

When responding to questions from committee members, keep your answers brief and factual. Avoid taking a position, providing your opinion, stating your personal recommendations or speaking on behalf of others on a given issue. Do not divulge classified information, Cabinet confidences or any information that contradicts privacy laws.

House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU)

The House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security reviews the legislation, policies, programs and expenditure plans of government departments and agencies responsible for public safety and national security, policing and law enforcement, corrections and conditional release of federal offenders, emergency management, crime prevention and the protection of Canada's borders.

Chair	Hon. Jim Carr	Liberal
<hr/>		
Vice Chairs	Raquel Dancho	Conservative
	Kristina Michaud	Bloc Québécois
<hr/>		
Members	Paul Chiang	Liberal
	Pam Damoff	Liberal
	Dane Lloyd	Conservative
	Alistair MacGregor	NDP
	Ron McKinnon	Liberal
	Taleeb Noormohamed	Liberal
	Doug Shipley	Conservative
	Tako Van Popta	Conservative
	Sameer Zuberi	Liberal

Winnipeg South Centre, Manitoba

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Served as the Minister of Natural Resources from 2015 to 2018; he was the Minister of International Trade Diversification from 2018 to 2019; and from January to October 2021, served on Cabinet as the Special Representative for the Prairies.
- From 1988 to 1992, he was a member of the Manitoba Legislature.
- Prior to entering federal politics, he was a journalist and worked as an editorial writer and columnist with the Winnipeg Free Press as well as for CBC Radio.



Points of Note

Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU).

Raquel Dancho

Conservative

Kilonan-St. Paul, Manitoba

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019

Education and Background

- Obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science at McGill University.

Points of Note

- Member of Standing Committee on the status of Women (FEWO).
- Previously had a career with the Manitoba Government.
- Advocate for small business and Canadian farmers.
- Ms. Dancho served in the senior role of Special Assistant to the Minister of Sport, Culture and Heritage and was instrumental in facilitating critical relationships between the Minister and historic arts and culture institutions across Manitoba.



Avignon—La Mitis—Matane—Matapédia, Quebec

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Holds a Master's degree in international relations from the Université Laval.
- Worked as a political advisor to interim Parti Québécois leader Pascal Bérubé.

**Points of Note**

- Vice-Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU) and member of its Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure (SSEC).
- Bloc Québécois Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Critic.
- MP Michaud was critical of the RCMP's initial response to the Wet'suwet'en crisis. She supported the RCMP's withdrawal from the Wet'suwet'en area and has expressed support for the creation of Indigenous police services as one way to rebuild trust between Indigenous people and law enforcement.
- Since November 2021, MP Michaud has been particularly interested in illegal firearms smuggling and the presence of firearms on Quebec. Her interest is a result of the ongoing gun violence amongst youth in the Greater Montreal Region.

Markham—Unionville, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2021.

Education and Background

- Prior to entering federal politics, he had a career in policing that spanned 28 years. He retired as a sergeant with the York Regional Police Service, but also served with the London Police Service and Durham Regional Police.
- In 2013, he was awarded the Police Exemplary Service Medal.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU).
- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion (Diversity and Inclusion).

Oakville North—Burlington, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Western Ontario.
- Oakville Town Councillor from 2010 to 2015.
- Worked in financial and investment banking positions for 27 years.



Points of Note

- Member of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU) and its Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure (SSEC). Also a member of the House of Commons Special Committee on Afghanistan (AFGH).
- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Safety.
- Served previously as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Indigenous Services and as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health.
- Recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, and a number of other awards for her community service.
- She has expressed concern about the length of time it is taking for the RCMP to review and respond to the CRCC's report related to the death of Colton Boushie.
- She has also advocated for better protection for sexual assault victims.

Sturgeon River—Parkland, Alberta

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2017.

Education and Background

- Graduated from Trinity Western University with a degree in History and Political Studies.
- Before being elected as a Member of Parliament, he worked as a Parliamentary Advisor to St. Albert-Edmonton MP Michael Cooper, the Honourable Ed Fast who served as the Minister of International Trade, and the Honourable Jason Kenney.
- Serve as a Canadian Army reservist in the Governor General's Foot Guards.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU).
- Conservative Shadow Minister for Emergency Preparedness.
- Served previously on several committees, including the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology (INDU), the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs (ACVA), the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates (OGGO), and the Standing Committee on Natural Resources (RNNR).
- In June 2021, he introduced Private Member's Bill C-316, An Act to amend the Criminal Code, the Corrections and Conditional Release Act and the Prisons and Reformatories Act. The bill sought to amend the *Criminal Code* to add as an aggravating factor for sentencing purposes and as a reason to delay parole the fact that a person who is convicted of certain offences refuses to provide persons in authority with information respecting the location of bodies or remains.

Cowichan—Malahat—Langford, British Columbia

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Graduate of the University of Victoria and Royal Roads University.
- Previously worked in British Columbia's forestry sector.
- Prior to being elected to Parliament, worked as a constituency assistant for an NDP MP in British Columbia.



Points of Note

- Currently serving as Critic for Public Safety, Agriculture and Food, and as Deputy Critic for Justice. He has previously served as the NDP's Critic for Senior and Justice and Human Rights.
- Member of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU) and the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food (AGRI).
- Has served previously on several Standing Committees including the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST) and was the Vice-Chair of the Special Joint Committee on Medical Assistance in Dying (AMAD).
- In November 2021, called for RCMP reform and offered to form an alliance with the LPC to do so.
- Introduced a Private Member's Bill seeking to prohibit investments of Canada Pension Plan in entities that produce weapons or commissioned of human, labour or environmental rights violations. The bill was defeated by both the CP and LPC.
- Commented on the SECU Committee Report on "Systemic Racism in Policing in Canada." Stated that the following recommendations should be implemented: Legislative overhaul of the RCMP Act; Better and more robust civilian oversight; A better review and complaints process; The transition away from a para-military force; and, Better Indigenous consultation, inclusion, and partnership in policing services, especially in Indigenous communities.
- During JUST's 2018 study on Human Trafficking in Canada, he sought to understand if the *Criminal Code* is working for successful prosecution of those accused of human trafficking. He asked a witness, "what are front-line officers and CBSA or our police doing themselves to meet them halfway? Are any strategies being employed to try to actively form those relationships with people who are affected to encourage them to come forward? I think there's a role for agencies to meet them halfway..."

Coquitlam-Port Coquitlam, British Columbia

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of Alberta and an honours diploma in Computer Technology from the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology.
- Prior to entering federal politics, he was a business owner and a computer systems analyst.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU).
- Previously served as Chair of the Standing Committee on Health (HESA), Chair of the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Health (SHES), Member of Liaison Committee (LIAI), and Member of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST).
- In the 42nd Parliament, 1st Session, he sponsored Bill C-224, *An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (assistance – drug overdose)*, which received Royal Assent in 2017.

Taleeb Noormohamed

Liberal

Vancouver Granville, British Columbia

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2021.

Education and Background

- Graduated from Princeton University with BA, attended the University of Oxford for Graduate/Doctoral Studies, and completed his Master's at Harvard University.
- Prior to entering federal politics, he served as a senior official in the federal government from 2002 to 2007. During his time with the federal government, he was involved with establishing the Cross-Cultural Roundtable on Security. He also served as Director of the Air India Review Secretariat and Special Advisor to the Hon. Bob Rae.
- He was an executive in the technology sector and was a member of the Board of Directors for the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA).



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security.

Doug Shipley

Conservative

Barrie—Springwater—Oro-Medonte, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- City Councillor in Barrie from 2010 to 2019.
- Small business owner.
- Former Vice-Chair of the Barrie Police Services Board.



Points of Note

- Member of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU). Was a previous member of SECU in 2020. Also previously served on the Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities (TRAN).
- When SECU was studying Systemic Racism in Policing Services in Canada, he expressed interest in strategies that could be easily and quickly put in place by the RCMP to recruit more members, specifically women, from first nations communities.

Langley—Aldergrove, British Columbia

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Holds an undergraduate degree from Trinity Western University and a law degree from the University of British Columbia.
- Had a 30 plus-year law career with McQuarrie Hunter LLP.
- Former director at the Surrey Board of Trade and the Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Association.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU).
- Recently completed the Firearms Safety Course in an effort to better understand his constituents' concerns about the assault-style firearms ban. He noted that "the real problem [is] illegal guns and gang violence", including cross-border firearms smuggling.
- Voiced concern in the House of Commons about the economic effects of the Indigenous rail blockades in support of the Wet'suwet'en.
- On the Merlo-Davidson Settlement Agreement, he asked the Commissioner whether she was confident the progress the RCMP is making to address Justice Bastarache's findings "will be effective in restoring the public's confidence" in the RCMP. Additionally, he asked Justice Bastarache whether "the RCMP even be fixed, or does it have to be dismantled? Do we have to have another model of policing altogether?"

Pierrefonds-Dollard, Québec

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Graduated from Concordia University with a BA in Pure and Applied Mathematics and earned a Law degree from the Université du Québec à Montréal.
- Prior to entering federal politics, held a variety of positions including: Legal Researcher, Educator, and Media and Human Rights Coordinator.
- Served over five years as a Reservist with the Canadian Forces.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU).
- Previous Member of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST). Also served on the Standing Joint Committee for the Scrutiny of Regulations (REGS) and on the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs (ACVA).
- In 2007, in his capacity with the Canadian Council on American-Islamic Relations, argued that the federal government should scrap the “no-fly” list.
- In 2007, appeared as a witness on behalf of the Canadian Council on American-Islamic Relations, before the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU) for their study on Bill C-3, *An Act to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (certificate and special advocate) and to make a consequential amendment to another Act*. As part of his testimony, stated that he was not supportive of Bill C-3. The Bill received Royal Assent in 2008.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

LAW ENFORCEMENT MEASURES

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Over the last three weeks, police services across the country have been responding to unprecedented and unlawful demonstrations, protests, occupations, and acts of civil disobedience.
- Federal and provincial legislation provides significant authorities and powers to police services to maintain the rule of law.
- However, the illegal blockades and unlawful protests in Ottawa and across the country presented unique challenges.
- The invocation of the *Emergencies Act* and associated measures provided all police officers across the country – not just the RCMP – with additional tools to deal with the situation.

If pressed on specific examples of how the Emergencies Act has been used:

- Within Ottawa, provisions of the *Emergencies Act* have granted the RCMP and law enforcement partners the authorities necessary to maintain the perimeter, restrict travel and ensure that we can continue to stop financial support and other assistance for this unlawful protest.
- As of February 23rd enforcement action under the *Emergency Economic Measures Order* has culminated in the freezing of 246 financial products; the disclosure of 57 entities, which includes individuals and owners or drivers of vehicles involved in the blockades; 253 Bitcoin wallet addresses shared with virtual currency exchangers; and, the proactive freezing of the account of a payment processor by a financial institution.
- I delegated the new requisition powers to compel people to provide essential goods and services such as tow trucks to key members of my team, as well as the OPP Commissioner and OPP police officers he designates to use these requisition powers on his behalf.
 - I understand that the OPP used these powers to request needed equipment to clear the streets in Ottawa.
- Outside of Ottawa, we believe that the *Emergencies Act* has also been a deterrent for at least some protest groups in how they conduct themselves.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

IMPACT OF THE REVOCATION OF *EMERGENCIES ACT* FOR POLICING

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The RCMP remains committed to working with our law enforcement partners to ensure the safety and security of Canadians.
- In Ottawa, the Integrated Command Centre is still activated. We will continue to work in close collaboration with the Ottawa Police Service and the Ontario Provincial Police to monitor the situation in Ottawa and surrounding areas.
- The RCMP will also continue to actively monitor the situation related to the various illegal protest activities across Canada. We will keep a constant state of preparedness and have scalable resources available if needed.
- The revocation of the public order emergency takes nothing away from our resolve to effectively enforce the law and keep communities safe. We will do so using existing tools and authorities, such as those provided by the *Criminal Code of Canada*.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Did you need the *Emergencies Act*?

- The measures enacted under the *Emergencies Act* provided all police officers across the country - not just the RCMP - with additional tools to deal with unlawful public assemblies like the one in Ottawa.
- The goal of law enforcement is always to maintain public order and keep citizens safe. Over the last three weeks, police services across the country have been responding to unprecedented and unlawful demonstrations, protests, occupations, and acts of civil disobedience.
- The tools provided to law enforcement in the measures enacted under the *Emergencies Act* were targeted, time-limited and proportional measures that helped us bring about a peaceful resolution to a difficult situation.

If pressed, on whether the Emergencies Act was necessary:

- What I can say is that in Ottawa, the *Emergencies Act* was an effective tool. Its provisions granted the RCMP and law enforcement partners the authorities necessary to maintain the perimeter, restrict travel and stop financial support and other assistance for this unlawful protest.
- We also believe that the *Emergencies Act* served as a deterrent for some protest groups in how they conducted themselves, both in Ottawa and in other parts of the country.

Were you consulted by the Government on the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*?

- The RCMP provided the Government with regular updates on the situations that were unfolding across the country. There was constant communication between the RCMP and the Government.

Were you consulted by the Government on the revocation of the *Emergencies Act*?

- Since the *Emergencies Act* was invoked, I provided regular updates to the Minister and to the Government. I also participated in several meetings of the Incident Response Group where I briefed on law enforcement actions being taken in Ottawa and across the country.

What changed between Monday when the Government said they still needed the Act, and Wednesday when the Government revoked the emergency?

- I have been providing the Government with regular operational updates on the situation in Ottawa and at other sites across the country.
- Last weekend, we saw a significant, complex and methodical police operation in Ottawa, undertaken by numerous law enforcement partners.
- Further to discussions with our policing partners, we are confident that moving forward, the situation can be managed using the authorities and powers provided to police services through existing federal and provincial legislation to maintain the rule of law.
- As we have seen in places like Emerson, Coutts, Windsor, Toronto and Quebec City to name a few, policing agencies have managed and resolved protests without the use of the *Emergencies Act*.
- The RCMP will continue our work with our policing partners to ensure that the situation remains secure.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

FINANCIAL MEASURES

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The *Emergencies Act* allowed law enforcement and monitoring agencies to work more closely with Canadian financial institutions; which enhanced the effectiveness of law enforcement's investigations pertaining to the illegal convoy protests.
- The RCMP and its policing partners used the Emergency Economic Measures Order to strongly encourage individuals to leave the illegal protests and deter them from counselling others to commit criminal offences.
- The RCMP provided relevant information to financial institutions, who had the onus to determine which financial products should be frozen.

If pressed on how the Emergency Economic Measures were used:

- As of February 23rd enforcement action culminated in the freezing of 246 financial products; the disclosure of 57 entities, which includes individuals and owners or drivers of vehicles involved in the blockades; 253 Bitcoin wallet addresses shared with virtual currency exchangers; and, the proactive freezing of the account of a payment processor by a financial institution.
- The list that was provided to financial institutions included identities of individuals who were influencers in the illegal protest in Ottawa, and owners and/or drivers of vehicles who did not want to leave the area impacted by the protest.
- At no time did the RCMP disclose information on donors or on those who purchased merchandise.

If pressed on the current status of accounts frozen:

- On February 21st, the RCMP went back to financial institutions with some updated information about certain entities whose status may have changed pertaining to the illegal protest activity.
- This new information was available for financial institutions to assess alongside all other information to help inform decisions to unfreeze certain accounts.
- On February 23rd, the declaration of a public order emergency under the *Emergencies Act* was revoked.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

INVOKING OF THE *EMERGENCIES ACT*

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

What additional authorities and tools had been provided to law enforcement through the invoking of the *Emergencies Act*?

- The measures enacted under the *Emergencies Act* provided all police officers across the country - not just the RCMP - with additional tools to deal with public assemblies like the one in Ottawa.
- The tools provided to law enforcement in the measures enacted under the *Emergencies Act* are targeted, time-limited and proportional measures that helped us bring about a peaceful resolution to a difficult situation.
- The goal of law enforcement is always to maintain public order and keep citizens safe. The challenges that faced us in recent weeks has been unprecedented in their scope and nature.

Did the measures in the *Emergencies Act* override any of the existing authorities?

- These measures did not displace or replace provincial or territorial authorities. They added to authorities that provincial and municipal police services could use as well as the RCMP, both in its capacity as the federal police force and where the RCMP is the police of jurisdiction.
- The Ontario Provincial Police and Ottawa Police Services did not lose jurisdiction.
- The *Emergencies Act* did nothing to change the authorities or mandate of police of jurisdiction but these additional tools were available to them, and also to the RCMP.

What were some of the measures provided to law enforcement through the *Emergencies Act*?

- There were a number of special temporary measures to ensure the safety of Canadians during a national emergency:
 - Prohibiting public assemblies that may reasonably be expected to lead to a breach of the peace. What we are seeing in Ottawa goes well beyond peaceful protest;
 - Prohibiting the use of property to facilitate or participate in such

- assemblies;
- Designating and securing protected places;
- Directing persons to render essential goods and services to remove, tow and store vehicles and other items that are part of a blockade, with compensation;
- Prohibiting the use, collection, or provision of property in support of an unlawful assembly – e.g., diesel for illegally idling trucks creating a blockade.
- Authorizing or directing financial institutions to render essential services to relieve impact of blockades, including regulating and prohibiting the use of property to fund or support the blockades, and compelling banks to freeze bank accounts reasonably suspected to have contributed to the public order emergency;
- The imposition of fines, imprisonment, or both, for failure to comply with regulations made under section 19 of the Emergencies Act or a lawful order made under them (e.g. direction to provide essential goods and services).

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

SITUATION IN OTTAWA

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- RCMP officers were continuously and fully engaged in supporting the Ottawa Police Service as part of the Enhanced Integrated Command Centre.
- The RCMP provided around-the-clock support and assistance to the Ottawa Police Service, who held the operational lead and jurisdiction in regards to the ongoing demonstrations in Ottawa.
- In addition to our support having been provided to the Ottawa Police, and in keeping with our primary protective mandate, the RCMP's National Division focused on safeguarding the various Canadian dignitaries who fall under the RCMP's purview.

If pressed on the specifics of Ottawa operations or why the Ottawa blockade was not cleared in the manner of other blockades across Canada:

- Ottawa Police Service held the operational lead and jurisdiction in regards to the demonstrations in Ottawa.
- There will be an opportunity in future to reflect on the lessons learned in Ottawa and of course the *Emergencies Act* has a number of provisions to ensure appropriate Parliamentary oversight.

If pressed on contributions to the planning for Ottawa Police Service response:

- The integrated response plan for Ottawa was developed in partnership between the OPP, RCMP, OPS, and PPS, among others, with ultimate responsibility resting with Interim Chief Bell as the jurisdictional lead.

If pressed on the number of RCMP resources provided to the Ottawa Police Service:

- While I cannot speak to the specific deployment numbers in support of the OPS in the interest of operational integrity, I can say that as a national police organization, the RCMP can draw resources from across the country in support of major operational needs to effectively respond to any urgent situation.
- RCMP members stationed in the NCR are being leveraged, and members from our Divisions, primarily in Ontario and Quebec, are also being deployed to assist with this effort.

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OVERVIEW OF KEY BLOCKADES AND ILLEGAL PROTEST SITES

Ottawa, Ontario

Current Status: Enforcement ongoing as of February 17, 2022
Duration: 28 days and ongoing]
Start Date: January 28, 2022
End Date: TBD

On February 16, after three weeks of occupation, the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) issued a warning to protesters to either leave or be arrested. On February 17, 2022, the Integrated Command Centre (ICC) comprised of RCMP, Ontario Provincial Police, OPS, and other police services commenced enforcement activities. This led to the arrest of key convoy organizers and supporters, including Chris Barber, Tamara Lich, Pat King, Daniel Bulford and Alex Vriend. On February 20, 2022, during the afternoon, Ottawa Police delivered a Trespass Notice to individuals located at Coventry Road, a staging area with extra supplies for the downtown convoy. As of the end of the day, the staging area has been cleared.

As of February 21, 2022, the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) reported over 196 arrests and 110 vehicles towed. The ICC established operational control of the NCR and continue operations to return the downtown core to a state of normalcy.

Windsor, Ontario

Current Status: Concluded
Duration: 8 days
Start Date: February 7, 2022
End Date: February 14, 2022

On February 7, 2022, the Ambassador Bridge closed in both directions due to significant protest activity, disrupting all cross-border commercial traffic vital to the North American economy. On February 11, 2022, the Superior Court Chief Justice issued a temporary injunction prohibiting individuals from establishing a blockade or impeding access to the Ambassador Bridge. Windsor Police Service provided notices to demonstrators, confirming that anyone involved must immediately cease unlawful activity or otherwise, could be facing charges. On February 12, 2022, law enforcement agencies commenced enforcing the injunction and the Bridge was completely reopened on February 14th. In total, 42 individuals were arrested and 37 vehicles were removed.

Emerson, Manitoba

Current Status: Concluded
Duration: 7 days
Start Date: February 10, 2022
End Date: February 16, 2022

On February 10, 2022, the Emerson port of entry (POE) was completely blocked by protest activity, disrupting cross border traffic between Canada and the US. Free movement of all livestock transport, CBSA employees, emergency services vehicles and residential traffic from the town of Emerson continued. Through ongoing consultation and negotiation, the convoy organizers agreed to a “slow roll” departure mid-day on February 16, 2022. The Emerson POE was re-opened on February 16, 2022.

Coutts, Alberta

Current Status: Concluded 17
Duration: days
Start Date: January 29, 2022
End Date: February 15, 2022

On January 30, 2022, the Coutts POE was significantly disrupted due to ongoing protest activity. This border crossing is important for ongoing trade between Canada and the US, as it is the largest POE in Alberta and the only one operating 24 hours a day.

On February 14, 2022, the RCMP arrested 11 suspects and seized firearms and ammunition. These suspects have been charged with a variety of Criminal Code offences, including mischief over \$5000 and conspiracy to commit murder. After the arrest of these key suspects, the convoy leaders reached an agreement with the RCMP recognizing that the demonstrators maintained peaceful intent and that no violence would be tolerated. As such, the border resumed operation on February 15, 2022.

Surrey, British Columbia

Current Status: Concluded
Duration: 8 days
Start Date: February 12, 2022
End Date: February 19, 2022

Since February 12, 2022, the Pacific Highway border crossing has had various disruptions resulting in intermittent border closures. For instance, on February 13, 2022, the Pacific Highway redirected traffic to other POEs, while on February 15th, the border restricted access to vehicles and pedestrians. On February 19th, the border was open in the morning and closed in the afternoon due to increased protest activity. As of February 19, 2022 at 2000 hours, the border remains open as the majority of demonstrators and vehicles have departed.

Other events

Many events were planned and have taken place across the country over the last few weeks. Some were cancelled or postponed, and others materialized without violent incidents.

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MEMBER CONDUCT

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Public trust is essential for the RCMP to effectively serve and protect Canadians. As a result, RCMP employees must conduct themselves in a manner that meets the rightfully high expectations of Canadians.
- All RCMP employees, whether Regular Members, Civilian Members or Public Services employees, are subject to a Code of Conduct and the Treasury Board Values and Ethics Code for the Public Sector.
- RCMP employees represent one of Canada's most iconic police organizations. Canadians look to each of us to set an example and uphold a standard that is fair, professional, unbiased and honourable.
- Contraventions of the Code of Conduct are taken seriously and the RCMP is committed to handling conduct issues in a responsive, timely, efficient and fair manner.

If pressed on video of K Division Officers hugging protesters:

- We encourage our officers to develop respectful relations with all citizens, regardless of the situation.
- In the case of this protest it was essential to maintain calm through positive interactions so our members spent considerable time getting to know all affected, including protestors.
- As the protestors were getting ready to depart, many shook our officers' hands and two protestors reached out to hug the officers. The circulation of videos like these unfortunately misrepresents impartial officers as aligned to a protest and can be used to falsely suggest that the RCMP is aligned to a cause or ideology.

If pressed on the right to employee freedom of expression:

- Due to the legitimate public interest in an impartial and effective public service, a public service employee's right to freedom of expression is not absolute.
- It must be balanced against the employee's duty of loyalty to the employer and the Government of Canada.
- The type of discipline warranted would depend on the facts of the case and could potentially range from a warning up to dismissal.

If pressed on employee use of social media:

- The RCMP is aware of the material circulating on social media pertaining to a chat group that includes some of its members, and we can confirm that we are looking into the matter.
- This material is not representative of those who have committed themselves to serving Canadians with integrity and professionalism.
- As Canada's national police force, the RCMP is held to a high standard by the public we serve. RCMP members' use of social media must align with these standards.
- All members of the RCMP know that, whether on or off duty, they have a responsibility to hold themselves to the highest professional standards and are subject to the Code of Conduct of the RCMP at all times.
 - This includes acting with integrity, fairness, and impartiality, and avoiding any potential conflicts between their professional responsibilities and private interests.
- The RCMP has put in place measures to ensure the continued integrity of police operations as well as the safety of our members.

If pressed on current police-involved incidents as a result of the demonstrations:

- The Ontario Province's Special Investigations Unit is investigating two police-involved incidents that occurred at the demonstrations in Ottawa.
- The first incident suggests that on February 18, 2022, a Toronto Police Service officer on a horse and a 49-year-old woman on Rideau Street and Mackenzie Avenue. The woman has a reported serious injury.
- The second incident suggests that on February 19, 2022, Vancouver Police Department officers discharged Anti-Riot Weapon Enfields (less-lethal firearms) at individuals in the area of Sparks Street and Bank Street. No injuries have been reported at this time.
- There are six investigators and two forensic investigators have been assigned to these cases. I cannot comment further on these SIU investigations.

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INTELLIGENCE AND IDEOLOGICALLY-MOTIVATED VIOLENT EXTREMISM

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The RCMP continues to work closely with domestic and international law enforcement partners as well as the security and intelligence community to analyze and assess criminal threats and activities.
- The RCMP investigates persons who are suspected of being engaged in criminal activity, including offences related to terrorist entities, under the National Security and Terrorism mandate. Our investigations target criminal activity of any individual(s) who threaten the safety and security of Canadians.
- We maintain close partnerships with CSIS and other domestic and international security and intelligence agencies, and engage in tactical information sharing with foreign partners to counter IMVE threats.
- Given there is often overlap between hate-motivated crimes and IMVE-related criminality, the RCMP works closely with police of jurisdiction to identify criminal threats of national security interest and conduct coordinated investigations.
- Rest assured, we will respond, with our partners, in an appropriate manner based on what our intelligence tells us.

Question: What did the RCMP see going into the blockades?

Answer:

- At this time, I am not able to release any specifics related to any ongoing investigations.
- That said, I can assure you that the RCMP continues to maintain situational awareness of the threat environment with due regard for any threats with potential national-level public safety implications.
- In terms of what we've been seeing over the past several months, from a law enforcement perspective, we have noted, across the country, an escalation of tensions and public opposition to federal and provincial government responses to the current pandemic.

- Much of the public opposition has manifested itself in a lawful manner, however, we have seen instances of criminal activity and have taken appropriate enforcement action in those situations.

Question: Has the RCMP seen any indication of IMVE or extremists?

Answer:

- The RCMP takes the threat from Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremists very seriously.
- We are aware that IMVE groups are present and have supporters in Canada.
- We also recognize that individuals who are motivated to commit violence may be previously unknown to law enforcement.
- In terms of ideologically motivated extremism, the RCMP and domestic partners continue to investigate certain individuals and groups who have been using the COVID-19 pandemic to spread propaganda, exacerbate social tensions, encourage criminal or violent actions, and undermine trust in public institutions and government.
- While I cannot comment on any operational matters or provide details on specific investigative targets, I can say that, collectively, we have robust measures in place to detect and disrupt threats to public safety or Canada's national security posed by IMVE threat actors.
- The RCMP will investigate and, wherever possible, lay criminal charges against individuals who seek to carry out acts of violence.

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SYSTEMIC RACISM IN POLICING

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Managing protests and protesters respectfully and within the rule of law is always a priority and a preoccupation of the RCMP.
- We understand that it is imperative that policing agencies in Canada take concrete action to identify and address the admittedly longstanding issues of systemic racism in policing.
- The RCMP has developed and is implementing a comprehensive series of actions that promote Equity and Accountability and build Trust across the organization and in the carrying out of its mandates in service to communities.
- Using funds provided through Budget 2021, the RCMP has set processes in motion that will address systemic racism in all areas where the RCMP has a mandate to preserve the peace and maintain public safety.

If pressed on the approach to Indigenous protestors versus convoy protestors:

- The RCMP is taking the necessary actions to maintain order during this challenging period for the country, all while respecting the rights and freedoms of Canadians engaged in lawful assembly and moving the organization forward on its change agenda.
- The RCMP is steadfast in its resolve to improve trust between Black, Indigenous and racialized communities and the RCMP.

If pressed on specific actions the RCMP has taken to address systemic racism:

- Mandatory anti-racism training for all employees, adding anti-racism content in the curriculum for new cadets, and improving de-escalation strategies are but a few of the many concrete and integrated initiatives that are in progress.



Standing Committee on Finance

Invocation of the Emergency Act and Related Measures

March 7, 2022

N.B.: The Committee can request a copy of all witness materials.

**House of Commons Standing Committee on
Finance (FINA)**

Invocation of the Emergency Act and related measures

March 7, 2022

16:00 to 17:30

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**House of Commons Standing Committee
on Finance (FINA)**

**March 7, 2022
16:00-17:30
via Zoom**

RCMP Appearance: *INVOCATION OF EMERGENCIES ACT AND RELATED MEASURES*

Key Messages

- The *Emergencies Act* allowed law enforcement and monitoring agencies to work more closely with Canadian financial institutions; which has enhanced the effectiveness of law enforcement's investigations pertaining to the illegal convoy protests.
- The RCMP and its policing partners used the Emergency Economic Measures Order to strongly encourage individuals to leave the illegal protests and deter them from counselling others to commit criminal offences.
- The RCMP provided relevant information to financial institutions, who had the onus to determine which financial products should be frozen, pertaining to entities (i.e. individuals or companies) believed to be involved in illegal acts.

APPEARANCE

Official(s) from the RCMP are scheduled to appear before the House Standing Committee on Finance (FINA) regarding their study on the invoking of the *Emergencies Act* and Related Measures on March 7, 2022, from 16:00 to 17:30. Participant(s) include:

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

- Michel Arcand, Assistant Commissioner, Federal Policing Criminal Operations
- Denis Beaudoin, Superintendent, Financial Crime and Cybercrime

No other witnesses will be appearing before FINA on March 7.

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

In reviewing the transcripts of the February 22 and February 24, 2022 FINA meetings, where government officials appeared, it can be expected that the RCMP officials may be asked about:

- The freezing of accounts of those involved with the illegal blockades; specifically, the smallest denomination of donation that resulted in the freezing of an account;
- The process for the unfreezing of an account and how financial institutions would know that the subject of the order has ceased their unlawful activity;
- Whether an unlawful gathering that sought to interfere with critical infrastructure would result in the RCMP, under the *Emergencies Act*, seeking to have the bank accounts frozen for those involved;
- The sharing of information between the RCMP and insurance providers; and,

- Whether a precedent has been set by the RCMP's sharing of information with financial institutions.

It is also likely that the RCMP will be asked to provide details on “the flow of information between the RCMP or other sources of information before it gets to a financial institution so we can understand who touches certain information, where it ends up, and then where decisions are being made”. Members may ask the RCMP to provide this information in writing, following the appearance.

BACKGROUND

The mandate of the Standing Committee on Finance is to study and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management and operation of selected federal departments and agencies, including the Department of Finance and the Canada Revenue Agency, and to conduct pre-budget consultations.

On February 17, 2022, FINA adopted the following motion:

“The committee undertake an emergency study on the invocation of the Emergency Measures Act and related measures taken regarding the 2022 Freedom Convoy, and that:

a) The study examine:

- i. The financing of the protest the blockades
- ii. The broadened scope of Canada's anti-terrorist financing laws;
- iii. The federal government's increased ability to interfere with the business of crowdfunding websites; including but not limited to new Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) regulations with which crowdfunding websites must comply;
- iv. The ability of Canadian financial institutions to temporarily and selectively cease providing financial services to specific clients;
- v. broadly the increased powers given to Canadian financial institutions to share personal information on anyone suspected of involvement with the 2022 Freedom Convoy;
- vi. The long-term impacts of these measures on individual Canadians' financial futures;
- vii. Any other issue or topic related to the extension of powers or their effect on the Canadian financial system by the invocation of the Emergency Measures Act on February 14, 2022”

The motion identified several federal departments and agencies that the committee wanted to hear testimony from, including the Canada Revenue Agency, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, the Department of Justice of Canada and the Department of Finance, and FINTRAC.

During the February 22 FINA meeting, the Committee adopted a motion which required weekly reporting on flagged or frozen bank accounts. With the revoking of the *Emergencies Act* on February 23, 2022, the need to provide FINA with this reporting was negated; the RCMP did not provide any material to the committee.

While FINA is undertaking this study on what led to the *Emergencies Act* being invoked, the *Emergencies Act* also includes a requirement for the establishment of a Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency to review the exercise of powers and the performance of duties and functions pursuant to the declaration of emergency that was in effect from Monday, February 14, 2022, to Wednesday, February 23, 2022. Additionally, the *Emergencies Act* requires that the government to call an inquiry into the circumstances resulting in the declaration of emergency within sixty days of its termination. The government must table the report of this inquiry in Parliament within 360 days after the end of the declaration.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Rounds of Questioning:

Members of the Committee are allotted six minutes to both ask questions and receive responses during the first round of questioning. In the second round (time permitting), the allotted time for questions and answers is reduced to five minutes.

- Typical order of questioning for the first round: Conservative, Liberal, Bloc, NDP.
- Typical order of questioning for the second round: Conservative then Liberal for five minutes, followed by 2.5 minutes each for the Bloc and NDP, and then another five minutes for Conservative and Liberal.

Departmental officials present at Committee are responsible for supporting the Minister's accountability in Parliament. As departmental officials are not primarily responsible for exercising the powers of the Crown, their relationship to Parliament is different from that of Ministers. While Ministers are responsible for political, partisan matters, and for defending public policies before Parliament, deputy heads and officials support Ministers in providing explanations and information on public policies that Ministers could not be expected to provide due to the level of detail or complexity.

When responding to questions from committee members, keep your answers brief and factual. Avoid taking a position, providing your opinion, stating your personal recommendations or speaking on behalf of others on a given issue. Do not divulge classified information, Cabinet confidences or any information that contradicts privacy laws.

N.B.: The Committee can request a copy of all witness materials brought into the Committee room. Ensure there are no references to Cabinet Confidences or other sensitive information.

Notable Statements from FINA Members

Pierre Poilievre (Conservative Party of Canada (CPC)): On February 16, 2022, MP Poilievre remarked that the financial measures of the *Emergencies Act* would “allow the government to invade the privacy, the freedoms and even the bank accounts of Canadians”.

During debate of the *Emergencies Act* on February 20, 2022, MP Poilievre argued, “to freeze people's bank accounts is not just an attack on their finances but on their personal security.”

Greg McLean (CPC): During debate on February 19, 2022, MP McLean expressed concern with the financial measures because, “Canada already has adequate laws under FINTRAC to address foreign funding coming into Canada and looking at it”.

Gabriel Ste-Marie (Bloc Québécois (BQ)): During Question Period on February 17, 2022, MP Ste-Marie repeatedly asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister how many of those participating in the Ottawa occupation had their bank accounts frozen.

Additionally, MP Ste-Marie contended on February 19, 2022, that existing laws were adequate to address the situation. He noted that the funding of illegal activities is prohibited under the Criminal Code and “the *Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act* already authorizes financial institutions to freeze the proceeds of criminal activities or funds used to finance such activities”.

Yvan Baker (Liberal Party of Canada (LPC)): In debate on February 19, 2022, MP Baker was supportive of the financial measures provided by the *Emergencies Act*, which he noted, “broaden[ed] Canada's anti-money-laundering and terrorist financing rules so that they can cover crowdfunding platforms such as cryptocurrency”.

Julie Dzerowicz (LPC): In referencing what she described as “four key financial measures” from the *Emergencies Act*, MP Dzerowicz noted on February 19, 2022, “all of these new requirements and authorities will help mitigate the risks for Canadian financial institutions and crowdfunding platforms to transact illicit funds, increasing the quality and quantity of the intelligence received by FINTRAC in allowing us to stop the flow of funding to these illegal blockades”.

Invocation of the Emergency Act and other measures

Parliamentary Appearance – House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance
March 07, 2022

RCMP OPENING REMARKS

- Good morning Mr. Chair and honourable members of the Committee.
- I am Assistant Commissioner Michel Arcand, responsible for the national picture of ongoing high priority federal policing criminal investigations, including financial crimes. I am here today to discuss the RCMP Federal Policing Program's use of the *Emergency Economic Measures Order*.
- I can say that from the Program's perspective, the measures available to law enforcement under the *Emergencies Act* and the Order were welcome.
- Under this Order, law enforcement and monitoring agencies were able to work more closely with Canadian financial institutions, and use financial measures to strongly encourage individuals to leave the illegal protests and deter the counselling of others to commit related criminal offences.
- This Order gave financial institutions the ability to freeze financial products of individuals and companies suspected of involvement in prohibited activities during the public emergency, and for law enforcement to share information with financial institutions for that purpose.
- Additionally, the Order broadened the scope of Canada's anti-money laundering / anti-terrorist financing rules to include crowdfunding platforms and payment service providers, including virtual currency.

- With the Order in effect, the RCMP worked closely with municipal and provincial partners to collect relevant information with regard to persons, vehicles and companies directly and/or indirectly involved in prohibited and illegal activity relating to the blockades, in particular the owners and drivers of vehicles who did not want to leave downtown Ottawa.
- The RCMP's Federal Policing Program leveraged real-time policing techniques from the Ontario Provincial Police and the Ottawa Police Service to validate and corroborate the presence of individuals in the illegal protest, and then acted as the central point of contact between police-derived information and the financial institutions.
- Through the receipt of this information, along with other information at law enforcement's disposal, financial institutions could then assess whether or not to take action.
- During the 8 days when the *Emergency Economic Measures Order* was in place – from February 15, 2022 to February 23, 2022, the RCMP disclosed information on numerous entities to:
 - the banks;
 - the Canadian Bankers Association;
 - the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada (IIROC);
 - the Canadian Securities Administration (CSA);
 - Credit Unions; and
 - the Mutual Fund Dealers Association.
- It is the RCMP's understanding that at least 257 accounts were frozen by financial institutions, and that the RCMP disclosed information on 57 entities to financial institutions and other listed financial entities.

- Additionally, the RCMP identified and disclosed 170 Bitcoin wallet addresses as receiving funds linked to the HonkHonkHodl crowdfunding campaign, which raised 20.7 Bitcoin, a value of between \$1M to \$1.2 Million CAD during the period when the *Emergencies Act* was in force.
- Many of these cryptocurrency wallet addresses were disclosed to Virtual Currency Money Service Businesses via a series of Cryptocurrency Alerts, noting that these e-wallets were linked to a joint RCMP and Ontario Provincial Police investigation, and directing these businesses to cease the facilitation of any transaction and to disclose any transaction information linked to the RCMP.
- The RCMP was also very clear to communicate that the measures under the Order **were not retroactive**, and to apply them only during the time the Order was in effect.
- Finally, it is important to note the *Emergency Economic Measures Order* does not contain any enforcement provisions; therefore, no charges were laid by the RCMP under this Order.
- As per the powers of the Order, the RCMP was in constant communication with financial institutions to ensure they were provided with the most up-to-date information possible on the status of entities of interest, so that financial institutions could make the most informed determination possible before taking action to freeze, or unfreeze, financial products within their holdings.
- The RCMP continues to instruct anyone inquiring about the process of unfreezing assets to contact their financial institution, as the authority for this action rests with them.

- To conclude, these measures enhanced the effectiveness of law enforcement's investigations pertaining to the blockades, and helped contribute to a peaceful and timely end to the public emergency.
- Thank you for your attention and I would be happy to take any questions you may have.

Parliamentary Appearance – House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance**March 07, 2022****Q & As****Q1: What kind of information could the RCMP share under section 6 of the *Emergency Economic Measures Order (EEMO)*?**

The RCMP could, at its own discretion, proactively share any basic information, including personal information, with any of the listed entities in section 3 of the Order (e.g. banks, insurance companies or crowd funding platforms) where satisfied it would contribute in the implementation of the Order. However, there had to be a connection between the actions of the individual / entity and the conduct / activity that was prohibited under the Emergency Measures Regulations. The discretion to disclose must be carried out taking into consideration the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed to all Canadians.

For example, the RCMP could have provided basic information, including personal information such as the name and address of a truck driver who was participating in a prohibited protest, along with the information about the company they represent, to banks. Under the EEMO, the banks were required to search their files and determine if they had an account with that named truck driver and/or company, and if so, freeze that account.

In addition, the RCMP and law enforcement agencies continued to share information in accordance with existing investigation processes and practices.

IF PRESSED ON EXISTING AUTHORITIES

The RCMP is able to share information with law enforcement agencies in line with authorities granted to us by the *RCMP Act* and by the *Privacy Act*. This information sharing is done consistent with the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed to all Canadians.

Q2: How did the EEMO impact the RCMP?

The Order provided a mechanism for the RCMP, monitoring agencies, and financial entities described under section 3 of the order to share information related to the protests. Under the Order, the RCMP had the discretion to disclose information where the disclosure would have contributed to the application of the Order. As well, the order allowed the RCMP to receive information from financial entities who had the obligation to disclose it under certain circumstances.

Those circumstances, as defined by the Order, required banks and other listed financial service providers, to disclose the existence of property that they had reason to believe is owned, held or controlled by or on behalf of individuals or entities that were engaging in prohibited activity under the Emergency Measures Regulations, to the RCMP or CSIS. These entities were also mandated to disclose any information they may have had with respect to any transaction or proposed transaction.

This information was to be disclosed to the RCMP or CSIS without delay.

Q3: What enforcement measures/consequences did the EEMO contain?

The Order did not contain any criminal enforcement powers that the RCMP could have used. All consequences were carried out by financial institutions

Q4: Should there have been enforcement measures added to better equip the RCMP in these types of events?

The Order as it was written was used by law enforcement – that is, the RCMP and our policing partners – to strongly encourage individuals to leave the illegal protests and deter them from counselling others to commit criminal offences.

Adding additional enforcement measures, such as criminal enforcement powers, could have gone above and beyond the intent of the use of the *Emergencies Act*, which granted us the authorities necessary to maintain the perimeter, restrict travel and ensure that we can continue to stop financial support and other assistance for this unlawful protest, while still supporting the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed to all Canadians.

Q5: What type of information sharing did the EEMO permit?

The Order required banks and other listed financial service providers to disclose certain information to the Commissioner of the RCMP or the Director of CSIS. In particular, they had to disclose the existence of any property in their possession or control that belongs to a person/entity who is involved in the blockades, or any transactions, including proposed transactions, relating to such property.

The obligation to disclose was limited in terms of what entities it applied to and was only triggered where there was reason to believe certain property belongs to people who are engaged in the illegal activities set out in the Regulations.

The EEMO also authorized the disclosure of information by all levels of government institutions to entities that were subject to the Order as defined in section 3 of the Order. The disclosing institution had to be satisfied that the disclosure would have contributed to the application of the EEMO. The discretion to disclose had to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Charter and the *Privacy Act*.

Q6: Did the RCMP provide any guidance to financial institutions?

The RCMP, policing partners, and financial institutions consulted on how to apply measures in a targeted and proportioned way – meaning the Order was used to strongly encourage individuals to leave the illegal protests and deter them from counselling others to commit criminal offences, without impacting people who were simply donors or had purchased convoy related material.

During this very exceptional situation, the RCMP and financial institutions had to work together to achieve clarity and understanding on a law immediately after it came into force. Although financial institutions had a duty to cease dealings with designated persons as defined under the Order, the final decision to identify those persons rested with financial institutions, based on the totality of information they held, including information they received from the RCMP while the Order was in effect.

Q7: What is the process with respect to the unfreezing of accounts?

On the afternoon of Feb 21 2022, the RCMP provided updated information to financial institutions about certain entities whose status may have changed pertaining to the illegal protest activity.

In some cases, the RCMP no longer had reason to believe that certain entities were engaged in prohibited conduct or activities as per the Order, or Emergency Measures Regulations, meaning those entities no longer met the criteria of a designated person.

Alongside previously provided information shared as per the Order, financial institutions could then use this new information to reassess their actions regarding the assets of these entities, and help inform decisions to unfreeze certain accounts.

Q:8 What information was provided? To what entities was that information provided?

The RCMP and its policing partners disclosed information on 57 entities - 18 individuals and 39 vehicles - during the period when the Order was in place – from February 15, 2022 to February 23, 2022. As well, the RCMP identified and disseminated 170 Bitcoin wallet addresses as receiving funds linked to the HonkHonkHodl crowdfunding campaign, which raised 20.7 Bitcoin, or between \$1M to \$1.2 Million CAD during the same period.

The RCMP provided information to Banks, the Canadian Bankers Association, the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada, the Canadian Securities Administration, Credit Unions, and the Mutual Fund Dealers Association.

Many of the cryptocurrency wallet addresses were disclosed to Virtual Currency Money Service Businesses via a series of Cryptocurrency Alerts, noting these wallet addresses were linked to an Ontario Provincial Police led investigation, and directing Virtual Currency Money Service Businesses to cease the facilitation of any transaction dealing with these addresses and to disclose any transaction information linked to these addresses to the RCMP.

Q9: How was information disclosed to entities providing financial services as defined in the Order under section 3?

The RCMP disclosed information directly to entities, as well as indirectly through associations, such as the Canadian Bankers Association or the Canadian Credit Union Association. These disclosures were done by e-mail and contained packages of information on designated persons or entities.

In the case of information sharing with respect to cryptocurrency, the RCMP disseminated information in the form of three Crypto Alerts. Those alerts went to cryptocurrency exchanges or virtual currency money service business both domestically and abroad. As well, the RCMP sent seven separate e-mails to four virtual currency money service businesses directly, to inform them of Bitcoin funds that had been deposited through their exchange.

Q10: Why did the number of Bitcoin wallet addresses change from 253 to 170 on the RCMP website?

Information on the financing of the convoy was developed in a dynamic and fluid environment. Based on further review, 170 Crypto-currency wallet addresses were identified as linked to the HonkHonkHodl crowdfunding campaign. This number reflects a more accurate calculation of wallet addresses linked to the protests.

Q11: Why does reported information on numbers keep changing?

The information that has been reported so far was reported in a dynamic environment that evolved rapidly over the course of the eight days that the Order was in place. Due to the lack of a formal reporting mechanism or developed format for reporting, the breakdown of that information is still being analyzed. Reporting done to date is the most fulsome information we have, but we expect more clarity as analysis and corroboration progresses.

Q12: How have insurance companies reacted to the Order?

On February 16th, the issue regarding how insurance companies would comply with the Order was raised – how to stop/suspend dealings with clients when engaged in an insurance coverage contract.

The objective remained throughout the intervention that people would leave on their own. The concern with sharing information with insurance companies was that would not have been possible and may have created liabilities for Canadians.

Considering the uncertainty surrounding the Order's application in this industry, the RCMP decided not share any information with the insurance industry as it could possibly have created more harm than good.

Q13: Was open source information used for investigative purposes?

The security community, including law enforcement, plays an important public safety role, and having a clear understanding of the Internet's use by those who may threaten that safety is essential.

As the illegal protests developed and continued, the RCMP utilized existing open source investigative tools to assess the online threat associated with the movement.

Q14: What is the status of the funds from GiveSendGo and GoFundMe?

Funds raised on the GoFundMe platform were frozen by the platform itself, while the GiveSendGo funds were frozen as the result of court order from the province of Ontario. We cannot provide any further update on those funds at this time.

Q15: What engagement occurred between the RCMP and crowdfunding platforms?

The RCMP had no engagement with crowdfunding platforms with respect to the illegal protests, either before the *Emergencies Act* was invoked, or throughout the period when the Act was in place.

Q16: What was the main limitation on the RCMP prior to the *Emergencies Act* being invoked?

Before the registration of the *Emergency Measures Regulations* that followed to the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*, the RCMP did not have jurisdiction to actively participate in enforcement activities to maintain the perimeter in Ottawa.

We did however engage with the Ottawa Police Service and the Ontario Provincial Police to offer our assistance if they needed it, which also contributed to the RCMP's ability to maintain situational awareness.

Q17: What were the roles and responsibilities of the RCMP, the Ontario Provincial Police, and the Ottawa Police Service under the Order?

The *Emergencies Act* and the Order allowed law enforcement and monitoring agencies to work more closely with Canadian financial institutions. RCMP offered to both police of jurisdiction that Federal Policing Criminal Operations would provide a central point of contact that will channel the names of the entities to financial institutions.

Ottawa Police Service and Ontario Provincial Police conducted criminal surveillance and collected information on protestors directly participating in the illegal protest. Both the OPS and OPP provided information to the RCMP on persons of interest, and where possible – given the dynamic and fluid nature of the environment - the RCMP assessed and then forwarded that information to relevant financial institutions.

Q18: Is the RCMP hesitant to take on labour-intensive, time consuming cases?

RCMP Federal Policing initiates major projects on a regular basis. This is the mandate of RCMP Federal Policing. These major projects include national security related files such as terrorism or other acts of extreme violence, transnational and serious organized crime files including money laundering and border integrity, and cyber-enabled crime committed by domestic or international cybercrime networks. These types of investigations often span multiple years and multiple jurisdictions, and can require significant resources.

It is difficult to say that one particular piece of information or intelligence led to a charge in a money laundering case, as they are multi-faceted and investigators use information and intelligence from a variety of sources. What I can say is that FINTRAC disclosures are used in virtually all of our major investigations into money laundering.

Q19: Does the RCMP have sufficient resources to undertake successful money laundering investigations? Will they be asking for more resources moving forward?

The RCMP is one enforcement arm in Canada's Anti-Money Laundering/Anti-Terrorist Financing Regime, which is led by the Department of Finance, and includes a total of 13 Government of Canada organizations. We work with regime partners in a number of fora to identify and address challenges across the regime, with the goal of enhancing the capacity and effectiveness within the entire Regime.

One of the most important challenges the Regime is addressing is how partners within the Regime can share information in an effective, timely manner. This work includes partners from the private sector, as they are key partners in combatting illicit financial activity and hold vast amounts of information. The information sharing that happened under the implementation of the *Emergency Economic Measures Order* demonstrated the power of information sharing in identifying and disrupting illegal activity.

Q20: What is the RCMP doing in response to rural 'Freedom Convoy' encampments gathering outside the city of Ottawa's borders?

The RCMP along with Ontario provincial and municipal police forces are monitoring encampments outside of Ottawa in Arnprior, Embrun, Russell and Vankleek Hill. Demonstrators have been given access by the land owners to camp out on multiple private property farming areas. As of February 23rd, the demonstrators are doing nothing illegal as there are no by-laws against camping in farming areas. Even if demonstrators' encampments do not adhere to municipal zoning bylaws, enforcement will be outside of RCMP's jurisdiction as it would be a bylaw matter.

Tips for Responding to Parliamentary Committee Questions

The Chair of a parliamentary committee is responsible for recognizing members and witnesses who seek the floor, and ensuring that any rules established by the committee concerning the apportioning of speaking time are respected.

When witnesses appear before a parliamentary committee, remember that you are there at their request.

General Tips for Responding to Committee Questions

Committee appearances can be stressful events, especially if the dynamics amongst the committee members themselves are challenging. The Government Affairs Unit can help to coach witnesses and make suggestions on how to formulate responses during the appearance.

The following are some general guidelines to keep in mind as you prepare.

- Succinctly respond to committee members' questions through the Chair of the committee. This means that you direct your responses and questions to the Chair of the committee, not the MP or Senator that is asking. MPs and Senators will object if answers are too long, or do not address the question.
- If you are appearing with officials from other federal departments/agencies, agree beforehand which type of questions will be handled amongst each department/agency.
- If the committee members engage in a heated discussion or a back-and-forth across the table, remain silent until the Chair has brought the meeting back to order. It is appropriate to ask for the member's question to be re-stated if need be.
- Regardless of the member's tone in posing the question, always respond to the question politely, respectfully and in a neutral tone.
- Do not interrupt the committee member, even if they change the course of their question multiple times or seem to be rambling on. You may wish to take notes as the member is speaking so that you can tailor your answer accordingly.
- Once the member has finished speaking, make sure you understand the question before answering. Ask for clarification from the Chair or re-state part or the entire question as you understand it.
- Keep your answers brief and factual. Give the committee member the opportunity to ask a follow up question if they wish.
- If you are not sure that you have covered the information that the committee member is looking for, ask "does this answer your question"?

- Use plain language and avoid using acronyms. Your goal is to inform the committee, and using overly technical language or bureaucratic jargon will only confuse or cloud the message you are trying to communicate.
- Avoid contradicting the Minister, senior government officials or the government's policy and taking a position, providing your opinion, stating your personal recommendations or speaking on behalf of others on a given issue.
 - It is ok to discuss what the Minister has publically said on the subject. Any relevant comments from the Minister on the subject will be included in the briefing material prepared by the Government Affairs team.
- Do not divulge classified information, Cabinet confidences or any information that contradicts privacy laws.
- If providing opening remarks, deliver them at a steady pace. Remember that interpreters are on the other end translating live. If you are going too fast, the Chair will interrupt and ask you to slow down.
- Use your first language unless you are fully proficient in both official languages, because it will allow you to be more nuanced and precise.

If You Do Not Know the Answer to a Question

Do not answer in areas that you are not an expert. You may:

1. State that you are not the expert, and if you are comfortable and have the information to do so, attempt to head off the question.

Sample Response: *"Mr./Madam Chair, I am not the expert on that policy matter, however, I can tell you that in 2015, there were 72,039 impaired driving incidents, 3,100 (4%) of which involved drug-impaired driving."*

2. State that you are not the expert and offer to get back to the committee in writing.

Sample Response: *"Mr./Madam Chair, I am not the right person to answer that question, but if the committee wishes, I would be happy to take that question back and have the RCMP provide a written response"*.

3. State that you are not the expert and suggest that the committee re-direct the question to the department who may be best placed to answer the question.

Sample Response: *"Mr./Madam Chair, I am not the right person to answer that question. Should the committee wish more information on that topic, I would suggest contacting the Department of Justice who are leading on that issue"*.

4. Ask that political positions be re-directed to the Minister.

Sample Response: *“Mr./Madam Chair, I cannot speak to decisions regarding the course of action. I would respectfully suggest that the Honourable Member’s question would be best answered by the Minister of Public Safety”.*

Handling Difficult Questions

The dynamics inside a committee room can sometimes be difficult to predict or manage depending on the personalities present and/or the issue being studied. It is not uncommon for committee members to become heated and even antagonistic in their questioning of a witness. Be conscious of your body language and facial expressions (stay neutral) and control your responses.

The following examples are designed to illustrate how a witness may handle these situations and still provide an answer in a calm, objective way.

If the question is hostile, position your statement and continue. (Sample Response: *“Looking at it from a broader perspective, I would suggest that the statistical evidence supports the change in the program.”*), or simply shut down the question with *“I appreciate your point of view”* and move on.

If the question is inflammatory or false or contains unjustified assumptions, respond with an objective fact. (Sample Response: *“Mr./Madam Chair, I respectfully disagree with that comment and think it would be useful to share with the Committee some facts we have on the issue.”*)

If a parliamentarian launches a personal attack, shut down the issue quickly in a self-confident and firm way then get right back on topic. (Sample Response: *“I’m not sure what the member would like to know Mr./Madam Chair (smile and pause), but if the question relates to our consultations with our stakeholders then...”*)

Navigating the Trouble Spots

Maintaining control of the conversation is the key to a smooth appearance. Here are some common situations that can cause witnesses to feel uneasy.

1. Constant interruptions by the committee member, especially when they perceive they are not getting the information they want to hear.

Strategy: Do not interrupt. Wait until the member is finished then continue with, *“If I may finish my answer to the Member’s previous question first...”*

2. Being blind-sided by a question completely unrelated to the topic at hand.

Strategy: Use a two-step approach. Try beginning with, *“Mr./Madam Chair, I don’t see how this issue is related to what we are talking about here today.”* If the member

persists, then, “Mr./Madam Chair, I am not the right person to answer that question, but if the committee wishes, I would be happy to take that question back and have the RCMP provide a written response.”

3. Rapid fire questions about several topics. Members often do this to try to maximize their time allocation.

Strategy: Do not let it overwhelm you. *“Mr./Madam Chair, the member raises many different issues. I rely on your direction here. It may be more helpful to the committee if I could address one issue at a time.”*

4. Questions/assertions based on incorrect information. Because members have their own researchers and hear testimony from different sources, it is not uncommon for them to put forth a piece of information to see how you respond.

Strategy: Do not take a defensive position against incorrect information; rather correct the member at the earliest opportunity. *“Mr./Madam Chair, I would first like to address the statistics quoted by the Senator. The accurate numbers are...”*

5. Silence (after responding to a question). This is a common strategy when the committee is trying to get you to say more than you are comfortable saying.

Strategy: Provide a complete response, and then let the silence happen. Nod slightly and wait with anticipation for the next question. This signals that you are confident that you have provided as much information as needed.

Impact of Minority Government on Committees

A minority government changes the dynamics of committee proceedings. It is not a predictable environment and the Government has little control over how committees operate. There is an increase in requests for public servants to appear. Individuals appearing before parliamentary committees will need to be particularly skillful in providing non-partisan information that may not always be popular with committee members.

Virtual Parliamentary Committee Appearances

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Parliamentary committee appearances are being conducted virtually. Some guidance is provided below to help prepare for the virtual appearance.

Before the scheduled appearance, there will be two technical tests done by the House of Commons. The first one is a more extensive testing and should be done as early as

possible, while the second is an audio test on the day-of the meeting. Senior officials are expected to sign into the meeting 15-20 minutes early to complete the audio testing.

During the appearance:

- Make sure to change your language option on the Zoom app if you wish to switch languages while speaking. If you're speaking in English, make sure your 'language' selection is English; and French vice-versa. This assists the interpreters with the simultaneous interpretation of your testimony.
- Ensure the microphone is no further than one inch away from your mouth when you are using a wired headset.
- Dress and act appropriately at all times since you are expected to have your camera on for the duration of the meeting.
- Ensure that all devices being used to participate in the meeting are plugged in and that the video and audio setting are set correctly.

Note that unlike in-person meetings, it will be difficult to read committee members' body language and facial expressions, so avoid presumptions that may be implied in language.

Appearances for Clause-by-Clause Consideration of a Bill

On rare occasions, the RCMP may be invited to appear before a committee for clause-by-clause consideration of a bill. During these appearances, officials may be asked to discuss the effect of potential amendments, sometimes without having seen the amendments in advance. Parliamentarians may ask officials for their opinions on amendments. In this case, officials need to focus on the effect of the amendment (and they can say whether it would be contrary to the Government's approach on the bill), rather than their opinion of the amendment.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (FINA)

Committee Profile

Liberal



Yvan Baker



Terry Beech
(Parl. Sec.)



Sophie Chatel



Julie Dzerowicz



Peter Fonseca
(Chair)



Heath MacDonald

Conservative



Adam Chambers



Greg McLean
(Vice Chair)



Pierre Poilievre



Jake Stewart

Bloc Québécois



Gabriel Ste-Marie
(Vice Chair)

New Democrat



Daniel Blaikie

MANDATE

The mandate of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance is to examine and enquire into all matters referred to it by the House of Commons, to report from time to time and, except when the House otherwise orders, to send for persons, papers and records, as it operates in accordance with its mandate.

As part of its mandate, the Standing Committee on Finance is empowered to study and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management and operation of the [Department of Finance](#) and the Canada Revenue Agency.

The Standing Committee on Finance also has the responsibility to consider budgetary policy. In particular, commencing on the first sitting day in September of each year, the Committee is authorized to consider and report on proposals regarding the budgetary policy of the Government, commonly referred to as “pre-budget consultations”. The ensuing Committee report on pre-budget consultations is traditionally tabled in the House of Commons in early December.

In each parliamentary session, the Committee’s work may include:

- pre-budget consultations
- briefing sessions by departmental officials on federal programs
- examination of planned expenditures of the Department of Finance and the Canada Revenue Agency (i.e., main, interim and supplementary estimates)
- a review of Order in Council appointments
- a review of *Monetary Policy Reports* of the Governor of the Bank of Canada
- a review of the Minister of Finance’s economic and fiscal update
- consideration of proposed legislation
- special studies on topics within the Committee’s mandate

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Yvan Baker

Liberal – Etobicoke Centre (Ontario)

Biography

Yvan Baker has been the Member of Parliament for Etobicoke Centre since 2019.

Formerly Yvan was the Member of Provincial Parliament for Etobicoke Centre. As MPP, Yvan successfully advocated for the tunneling of the Eglinton West LRT, saved Silver Creek School for children with special needs, helped to stop the GTAA from permanently diverting flights over the Etobicoke community and secured expansions of local hospitals and schools.

Prior to being elected, Yvan taught Master of Business Administration students at the Schulich School of Business at York University. During that time Yvan also operated his own management consulting practice. Prior to starting his own practice, Yvan was a consultant with The Boston Consulting Group in Toronto and New York. He has consulted to clients in the public sector as well as Fortune 500 companies in a range of sectors including financial services, retail, energy, and telecommunications.

Yvan has volunteered for a variety of charitable and humanitarian organizations, including Leave Out Violence as Board Director; the Emerging Leaders Network where he worked with civic leaders on projects promoting Toronto's economic and social prosperity; and Global Grassroots where he supported emerging women leaders in Rwanda on projects that address issues such as lack of access to water, domestic violence and health education. In recognition of his service to the community Yvan was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Yvan holds an MBA from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College and a BBA from the Schulich School of Business at York University. Yvan is trilingual and is fluent in English, French and Ukrainian.

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Terry Beech

Parliamentary Secretary

Liberal – Burnaby-North Seymour (British Columbia)

Biography

Terry Beech is the Member of Parliament for Burnaby-North Seymour, having been elected in the 2015 and 2019 General Elections. He currently serves as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

He lives with his wife, Ravi, and their two daughters Nova and Solar, in North Burnaby. Before being elected to Parliament, Terry was a small business owner, an educator, a city councillor, and a community advocate. In Ottawa, he has served in a variety of roles. He has previously served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages (B.C.), Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Science and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport.

From a young age, Terry has been passionate about making a difference in his community and helping everyone reach their full potential. At the age of 18, Terry was elected to Nanaimo's City Council, and worked hard to provide young people with a voice at the decision-making table. Recognizing the importance of education, Terry enrolled at Simon Fraser University to pursue a double major in Business and Economics. After SFU, he completed his MBA at Oxford University. With his twin brother, Doug, Terry founded Twinbro Local Leaders, a non-profit focused on helping students access scholarships to attend post secondary. Terry and Doug then founded tech-company, HireTheWorld, before Terry decided to run to represent Burnaby North-Seymour in Parliament.

In Ottawa, Terry has worked directly on key pieces of legislation including the Fisheries Act, the Oil Tanker Moratorium Act, the Oceans Act, the Wrecked, Abandoned, or Hazardous Vessels Act, and more.

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Sophie Chatel

Liberal – Pontiac (Quebec)

Biography

A long-time public servant, eight-time marathon runner, and international tax expert, Sophie Chatel was born in Montreal, lived in different areas of Québec, and arrived in Pontiac with her family in 2002. After the September 2021 election, Pontiac voted in Sophie as the first female representative for her riding.

Sophie attended Law School at the University of Montreal from 1991-1994 and received a Master's degree in tax from the University of Sherbrooke in 1997. In addition to passing the bar, Sophie became a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) in 2000. After working as a tax advisor for several accounting and law firms throughout Quebec, Sophie joined the Canadian Revenue Agency's Ruling Directorate in 2002.

In the world of public service, Sophie shuffled between increasingly senior positions in the Legislative Policy and Appeals Branch, before a long tenure at the Department of Finance where she served as senior treaty negotiator. In 2017, Sophie moved to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris where she head the Tax Treaty Unit and led a working group made up of 136 countries. Sophie collaborated with international delegates, leading academics, economists and tax officials from various international organizations including the UN, OECD, World Bank and IMF, and tax directors of multinational companies. One thorny challenge of the 2017-2021 era was adapting the international framework for taxing the digital giants.

In May 2021, Sophie briefly returned to the Department of Finance to lead the drafting of the Canadian Digital Services Tax Act. On August 9, 2021 Sophie left the public service to run for Parliament. Although Sophie left many colleagues and friends behind, she felt called to join in to tackle the challenge of our generation: climate change.

Sophie Chatel and her husband Tom are the proud parents of twin sons: Evan and Vincent.

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Julie Dzerowicz

Liberal – Davenport (Ontario)

Biography

Julie Dzerowicz is the first female Member of Parliament to represent Davenport, having first been elected in 2015, and re-elected in 2019. She currently sits on the House of Commons Finance Committee. She is also the Chair of the National Immigration and Refugee Caucus, the Vice-Chair of the Canadian Section of ParIAmericas, Co-Chair of the Canada-Mexico Parliamentary Friendship Group, Co-Chair of the Canada-Portugal Parliamentary Friendship Group, Executive Committee of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group, Chair of the Canada – Turkey Parliamentary Friendship Group, and Vice-Chair of the NATO Parliamentary Association.

Julie is the child of immigrant parents who fled their respective countries due to poverty, war and discrimination, and who came to Canada to find a safe place to raise their children. Through her parents, Julie learned the importance of hard work and education as a means to achieving one's full potential.

During the 43rd Parliament, Julie is proud to have introduced the first guaranteed income bill in the House of Commons in Canada—Bill C-273—An Act to Establish a National Strategy for a Guaranteed Basic Income. If passed, the bill would have enabled basic income implementation pilots on a large scale in provinces and/or territories across Canada. The success of these pilots would help the federal government understand how best to implement a national program across Canada.

Prior to becoming a Member of Parliament, Julie spent more than 20 years in increasingly senior level positions in banking and biotechnology. A long-time passionate environmentalist, she co-founded Project Neutral in 2010, an environmental organization dedicated to helping individuals and communities reduce their carbon emissions. Julie received her MBA at the University of British Columbia (completing the degree at the London Business School) and her Bachelor of Commerce at McGill University.

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Peter Fonseca

Chair

Liberal – Mississauga East-Cooksville (Ontario)

Biography

Peter Fonseca, an Olympian who proudly represented Canada as a top Marathon runner, is the Member of Parliament for Mississauga East-Cooksville.

Peter is no stranger to public service, sitting in the Ontario Legislature as a Member of Provincial Parliament between 2003 and 2011. Peter served as a Cabinet Minister, taking on the Labour and Tourism & Recreation portfolios.

Peter has lived, worked and raised his family in his riding of Mississauga East-Cooksville for almost 20 years with his wife, Ward 3 Councillor Chris Fonseca, and their two children.

Peter is fluent in English and Portuguese.

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Heath MacDonald

Liberal – Malpeque (Prince Edward Island)

Biography

Heath MacDonald is the Member of Parliament for Malpeque.

After a successful career in the private sector and prior to his election to the House of Commons, Heath was elected MLA for Cornwall-Meadowbank. Subsequently, he was named Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, and Minister of Finance. Over 800 Island students attending university free, record setting seasons for our Tourism industry, and the signing of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement are just a few achievements that Heath is proud of.

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Adam Chambers

Conservative – Simcoe North (Ontario)

Biography

Adam Chambers is the Member of Parliament for Simcoe North.

After completing law and business school at Western University in London, Ontario and practicing law, Adam became a senior advisor to Minister Jim Flaherty in the Department of Finance. From this experience, Adam has developed an appreciation of the value of public service and the importance of fiscal responsibility. Since 2015, he has been a board member of the Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care in Penetanguishene to promote mental health and give back to our community. Adam is also a founding board member of Building Up, a non-profit whose mission is to create employment opportunities in the skilled trades for at-risk youth. Prior to becoming our MP Adam was Assistant Vice President at one of Canada's largest financial institutions.

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Greg McLean

Conservative – Calgary Centre (Alberta)

Biography

Greg McLean is the Member of Parliament for Calgary Centre. First elected in 2019, Greg was re-elected in the election of September 20, 2021 to serve in the 44th Parliament.

Before being elected as MP for Calgary Centre in 2019, Greg worked as a financial professional for 20 years. His work put him in close contact with Alberta's vital oil and gas sector and with technology start-ups, giving him a first-hand understanding of what it takes for hard-working Calgarians to invest, risk, build, and succeed. It's the entrepreneurial spirit that drives our province and helps make our city great. Greg works hard to use his financial background to bring on-the-ground expertise in finance, business and resource development to Parliament. As a new MP, Greg has spent time working with his colleagues refining policy on resource development, including the significant strides the industry has taken toward sustainable development, and the many reasons that Canadians should prefer Canadian oil over environmentally and ethically inferior imports.

Greg has a Bachelor of Commerce Degree from the University of Alberta, and an MBA from the Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario.

Together, Greg and his wife Ruth Pogue have a combined family of four sons. Greg is a big music fan, and enjoys skiing, hiking, biking, and everything else Calgary and the Rocky Mountains has to offer.

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Pierre Poilievre

Finance Critic for the Official Opposition

Conservative – Carleton (Ontario)

Biography

Pierre Poilievre is a former Minister, a six-term Member of Parliament and currently the Conservative Shadow Minister for Jobs and Industry. Poilievre has served as Minister of Employment and Social Development, Minister of Democratic Reform and Minister Responsible for the National Capital Commission. He was also the Conservative Shadow Minister for Finance.

Poilievre lives in the Eastern Ontario village of Greely with his wife Anaida and their daughter Valentina. He grew up in Calgary and graduated from the University of Calgary with a degree in International Relations.

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Jake Stewart

Conservative – Miramichi-Grand Lake (New Brunswick)

Biography

Jake Stewart is the Member of Parliament for Miramichi-Grand Lake.

Stewart entered municipal politics in 2008, having run for the office of councillor in his hometown of Blackville. In 2010, he entered provincial politics. Stewart was a member of the Standing Committees on Education, Private Bills, Procedure, Public Accounts, and Chaired the Standing Committee on Legislative Officers. He has also been appointed by Jody Carr, then current Minister of Education to sit on the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Positive Learning and Working Environment (Anti Bullying). Reelected in 2014, Stewart is the opposition critic for Energy and Mines, and Aboriginal Affairs. He is a member of the Standing Committee on Economic Policy.

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Gabriel Ste-Marie

BQ Finance Critic

Bloc Québécois – Joliette (Québec)

Biography

Économiste de formation, Gabriel Ste-Marie est le porte-parole du Bloc québécois en matière de finances et de commerce international. Il a fait de la lutte aux paradis fiscaux son premier cheval de bataille en déposant dès son arrivée à Ottawa la motion M-42 pour boucher l'échappatoire fiscale de la Barbade, de loin la plus importante destination voyage de l'argent des grandes entreprises canadiennes. Le travail de M. Ste-Marie dans ce dossier avait d'ailleurs été relevé par France Inter en 2017. Le député de Joliette s'est également démarqué en se rendant à Washington pour coaliser des appuis aux industries québécoises de l'acier et de l'aluminium aux États-Unis, en plus d'être publié dans des médias américains. Il a également défendu les producteurs sous gestion de l'offre du Québec en faisant adopter une motion unanime de la Chambre des communes demandant leur pleine indemnisation pour les pertes liées aux accords de libre-échange avec l'Europe, la zone Pacifique et l'Amérique du Nord.

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Daniel Blaikie

NDP Finance Critic

**New Democratic Party – Elmwood-Transcona
(Manitoba)**

Biography

Daniel Blaikie was born and raised in Transcona; a blue-collar neighbourhood of Winnipeg built around the CN shops. He continues to live in Transcona with his wife Janelle and two sons, Robert and Noah.

An electrician by trade, Daniel earned his certification as a construction electrician after completing a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Winnipeg and a Master of Arts Degree in philosophy at Concordia University.

He brings to the House of Commons his experience working as a Minister's Assistant in the NDP government of Gary Doer, as well as his history as a proud member of the IBEW and active member of the labour movement.

First elected as the MP for Elmwood-Transcona in 2015, Daniel has since served in a number of positions including NDP Caucus Chair, International Trade Critic, Critic for Employment, Workforce Development & Disability Inclusion and Democratic Reform Critic.

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Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency

Invocation of the Emergencies Act

April 26, 2022

N.B.: The Committee can request a copy of all witness materials.

Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC)

Invocation of the Emergencies Act

April 26, 2022

18:30 to 20:00

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Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC)

April 26, 2022

18:30-20:00

via Zoom

RCMP Appearance: Invocation of the *Emergencies Act*

Key Messages

- The goal of law enforcement is always to maintain public order and keep citizens safe. The challenges that we faced were unprecedented in their scope and nature.
- The tools provided to law enforcement under the *Emergencies Act* were targeted, time-limited and proportional measures that sought to help bring about a peaceful resolution to a difficult situation.
- While not the police service of jurisdiction for the demonstrations in Ottawa, the RCMP worked closely with our law enforcement partners, including the Parliamentary Protective Service, the Ottawa Police Service and the Ontario Provincial Police.

Appearance

The Minister of Public Safety (PS) is scheduled to appear before the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC) regarding their study on the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* on April 26, 2022, from 18:30 to 20:00. You and other senior officials from PS will attend to support the Minister. Participants include:

Department of Public Safety (PS)

- Honourable Marco Mendicino, Minister of Public Safety
- Rob Stewart, Deputy Minister (TBC)

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

- Brenda Lucki, Commissioner

Canada Border Services Agency

- John Ossowski, President (TBC)

The Minister of Justice and supporting officials will appear before DEDC from 20:00 to 21:30

Background

The DEDC was established to review the exercise of powers and the performance of duties and functions pursuant to the declaration of emergency that was in effect from Monday, February 14, 2022, to Wednesday, February 23, 2022. An overview of planned witnesses is annexed to this note.

On 14 February 2022, in response to the ongoing blockades and protests taking place in Ottawa and at some border crossings, the Prime Minister announced that the Governor in Council had invoked the *Emergencies Act* for the first time since its adoption, issuing a declaration of a public order emergency and giving the federal government certain temporary powers.

The *Emergencies Act* sets out the procedure by which a national emergency can be declared and by which a declaration of emergency can be confirmed, continued, amended and revoked. It also provides for a supervisory role for Parliament.

The declaration of emergency was revoked on 23 February 2022 by proclamation. Under subsection 62(1) of the *Emergencies Act*, a parliamentary review committee must review the “exercise of powers and the performance of duties and functions pursuant to a declaration of emergency.” Accordingly, this special joint committee was established by motion of the Senate and House of Commons on 3 March 2022.

Strategic Considerations

Four DEDC members from the House of Commons voted in favour of the motion confirming the declaration of a public order emergency proclaimed on February 14, 2022: MPs Bendayan (LPC), Naqvi (LPC), Virani (LPC), and Green (NDP) while MPs Brock (CPC), Motz (CPC), and Fortin (BQ) voted against the motion.

At the time the *Emergencies Act* was revoked, the Senate had not yet voted on the motion to confirm the declaration of a public order emergency. In debate on the motion, Senator Carignan (CPC) stated he was opposed to the invoking of the *Emergencies Act*, while Senator White (Canadian Senators Group) stated that he was supportive of it. Senators Harder and Boniface have not explicitly stated publicly whether they supported the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* though social media posts from Senator Harder suggest he may have been supportive of the invoking of the Act.

Conservative members of the DEDC (MPs Brock and Motz, along with Senator Carignan) argued that the *Emergencies Act* should not have been invoked as they felt that law enforcement had the tools it required to address the situation.

While MP Green voted in support of the motion for the declaration of a public order emergency, in debate he repeatedly called for a national commission on policing. MP Green pointed to the involvement in the protests of former and current members of the Canadian Forces and RCMP as demonstrating the need for the national commission. Additional notable statements by DEDC members can be found at **TAB 1B**.

It is likely that DEDC members will inquire about the national security threat posed by the protests in Ottawa. On March 24, 2022, officials from the Ottawa Police Service and Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) appeared before the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU) for the committee’s study on Occupation of Ottawa and the Federal Government’s Response to Convoy Blockades. During this appearance, OPP Commissioner Thomas Carrique stated that on or about February 7, the OPP’s provincial operations intelligence bureau identified a threat to national security related to the Convoy protests. In response to requests for details as to whether this threat was linked to far-right extremism, the Commissioner stated, “this was not the appropriate venue to get into the specifics of intelligence”.

Additionally, while attending a conference on March 10, 2022, Jody Thomas, the National Security and Intelligence Advisor to the Prime Minister, stated “The people who organized that protest—and there were several factions there, there's no doubt— came to overthrow the government. Whether their ability to do that was there, whether their intent and understanding of how to do that was realistic, is actually irrelevant to what they wanted to do.”

Further, when appearing before DEDC on March 29, 2022, the Honourable Perrin Beatty, former Minister of National Defence and drafter of the *Emergencies Act*, encouraged DEDC members, “I hope you will insist on seeing that assessment and will evaluate the quality of the intelligence on which it was based”. He added, “...the committee should press for any information to help Canadians understand the rationale for invocation, and test against both the facts of the situation and the deliberately high threshold that is required”.

During this appearance, Mr. Beatty suggested that the committee explore several other elements related to the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*, including the rationale for freezing bank accounts. Mr. Beatty also encouraged committee members to closely examine policing in Ottawa and whether “...the arrangement that we have today to provide security service for the national capital appropriate or should it be rethought?” He did however note that this may be outside of DEDC’s scope.

General Information

Rounds of Questioning:

Members of the Committee are allotted four minutes to both ask questions and receive responses during the first round of questioning. In the second round (time permitting), the allotted time for questions and answers is reduced to two-to-three minutes.

- Typical order of questioning for the first round: four minutes House of Commons Conservative, four minutes House of Commons Liberal, four minutes House of Commons Bloc Québécois (BQ), four minutes House of Commons New Democratic Party (NDP) and four minutes for each senator.
- Typical order of questioning for the second round: three minutes Conservative House of Commons, three minutes House of Commons Liberal, two minutes House of Commons Bloc Québécois (BQ), two minutes House of Commons New Democratic Party (NDP) and two minutes each for two senators on a rotational basis to be determined by the Senate parliamentary groups.

Departmental officials present at Committee are responsible for supporting the Minister’s accountability in Parliament. As departmental officials are not primarily responsible for exercising the powers of the Crown, their relationship to Parliament is different from that of Ministers. While Ministers are responsible for political, partisan matters, and for defending public policies before Parliament, deputy heads and officials support Ministers in providing explanations and information on public policies that Ministers could not be expected to provide due to the level of detail or complexity.

When responding to questions from committee members, keep your answers brief and factual. Avoid taking a position, providing your opinion, stating your personal recommendations or speaking on behalf of others on a given issue. Do not divulge classified information, Cabinet confidences or any information that contradicts privacy laws.

Notable Statements from DEDC Members

Glen Motz (Conservative Party of Canada (CPC)): MP Motz stated on February 17, 2022, “The *Emergencies Act* is not required. We have heard that expressed by constituents, by Canadians and in legal opinions... What do the Oka crisis, the conflict at Caledonia, the Wet'suwet'en rail blockades, the B.C. pipeline protests and 9/11 all have in common? None of them warranted the use of the *Emergencies Act*.”

Arif Virani (Liberal Party of Canada (LPC)): During debate on the *Emergencies Act*, on February 17, 2022, MP Virani stated, “At this stage, I firmly believe that the only way to resolve the present threat that is facing this country is to declare a public order emergency under the *Emergencies Act*”. He added, “The protest ostensibly began over vaccine mandates. It has morphed into what resembles an occupation of the city by people who have openly declared on the public record that they are seeking to overthrow the government. That constitutes a complete breakdown of public order in Ottawa. Despite efforts from the Ottawa Police Service, law and order in the nation's capital have been impossible to maintain.”

MP Virani also argued, “What we are doing is not a power grab and it is not the invocation of the War Measures Act; we are simply giving the RCMP the power to enforce local laws and work quickly with local law enforcement. We are not calling in the armed forces. We are not putting the RCMP or any other police force under the control of the government. Policing operational decisions remain independent, as they must in any democracy.”

Rachel Bendayan (LPC): During debate on the *Emergencies Act*, on February 17, 2022, MP Bendayan noted, “Invoking the *Emergencies Act* is not the first thing the Government of Canada should do, or even the second. It must be used as a last resort. However, it is clear that this tool is now necessary.” In referencing the emergency economic measures orders, MP Bendayan stated, “The vast majority of Canadians, those who are law-abiding and not involved in these illegal blockades, will see absolutely no difference. This order changes nothing for them. These measures are designed to stop the funding that enables illegal blockades.”

Matthew Green (New Democratic Party) (NDP): On February 19, 2022, MP Green expressed concern that the government, “placed an overemphasis on the economic disruptions posed by the blockades, including the adverse effects on businesses and supply chains, without adequately referencing the threat of extremist white supremacy and the reported potential for violence. This is despite reports from the intelligence assessments prepared by Canada's Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre that warned in late January that it was likely extremists were involved and said the scale of the protest could yet pose a trigger point and opportunity for potential lone actors to conduct a terrorist attack.”

During debate MP Green also noted, “We have witnessed the juxtaposition of brutal and excessive responses to legitimate protests, as experienced for generations by

indigenous peoples of these lands and as ongoing in unceded, unsundered Wet'suwet'en territory; the use of Canadian military to surveil the Black Lives Matter protest, as recently as 2022; the vicious response to climate justice activists at Fairy Creek; and the violent crackdown on police services against houseless residents and encampment support activists at Trinity-Bellwoods in Toronto and J.C. Beemer Park right here in my riding of Hamilton Centre. Many of these people, in this very moment, fear that the extended powers of the state's monopoly on violence will only serve to further target their causes."

In his remarks, MP Green also argued, "Canadians cannot maintain faith in our nation's safety and security institutions when faced with this early and ongoing de facto dereliction of duty by local police officers, whose weaponized incompetence and refusal to uphold the law in our nation's capital helped to ultimately bring us to this place. The reports about retired active duty national intelligence and military members, including Joint Task Force 2 members, about the RCMP and about former members of the Prime Minister's security detail further demonstrate the need for a national commission on policing. The last royal commission on policing was in 1962."

MP Green further echoed his calls for a Royal Commission on Policing during the DEDC meeting on March 29, 2022, "I talk about a Royal Commission on Policing. There are some other important threats within our security frameworks including ideologically motivated violent extremists, including the rise of white supremacy in the far right and for undemocratic ends, i.e. overthrowing the government."

Rhéal Fortin (Bloc Québécois (BQ)): On February 20, 2022, MP Fortin argued, "the blockades have been removed and the offenders punished without the need to invoke the *Emergencies Act*. The existing laws and provincial and municipal powers to intervene were clearly sufficient."

Yasir Naqvi (LPC): On February 20, 2022, MP Naqvi explained his support for the invoking of the *Emergencies Act* and noted, "I will go back to what I know best, which is Ottawa. I have been involved since day one in all the work that has gone on that led to the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*, given the fact that I represent the riding of Ottawa Centre. We have engaged from the very first day with our municipal government and the provincial government in Ontario through the work the federal government was doing, whether it meant providing resources by way of the RCMP or the OPP or by providing other municipal services. These resources to put an end to this illegal occupation came not just two days ago, but over time. We made sure that we had the legal authority or legislative mechanisms to take action."

In response to a question, MP Naqvi added, "Through the provision of powers, some of which I articulated, and their application, law enforcement was able to end the occupation. We heard that from our local interim police chief in Ottawa. These powers that were given to him through the *Emergencies Act* gave him sufficient tools to end the illegal occupation of downtown Ottawa."

Larry Brock (CPC): During debate of the *Emergencies Act*, on February 20, 2022, MP Brock, stated, "...the prolonged blockades in Ottawa and at border crossings were against the law, but the invocation to implement the *Emergencies Act* was completely unnecessary and, most important, did not meet the extremely high threshold as set out in the act." MP Brock added, "Blockades are already in violation of the *Criminal Code*, provincial highway acts and any number of municipal bylaws and court injunctions. This was and still remains the purview of the police. They had all the tools necessary."

MP Brock also remarked, "I have made it abundantly clear that we disagreed with some of the tactics used by the organizers of this protest. As a lawyer, I follow and hold sacrosanct our charter rights of protest and assembly. This was a failed leadership exercise by the Prime Minister and, by extension, the former chief of Ottawa Police Service, who has now resigned. He had all the tools necessary under the Criminal Code, provincial statutes, municipal bylaws and court injunctions."

MP Brock added, "there are many lessons to be learned and I hope we decide that a national inquiry should be undertaken forthwith to look at the obvious levels of failed leadership and the decisions that were made. Most importantly, it comes down to looking at the litany of emergencies, the protests, the demonstrations, the blockades, the world events that have impacted Canada and how effectively police agencies and politicians across this great nation have effectively dealt with that without imposing this draconian piece of legislation that has not been used—."

Many of the points MP Brock raised in the House of Commons were reiterated when the Minister of Public Safety, along with Portfolio Officials, appeared before the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU) on February 25, 2022. During the appearance, in furthering his argument that law enforcement had the tools needed to address the protest MP Brock stated, "The law was available for them to use. Whether they utilized it is a separate issue".

Senator Claude Carignan (CPC): In an exchange with Senator Marc Gold, the Government Representative in the Senate, on February 22, 2022, Senator Carignan stated, "I don't have a list of all of the charges that were laid or the tickets that were issued for disturbing the peace, but law enforcement officers are obligated to respond when such acts are being committed, and they can easily do so under the existing legislation. I'm therefore having a hard time understanding why the protesters could not have been forced to leave and the vehicles on Wellington Street could not have been towed under federal, provincial or municipal laws."

In a speech in the Senate, where he expressed his opposition to the invoking of the *Emergencies Act*, Senator Carignan stated, "The truth is that before the act was invoked, the police had all the legal tools and resources they needed to manage the illegal blockades of public roads and to restore order." Senator Carignan added, "I refute the argument that there were not enough police officers. I simply do not understand why the mayor of Ottawa claimed that he requested but did not obtain 1,800 additional officers to end the turmoil in Ottawa before the federal government decided to resort to

the *Emergencies Act*. In the past, there have been other major events in Ontario and in other provinces where large numbers of police were deployed without the need to invoke this law.” He also noted, “Canada is not only capable of mobilizing thousands of police officers to one location, but it also has access to legislation at all three levels of government, in addition to jurisprudence, that provide the legal tools required to maintain and restore order in the event of large protests, all without the need to invoke the *Emergencies Act*.” He concluded his speech by stating, “The governments and police forces had all the legal tools needed to end this crisis faster in Ottawa, and they could have exceptionally deployed enough police officers well before the act came into effect.”

Senator Vernon White (Canadian Senators Group) (CSG): In a speech in the Senate on February 23, 2022, Senator White stated, “...I believe there was a tipping point where the federal government had to take a greater role, and that role in this case was the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*.” Senator White added, “I supported the invoking of the *Emergencies Act* and, for now, I support its continuance because the authorities are telling me that they continue to need it and to use the tools that the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* brought into play.”

Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC)

The Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency has been appointed to review the exercise of powers and the performance of duties and functions pursuant to the declaration of emergency that was in effect from Monday, February 14, 2022, to Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

Joint Chairs	Hon. Gwen Boniface (Sen)	Independent Senators Group
	Rhéal Éloi Fortin (MP)	Bloc Québécois
	Matthew Green (MP)	NDP

Vice-Chairs	Hon. Claude Carignan (Sen)	Conservative
	Arif Virani (MP)	Liberal
	Glen Motz (MP)	Conservative

Members	Hon. Peter Harder (Sen)	Progressive Senate Group
	Hon. Vernon White (Sen)	Canadian Senators Group
	Rachel Bendayan (MP)	Liberal
	Larry Brock (MP)	Conservative
	Yasir Naqvi (MP)	Liberal

Ontario

Appointment

- Appointed to the Senate in 2016.

Education and Background

- First female Commissioner of the OPP.
- First female President of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.
- Long-time member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, where she served as Deputy Executive Director.
- Founding President of the Canadian Police Chiefs International Service Agency, a non-profit organization created to address sexual exploitation of children.
- Board of Governors of the Law Commission of Ontario from 2011-2014.
- Has international experience with policing reform, transnational organized crime and counter terrorism.
- Initiated many reforms to promote Indigenous policing.
- Holds a certificate in Law and Security Administration from Humber College; B.A. from York University; and LL.B. from Osgoode Hall Law School.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade (AEFA) and Member of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament (RPRD). Joint Chair of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Has worked extensively to repair relationships with First Nations communities.
- Served for three years as the Deputy Chief Inspector of Ireland's Garda Síochána Inspectorate, tasked with bringing reform to the national police service. She then took on the role of Transnational Organized Crime Expert with the United Nations Police Division, where she advanced the fight against organized crime in conflict and post-conflict countries, while also being a member of the UN Counter Terrorism Integrated Task Force.
- Senator Boniface sponsored Bill C-46 (Drug Impaired Driving) in the Senate.
- Received the United Nations Peacekeeping Medal, and was awarded an honorary doctorate of letters from Nipissing University in 2006.
- Was invested into the Order of Ontario in 2001 for her work with the First Nations communities. She is a Commander of the Order of Merit of the Police Forces, the Order of St. John, and has the Humber College Alumnus of Distinction Award.

Rivière-du-Nord, Québec

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Studied law at the University of Sherbrooke.
- President of the Bissonnette Fortin Giroux law firm in Saint-Jérôme (Québec).



Points of Note

- Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST), Member of the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (SJUS), and Joint Chair of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Current Bloc Québécois Justice Critic.
- Served as interim leader of the Bloc Québécois from 2015 to 2017.
- In the 42nd Parliament, 1st Session, he sponsored Bill C-349, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and to make consequential amendments to other acts (criminal organization), which was introduced and had First Reading in April 2017.
- Also in the 42nd Parliament, 1st Session, he sponsored Bill C-334, An Act to amend the Canada Evidence Act and the Criminal Code (journalistic sources), which was introduced and had First Reading in January 2017.

Hamilton Centre, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Former Hamilton city councillor.
- Holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Legal Studies from Acadia University.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics (ETHI) and the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics (SETH). Joint Chair of the Standing Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Previous member of the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates (OGGO), its subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure, and the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (PACP).
- Serves as NDP Critic on Ethics and is also the Deputy Critic on Public Services and Procurement; Labour; and, Employment and Workforce Development.
- In February 2022, repeatedly called for the establishment of a national commission on policing that would review the duties assigned to the police and their corresponding budgets.
- In October 2020, presented a petition that called upon the House of Commons to divest from the RCMP and redirect funding towards social services to replace policing functions in recognition of the long history of violence against Black and Indigenous communities and the inefficacy of policing.

Quebec (Mille Isles)

Appointment

- Appointed to the Senate in 2009.

Education and Background

- Holds a LL.B from Université de Sherbrooke, Quebec, and a graduate degree in public law from the Université de Montréal.
- Worked as a lawyer since his admission to the Quebec Bar in 1988, specializing in civil litigation, public law, labour relations, and health and social services law. Also taught public and labour law at the Université de Montréal Faculty of Law and at the Université du Québec à Montréal.
- Former mayor of Saint-Eustache, QC.
- Chair, and then second vice-president of the Union des municipalités du Québec's justice and public safety commission.



Points of Note

- Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament (RPRD). Member of the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs (LCJC) and the Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources (ENEV). Vice-Chair of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Leader of the Opposition in the Senate from November 2015 to March 2017.
- Served as Leader of the Government in the Senate from 2013 to 2015. During this time, was also a member of Cabinet.
- In 2016 as the Senate considered Bill C-7 (Public Service Labour Relations Regime), he stated, "In my opinion, the most powerful person in Canada is the Commissioner of the RCMP because he can dismiss 21,000 people and it is up to him to rule on the appeal for dismissing those 21,000 people".
- Served as president of the Conseil sur les services policiers du Québec in 2008, an advisory body created to advise the Quebec Minister of Public Security on all policing matters.
- Introduced two bills in fall 2016: Bill S-230 (drug-impaired driving) that did not pass and was ultimately replaced by government Bill C-46 (drug-impaired driving), which came into force in June 2018; and Bill S-231 (protection of journalistic sources), which passed unanimously in the Senate and the House of Commons and received Royal Assent in October 2017.

Parkdale-High Park, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Earned a Joint Honours BA in History and Political Science from McGill University.
- Received a Bachelor of Law from the University of Toronto.
- Prior to entering politics, worked as a lawyer for the constitutional law branch of the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General.



Points of Note

- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development
- Member of Standing Committee on International Trade (CIIT) and Vice-Chair of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Previous member of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST).
- Served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada from 2018 to 2021.
- Served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Democratic Institutions from 2018 to 2019
- Served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Canadian Heritage (Multiculturalism) from 2017 to 2018.
- Served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship from 2015 to 2017.

Medicine Hat—Cardston—Warner, Alberta

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2016.

Education and Background

- Served for 35 years with the Medicine Hat Police Service and retired as Inspector in 2015.
- Holds a Bachelor of Religious Education Degree from the Hillcrest Christian College.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on National Defence (NDDN) and Vice-Chair of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Served as a Member of the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP) from February 2020 to June 2021.
- Served as the Opposition Associate Shadow Minister for Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness from 2019 to 2020.
- Opposed to gun control measures and sponsored e-petition 2341, which calls for any new firearms laws, bans, buyback programs or changes to licencing be put before the House of Commons for debate.
- MP Motz has raised concerns about a perceived erosion of border security, noting his concerns are “not just with respect to the crisis of illegal border crossers, but also with drugs, handgun smuggling, human trafficking by many of the gangs running drugs, and the massive backlogs in the monitoring and deportation of known terrorists, criminals and national security risks”.
- He has expressed concern about rural crime and has suggested that RCMP resources in rural areas are insufficient.
- Expressed concern about the privacy of Canadians related to the Equifax hack, and co-wrote (with MP Paul-Hus) a letter to the Prime Minister to this effect
- Called for the Minister of Public Safety to direct the RCMP to dismantle the rail blockades that were set up in support of Wet’suwet’en hereditary chiefs while decrying the economic costs of the disruption.
- Has called in the House of Commons for the Government to “ban Huawei”.

Ontario

Appointment

- Appointed to the Senate in 2016.

Education and Background

- Spent 29 years in the federal public service, 16 of which were served as Deputy Minister of several departments: the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Citizenship and Immigration, Industry, Solicitor General, Public Security, and the Treasury Board Secretariat.
- From 2003-2007, served as Personal Representative of the Prime Minister (Sherpa) to three G8 Summits. Considered an expert on Canada-China relations.
- Recipient of numerous awards, including the Public Service Outstanding Achievement Award and the United Way Community Builder Award.



Points of Note

- Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade (AEFA). Member of the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs (LCJC), the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications (TRCM), and the Standing Committee on Ethics and Conflict of Interest for Senators (CONF). Member of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- In December 2021, the Senate debated a motion from Senator Harder, "That he will call the attention of the Senate to the role and mandate of the RCMP, the skills and capabilities required for it to fulfill its role and mandate, and how it should be organized and resourced in the 21st century."
- Related to this, Senator Harder had an article in Policy Options in June 2021, where he argued for a mandate review of the organization as follows: "The inquiry should look at the role and mandate of the 21 century national police service and the skills needed to be an effective national force, as well as the resources and organization needed, and its recruitment practices."
- Served as the Government Representative in the Senate from 2016 to 2021.

Ontario

Appointment

- Appointed to the Senate in 2012.

Education and Background

- Served as the Chief of Police of the Ottawa Police Service and the Regional Police Service in Durham, Ontario, and spent 24 years with the RCMP, achieving the rank of Assistant Commissioner.
- Holds a Diploma in Business Administration from the College of Cape Breton, a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Psychology from Acadia University, a Master's Degree from Royal Roads University in Conflict Analysis and Management and a Professional Doctorate in Police Leadership from the Charles Sturt University.
- Has been honoured with a number of awards and commendations over the years, including the Commissioners Commendation, a Queen's Jubilee Medal and a United Way Community Builder of the Year award.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee for Ethics and Conflict of Interest for Senators (CONF) and the Standing Committee for Legal and Constitutional Affairs (LCJC). Member of the Standing Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Member of the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP).
- In 2016, sponsored a Senate Public Bill that sought to amend the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* with an enactment that would add certain substances used in the production of fentanyl. While the bill passed the Senate, it did not reach the House of Commons.

Rachel Bendayan

Liberal

Outremont, Quebec

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Prior to entering federal politics, worked as lawyer for almost ten years and specialized in international trade law.
- Taught at the University of Montréal's Faculty of Law.
- Served as Chief of Staff to the federal Minister of Small Business and Tourism.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development (FAAE) and member of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Previous member of the Standing Committee on International Trade (CIIT), Standing Committee on Finance (FINA), and Standing Committee on the Status of Women (FEWO).
- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Tourism and Associate Minister of Finance. Previously served as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade.

Larry Brock

Conservative

Brantford—Brant, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2021.

Education and Background

- Has a Bachelor's degree from the University of Waterloo and a law degree from the University of Calgary.
- Prior to entering federal politics, was the Assistant Crown Attorney in Brant, Ontario.

Points of Note

- Member of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC) and Member of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST).
- Serves as the CPC Deputy Shadow Minister for Justice and Attorney General of Canada.



Ottawa Centre, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2021.

Education and Background

- From 2007 to 2018, served as a member of the Ontario legislature. Served in many roles including as the Attorney General of Ontario, Government House Leader, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, and Minister of Labour.
- From 2018 to 2021, served as the CEO of the Institute for Canadian Citizenship, Canada's leading voice on citizenship and inclusion.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST) and member of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Emergency Preparedness.
- As Ontario's Attorney General, introduced legislation to strengthen police oversight through the of an inspector general to monitor police forces. The legislation also: allowed the ability for police chiefs to suspend officers without pay (though only in relatively rare investigations into off-duty conduct), provided better training for police services boards, and included mandatory coroner's inquests into deaths resulting from police use of force. As a member of the Ontario legislature, he also banned race-based carding in Ontario and modernized the court system.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

KEY ISSUE QUESTIONS

Did the RCMP need the EA to resolve the protests? Was it necessary?

- The RCMP was able to resolve numerous blockades in our jurisdictions, specifically those in Coutts, Emerson, and the Pacific Highway. All within existing legislation.
- Each location and blockade was different with Ottawa presenting unique challenges.
- The EA gave us the tools to get the job done quickly and safely and importantly to return the city back to Ottawa residents.

What made the Freedom Convoy in the NCR unique?

- From the RCMP/policing perspective, the blockade was supported and organized by several organizers who were able to obtain a significant amount of funding.
- This allowed the protests to grow – particularly over the weekends – and be sustained over a three-week period with a significant amount of support from across the country.
- The protestors and trucks were entrenched in our nation's capital and there were no signs that this situation was going to be resolved within existing authorities.

Could you have resolved the protests without the EA?

- It was clear that the protesters had no intention of leaving downtown Ottawa.
And we saw each weekend more people moving into the city's core.
- Within Ottawa, provisions of the *Emergencies Act* granted the RCMP and policing partners with new authorities to:
 - maintain and reinforce the perimeter;
 - restrict travel;
 - prevent children from being brought into the situation;
 - secure equipment like tow trucks; and
 - ensure that we could cut off financial support and other assistance – such as gas – for this unlawful blockade.

How did RCMP use the EA to resolve the protests?

- Within Ottawa, provisions of the *Emergencies Act* granted the RCMP and policing partners new authorities to:
 - maintain and reinforce the perimeter;
 - restrict travel;
 - prevent children from being brought into the situation;
 - secure necessary equipment like tow trucks; and,
 - ensure that we could cut off financial support and other assistance – such as gas – for this unlawful blockade.
- These temporary powers also allowed RCMP officers to use provincial and municipal bylaws to affect a small number of arrests.
- I also believe that the *Emergencies Act* was a successful deterrent against similar activity in other jurisdictions.
- All of these temporary measures allowed law enforcement to resolve this crisis peacefully and swiftly.

Was the situation in Ottawa a failure of the OPS?

- It is not for me to evaluate or pass judgement on another police service and/or their response in any given situation.
- We have a duty to enforce the law and help our policing partners wherever possible.
- We did this quite effectively and I am proud of all RCMP employees who supported the efforts in Ottawa and all those behind the scene supporting.
- My team is conducting an after action review to learn from this experience.

What can you tell us about the threat posed by the protests? Did it constitute a threat to national security?

- I will address this question from my perspective and that of the RCMP. There are a number of organizations that have a mandate in this area.
- From my team's perspective, I can say that:
 - Although most people participating in the Ottawa protest were motivated by a desire to end COVID-related mandates, we assessed that some ideologically motivated extremists were likely present and attempting to leverage the protest and its high profile for their own purpose.

- We knew that some of these individuals posed possible threats to national security.
- Although no formal organized violent plot was identified during the protest in Ottawa, the potential for serious violence by a lone actor or fringe group was never discounted.
- We were fortunate that there was no organized plot of violence as we witnessed in Coutts, Alberta.

What advice did you provide to the Government (Minister/PM) regarding the invocation of the EA?

- I briefed the Prime Minister, various Ministers, and senior officials throughout the crisis and provided regular situational awareness updates.
- While I am not able to speak to the specific advice that I provided, some of the considerations at the time of those briefings were:
 - The illegal blockades and occupations taking place;
 - The situation in Ottawa;
 - Efforts to restore access to the Ambassador Bridge and other ports of entry; and
 - The support that the RCMP was providing to law enforcement partners.

What advice did you provide to the Government (Minister/PM) regarding the revocation of the EA?

- I provided regular briefings to the Prime Minister, various Ministers, and senior officials throughout the crisis and provided regular situational awareness updates.
- Our primary concern is always public and officer safety.
- While I am not able to speak to the specific advice that I provided, some of the considerations at the time of those briefings were:
 - The methodical and complex law enforcement effort that was carried out involving the RCMP, OPP and Ottawa Police Service, including police comments on how they had directly benefited from the Emergencies Act.
 - Law enforcement actions being taken elsewhere to avoid further blockades.
 - How work was expected to continue to bring an end to the illegal blockades and occupations.

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EMERGENCIES ACT AND THE RCMP

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Federal and provincial legislation provides significant authorities and powers to police services to maintain the rule of law.
- The RCMP was able to resolve numerous blockades in our jurisdictions, specifically those in Coutts, Emerson, and the Pacific Highway. All within existing legislation.
- Each location and blockade was different with Ottawa presenting unique challenges.
- The proclamation of a public order emergency under the *Emergencies Act* and associated measures provided all police officers across the country – not just the RCMP – with additional tools to address this crisis in a timely manner.

If pressed on authorities provided under the Emergencies Act:

- Within Ottawa, provisions of the *Emergencies Act* granted the RCMP and policing partners new authorities to:
 - maintain and reinforce the perimeter;
 - restrict travel;
 - prevent children from being brought into the situation;
 - secure necessary equipment like tow trucks; and,
 - ensure that we could cut off financial support and other assistance – such as gas – for this unlawful blockade.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

In your opinion, did a public order emergency exist in Canada on February 13, 2022?

- The basis for the public order emergency was laid out in the Government's proclamation of the *Emergencies Act* on February 14, 2022.

If pressed on advice provided to the Minister:

- I briefed the Prime Minister, various Ministers, and senior officials throughout the crisis and provided regular situational awareness updates.

- Some of the considerations at the time of those briefings were:
 - The illegal blockades and occupations taking place;
 - The situation in Ottawa;
 - Efforts to restore access to the Ambassador Bridge and other ports of entry; and
 - The support that the RCMP was providing to law enforcement partners.

Do you believe that the *Emergencies Act* (EA) was necessary to end this crisis? Why or why not?

- The RCMP was able to resolve numerous blockades in our jurisdictions, specifically those in Coutts, Emerson, and the Pacific Highway. All within existing legislation.
- Each location and blockade was different with Ottawa presenting unique challenges.
- The EA gave us the tools to get the job done quickly and safely and importantly to return the city back to Ottawa residents.

How did the RCMP use the EA to resolve the protests?

- Within Ottawa, provisions of the *Emergencies Act* granted the RCMP and policing partners new authorities to:
 - maintain and reinforce the perimeter;
 - restrict travel;
 - prevent children from being brought into the situation;
 - secure necessary equipment like tow trucks; and,
 - ensure that we could cut off financial support and other assistance – such as gas – for this unlawful blockade.
- These temporary powers also allowed RCMP officers to use provincial and municipal bylaws to affect a small number of arrests.
- I also believe that the *Emergencies Act* was a successful deterrent against similar activity in other jurisdictions.
- All of these temporary measures allowed law enforcement to resolve this crisis peacefully and swiftly.

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NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION COMMAND CENTRE AND INTEGRATED COMMAND CENTRE

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The National Capital Region Command Centre (NCRCC) is the Divisional Emergency Operations Centre (DEOC) for National Division responsible for responding to major events.
- During the recent Freedom Convoy, the NCRCC allowed incident commanders to make time-sensitive informed decisions when working with various policing partners.
- The RCMP, Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), and Ottawa Police Service (OPS) also established an Integrated Command Centre (ICC) to develop and oversee a joint enforcement plan under the leadership of the OPS. Other police services providing support were also part of the ICC.
- This combined effort allowed all three partners to bring a swift and peaceful end to this incident.

What was the NCRCC's role/involvement during the Freedom Convoy?

- The NCRCC is the Divisional Emergency Operations Centre for National Division responsible for responding to all major events.
- It is stood up whenever there are major events in the National Capital Region and brings together all key partners to share information.
- This allowed incident commanders to make time-sensitive informed decisions when working with various policing partners.

What was the RCMP's role/involvement in the ICC during the Freedom Convoy?

- RCMP officers were a part of the ICC in the development of a joint enforcement plan in a secure area at RCMP headquarters.
- With all three partners working together, the ICC was able to safely plan and execute the successful disruption of the blockade activity.

- This enhanced tri-lateral partnership is a positive example of successful domestic cooperation that resulted in securing the National Capital Region (NCR), removing the blockades, and safeguarding public safety and security.

How did the RCMP ensure timely information exchange with other partners as part of the ICC?

- The ICC provided enhanced and seamless communication and operational planning with all three partners to respond and disrupt blockades in the NCR.
- In particular, we were able to develop a time-sensitive and actionable plan that resulted in a safe and peaceful end to the blockades.
- This plan was actioned through ongoing communication between the ICC and NCRCC. We had seamless communication and were aware of all events as they unfolded.
- This communication allowed law enforcement to maintain its close protection stance, and disrupt any potential incidents, while also informing senior leadership of the behaviours of convoy participants.

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RESOURCES DEPLOYED TO THE NCR

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- I can say that as a national police organization, the RCMP can draw resources from across the country in support of major operational needs to effectively respond to any urgent situation.
- Our members stationed in the NCR were leveraged, in addition to members from our Divisions nationwide.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

If pressed on additional information in relation to deployed resources:

How many RCMP officers were deployed to the NCR before the *Emergencies Act* (EA)?

- As of March 30, 2022, our analysis revealed that prior to invocation of the Act we deployed 532 RCMP officers to assist Ottawa Police Service (OPS) with the protests in the National Capital Region (NCR).
- We caution against any reference to specific deployment numbers. Deployment numbers shifted as events unfolded. Also, deployment totals do not capture the totality of RCMP efforts, for example, National Headquarters and program support.

How many RCMP were deployed to the NCR once the proclamation was in force?

- As of March 30, 2022, our analysis revealed that we deployed 787 RCMP officers to assist OPS with an effective law enforcement response to end the illegal protest in the NCR.
- We caution against any reference to specific deployment numbers. Deployment numbers shifted as events unfolded. Also, deployment totals do not capture the totality of RCMP efforts, for example, National Headquarters and program support.

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EMERGENCY MEASURES REGULATIONS

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- In terms of the “Red Zone” perimeter that was established around Ottawa, section 6 of the *Emergency Measures Regulations* designated certain places such as Parliament Hill and government buildings as protected.

If pressed on designation on protected sites:

- It also authorized the Minister of Public Safety to designate other places as protected. My understanding is he made no such designations.

If pressed on requisition of services:

- No RCMP officer requested any person to make available essential goods or services under section 7 of the emergency measures regulations.
 - Outside of the RCMP, I only delegated the new requisition powers under section 7 to the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and any OPP officers designated by him.
 - I understand that the OPP used these powers on my behalf, as per the regulations. For additional details on how, I recommend you consult the OPP.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

What direction did RCMP senior management provide its employees related to the use of Emergency Measures Regulations (EMRs)?

- For the Emergency Measures Regulations, I delegated the new requisition powers to compel people to provide essential goods and services such as tow trucks to the Commissioner of the OPP and OPP officers he designates to use these requisition powers on his behalf.
 - I understand that the OPP used these powers to request needed equipment to clear the streets in Ottawa.
 - The RCMP is currently collating information related to the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* and the events that led up to it. It would be premature to share preliminary data or additional information at this time.

What was the RCMP's involvement in the delegation of authority under section 6 of the Emergency Measures Regulations related to establishing a secure perimeter in the National Capital Region (NCR)?

- The *EMRs* do not provide for the delegation of authority regarding designation of protected places under section 6.
- Section 6 identifies areas that are designated by the *EMRs* itself as protected. It also provides that the Minister of Public Safety may designate additional places as protected. My understanding is he made no such designations.
- The RCMP was an integral partner of the Integrated Command Centre in cooperation with the OPS and OPP. As such, we are aware of discussions related to the establishment of the secure perimeter.
- Police of jurisdiction remained responsible for enforcing that protection. As police of jurisdiction, OPS had the primary authority for determining the scope and nature of the secure perimeter implemented to protect those places designated by the *EMRs*.
- It is my understanding that the secure perimeter established in Ottawa was not based solely on the areas designated under section 6 of the *EMR*, but rather on the assessment of the OPS of what was required to maintain the public peace and ensure public safety. This was established under other authorities.

What was the RCMP's involvement in the delegation of authority under section 7 related to compelling tow truck or other companies to provide essential support services?

- No goods or services were requested directly by the RCMP under section 7 of the *Emergency Measures Regulations*.
- By means of a written instrument of authorization dated February 17, 2022, I had the authority under section 7 (1) to designate both senior RCMP members and the Commissioner of the OPP to request essential goods and services.
- No authority under section 7 (1) was exercised by RCMP members. The RCMP understands that the OPP made requests for services from more than one vendor in Ontario for towing services performed in Ottawa during the blockade.

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EMERGENCY ECONOMIC MEASURES ORDER (EEMO)

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The *Emergency Economic Measures Order* (EEMO) allowed the RCMP and its partners to work more closely with Canadian financial institutions.
- It provided temporary financial measures that were used to strongly encourage individuals to leave the illegal protests, and to deter the counselling of others to commit related criminal offences.
- With the *Emergencies Act* in place, the RCMP developed a streamlined process where it would act as the central point of contact to disclose information to financial institutions on behalf of law enforcement.

With this information, financial institutions were able to make informed decisions to freeze or unfreeze accounts.

If pressed for details on RCMP action:

- On February 23, 2022, the declaration of a public order emergency under the *Emergencies Act* was revoked. As of that day, RCMP action culminated in:
 - the freezing of 257 financial products by financial institutions, which included bank, corporate accounts, and credit cards;
 - the disclosure of 57 entities to financial institutions, which included individuals and owners or drivers of vehicles involved in the blockades; and,
 - identifying 170 Bitcoin wallet addresses that were shared with virtual currency exchangers.
- Law enforcement information provided to financial institutions only included information on owners and operators of vehicles that were active participants in the blockades in Ottawa. At no time did the RCMP disclose any information on individuals who solely donated to the Convoys, or purchase Convoy-related merchandise.
- The RCMP also provided financial institutions with updated information regularly about owners and operators of vehicles as their status changed vis-à-vis ongoing participation in blockade activity.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

What is the source of funding for the Freedom Convoy?

- We know that the Freedom Convoy was well funded, with financial support provided to organizers through a variety of means, including crowdfunding and cryptocurrency.
- At this point, I do not have any information to suggest that foreign funding is connected to any state-based foreign-influenced activity.
- That said, I also understand that other police forces could be investigating the source of funding for the Freedom Convoy.
- As such, I am unable to provide any additional information about the source of funds at this time.

What steps did the RCMP take to assess any information received from OPS and OPP?

- The RCMP served as the central point of contact between the OPS/OPP and financial institutions, to streamline the sharing of information and avoid duplication of efforts. The RCMP was not responsible for validating information pertaining to the OPS/OPP investigation.
- The RCMP conducted database checks, verified social media and internet presence, and called individuals associated with registered vehicles present at the Ottawa blockades to enrich surveillance information collected in downtown Ottawa that was received from the OPP.
- With respect to crypto crowdfunding campaign, the funds raised were primarily in Bitcoin, and the Bitcoin transfers were visible to anyone who looked up the donation collection address.

Additional information and only if pressed on Bitcoin transfers:

- I am not an expert on cryptocurrency tracing - others in the organization could speak to this in more detail.
- However, I can tell you due to the public nature of these Bitcoin transfers, the RCMP was able to conduct cryptocurrency tracing analysis on the Blockchain, and follow the flow of the donated funds to various cryptocurrency addresses.
- Each time a suspicious transaction was identified, the RCMP sent out a Cryptocurrency ALERT to multiple Virtual Currency Money Service Businesses that

were registered with FINTRAC to advise them of any cryptocurrency addresses holding donations. On some occasions, separate emails were sent directly to particular Virtual Currency Money Service Businesses.

How did the RCMP protect people's private information when it was shared with financial institutions and financial entities?

- The uniqueness of this event prompted the need for temporary new and enhanced information sharing powers. We had the authority to disclose information under section 6 of the EEMO, as the primary intent of the Order was to discourage and disrupt any activity.
- These powers - made available through the use of the *Emergencies Act* - allowed the RCMP to share information with entities listed in section 3 of the EEMO.
- In keeping with the *Privacy Act*, RCMP followed standard procedure with regards to the sharing of personal information between law enforcement and financial institutions, and between law enforcement entities. Record keeping and note taking practices and procedures were also followed.
- Outside of the EEMO, the RCMP also continues to have its normal authorities under the *RCMP Act* and by the *Privacy Act* that allows it to share certain information with financial institutions.

How are you supporting the informal investigation of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner?

- My office is committed to assisting the Office of the Privacy Commissioner in their informal investigation of the *Emergency Act*.
- My staff recently met with the OPC to explain the RCMP's role in the Emergency Economic Measures Order.
- These discussions have been very positive and we look forward to working together with the OPC in the future.

How often did the RCMP meet with FI while the EA was in force? What was the purpose of these meetings?

- I know that members of the RCMP were in regular contact with financial institutions on the use of the measures throughout the lifespan of the *Emergencies Act*.

- These initial meetings sought to establish a direct channel of communication and discuss coordination of information sharing between law enforcement and financial institutions, both before the *Emergencies Act* came into effect, and while it was enacted.
- These meetings also were an opportunity to discuss how financial institutions would report back to the RCMP, the implementation of the EEMO instructions, and potential scenarios where the EEMO would apply. It also allowed meeting participants to raise other comments or concerns as they arose.
- The RCMP was also in regular contact with some Virtual Currency Money Services Businesses, in regards to dissemination of the Cryptocurrency ALERTS, discussions around expectations under the EEMO, and future bilateral communication strategies.

Additional information and only if pressed:

- The RCMP met virtually with the financial institutions and other entities with reporting obligations under the *Emergencies Act* on Feb 14th, Feb 16th, Feb 15th, Feb 17th, Feb 18th, and Feb 22nd.
- The RCMP spoke to the central point of contact for the Virtual Currency Money Services Businesses on Feb 15th, 18th, and 24th.

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PROTEST ACTIVITY NATIONWIDE

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The RCMP employs a measured approach to managing protests. This involves proactive engagement, communication, and various measures to support lawful and peaceful protest in an environment safe for protesters and members of the public.
- Where the RCMP was the police of jurisdiction, our role was to ensure that protest activity remained legal and if illegal acts were committed, to enforce the law as required.
- The goal of law enforcement is always to maintain public order and keep citizens safe. The challenges we faced were unprecedented in their scope and nature.
- The measures added to authorities that police services already had, and did not change the authorities or mandate of police of jurisdiction.

If pressed on Police Independence:

- All of Canada's police services, including the RCMP, function independently of political direction or influence in the specific actions or approach they take to addressing law enforcement issues. They are mandated with protecting the public and enforcing applicable laws, including the *Criminal Code of Canada*.
- The principle of police independence in Canada has been subject to Supreme Court decisions, stating "...the Commissioner is not subject to political direction. Like every other police officer similarly engaged, he [she] is answerable to the law and, no doubt, to his [her] conscience."

If pressed on Surrey, British Columbia:

- The protests in Surrey began on February 7, 2022, and were deemed to be unlawful on February 12, 2022.
- Throughout the three weeks of protests, police made a total of 18 arrests. There were also multiple ongoing investigations into unlawful activity that occurred.
- Specifically, on February 19, 2022, a group of aggressive protesters surrounded members of the media. Police intervention was required due to the actions of the

protesters, and to ensure that media members had safe passage to their vehicles.

If pressed on Coutts, Alberta:

- The protests in Coutts began January 29, 2022, and were deemed to be unlawful on the same day, once it was learned there was a full stoppage of traffic on the highway leading to the border.
- While the Alberta RCMP was in a position to conduct enforcement, they were engaged with protesters at the Coutts border crossing in an effort to find a peaceful and safe resolution for all involved. Another challenge faced was the lack of tow trucks. Tow companies declined to assist the police over concerns of repercussions from the trucking industry.
- While they thought they had a path to resolution, the protesters eventually chose not to comply. The highway, as essential infrastructure, could not be blockaded.
- The Alberta RCMP became aware of a small organized group within the larger Coutts protest, and as a result of information received and a subsequent complex investigation, the Alberta RCMP executed a search warrant during the early hours of February 14 on three trailers. This resulted in the arrest and detainment of 11 individuals.
- The blockade was resolved as a result of extensive negotiations between police and protest organizers and the subsequent arrests of several protesters engaged in criminal activity.

If pressed on Emerson, Manitoba:

- The blockade located at the Emerson Port of Entry was established on February 10, 2022 and was determined immediately to be unlawful.
- The Manitoba RCMP worked with the protesters and organizers to reach a peaceful resolution through dialogue and a measured policing response. No tickets were issued and no arrests were made.
- On February 16, 2022, protesters voluntarily left the blockade and the border crossing was reopened.

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INTELLIGENCE AND IDEOLOGICALLY-MOTIVATED VIOLENT EXTREMISM

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Canadians have the legitimate right to protest and express disagreement with Government of Canada policy or decisions.
- Although most people participating in the Ottawa protest were motivated by a desire to end COVID-related mandates, we assessed that some ideologically motivated extremists were likely present and attempting to leverage the protest and its high profile for their own purpose.
- We knew that some of these individuals posed possible threats to national security.
- Although no formal organized violent plot was identified during the protest in Ottawa, the potential for serious violence by a lone actor or fringe group was never discounted.
- We were fortunate that there was no organized plot of violence as we witnessed in Coutts, Alberta.
- The RCMP investigates persons who are suspected of being engaged in criminal activity, including offences related to terrorist entities. Our investigations target criminal activity that threatens the safety and security of Canadians.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

OPP Commissioner Thomas Carrique has stated that intelligence indicated that the convoy posed a national security threat on or about February 7th. Does the RCMP agree with this assessment?

- The RCMP works closely with the OPP and all of its policing partners and this includes the sharing of intelligence information.
- Although I cannot get into operational specifics, it was known to the RCMP that there were some individuals within the convoy who posed potential threats to national security.
- Once a nexus to national security is identified, the RCMP assumes the lead on the investigation and works collaboratively with other police services to ensure that the threat is addressed.

According to the RCMP's assessment, were there IMV extremists among the convoy's participants?

- Although the majority of individuals participating in the Ottawa protest were motivated by a desire to end COVID-related mandates, some individuals assessed to be possible ideologically motivated extremists were present and attempting to leverage the Convoy's platform and its high profile in Ottawa and across the country.

If pressed for further details on what law enforcement knew:

- These individuals were either known to law enforcement before the convoy's events or identified during the convoy by their online presence espousing racially motivated, ethno-nationalist, of anti-government or anti-authority grievances and in many cases espousing threats to violence in the name of these grievances.

Did the majority of convoy participants also demonstrate elements of IMVE?

- Most participants of the protests in Ottawa expressed frustrations with COVID restrictions and government health mandates.
- While this could be considered as an ideological motivation, it is not a violent one and does not fall within the categories associated with ideologically-motivated violent extremism or ideologically-motivated violent criminality.
- However, some ideologically motivated extremists appeared to try to leverage this platform as a mechanism to air their grievances, particularly those aimed at the government.
- Some of these grievances expressed an intent that could be perceived as potentially violent or extreme.

Did the presence of these individuals at the Ottawa protests constitute any form of criminality?

- The presence of ideologically motivated extremists does not necessarily mean ideologically motivated criminality or ideologically motivated violence will occur.
- It is important to remember that the government does not criminalize personal beliefs and police do not investigate belief.

If pressed further on elements of criminality:

- Expressions of hatred, regardless of how unacceptable they may be, do not typically meet criminal standards unless police hold evidence that demonstrates the statements were in a public place and incited hatred against an identifiable group where it is likely to lead to a breach of the peace.

- The belief itself is not criminal, rather it is the mobilization of belief to action – like inciting hatred against an identifiable group, threatening violence, or committing a violent act – that can be criminal.

What advice did you provide the Government (Minister/PM) regarding the invocation of the EA?

- I briefed the Prime Minister, Ministers, and senior officials, throughout the crisis and provided regular situational awareness updates.
- Some of the considerations at the time of those briefings were:
 - The illegal blockades and occupations taking place;
 - The situation in Ottawa; and
 - The support that the RCMP was providing to law enforcement partners in Ontario and across Canada.

Did the RCMP have any tangible evidence to suggest a link between terrorist threat related activity and the protests occurring nationwide?

- The RCMP was aware of the presence of some individuals and groups that fell under the category of IMVE.
- The RCMP had several files on individuals and/or groups where there was a concern from a “threat to public safety” perspective.

If pressed for further details about potential investigations:

- As there is an ongoing criminal investigation and civil lawsuits, the RCMP is not able to provide any information at this time.

At any point throughout the protests in Ottawa, was there ever the threat of a serious organized violent plot in Ottawa?

- Although the potential for serious violence by a lone actor or fringe groups was never discounted, no formal organized violent plot was identified during the duration of the protests in Ottawa.
- While there was no organized violent plot in Ottawa, a cache of firearms, ammunition and body armour was seized at the Coutts, Alberta, border crossing with markings from the extremist militia known as Diagon. This demonstrates the concern of groups with extremist agendas infiltrating larger protests.

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SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYTICAL TOOLS

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The police are responsible for preventing, detecting and investigating crime to protect the communities they serve.
- As such, the police must have an awareness of online activities and constantly keep pace with the emergence of new technologies.
- The analysis of open source information, including social media, can help detect threats to public safety.
- The RCMP does not access private communications, including private emails and text messages, without a judicial authorization.
- The RCMP's open source activities are in relation to mandated enforcement initiatives and follow rigorous Government of Canada and departmental legislation and policies.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

What is the RCMP's role/involvement in monitoring social media? Please discuss and explain all tools and techniques used.

- The RCMP may maintain situational awareness and collect open source information, including from social media, in relation to emerging and/or ongoing events.
- The RCMP may leverage social media analytical tools that yield results similar to what the general public would uncover using the internet.
- The RCMP's use of social media analytical tools adhere to rigorous departmental regulations and Government of Canada legislation and policies, including the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and *Privacy Act*.

Did the RCMP monitor any protest activity prior to or during the crisis?

- The RCMP maintains situational awareness of certain ideologically-motivated violent extremist groups who have been using the COVID-19 pandemic to spread

propaganda, exacerbate social tensions, encourage criminal or violent actions, and undermine trust in public institutions and government.

If pressed on whether the RCMP engaged with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner:

- The RCMP engaged the Office of the Privacy Commissioner in relation to the enforcement responses against illegal activity during the Freedom Convoy occupations.
 - The open source information leveraged assisted with the identification of threats and investigative leads related to the convoy occupation against public safety, officer safety, Internationally Protected Persons, and critical infrastructure.
 - The RCMP will continue to work with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner on this matter and adhere to departmental regulations and Government of Canada legislation and policies.

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MEMBER CONDUCT

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Public trust is essential for the RCMP to effectively serve and protect Canadians. As a result, RCMP employees must conduct themselves in a manner that meets the rightfully high expectations of Canadians.
- All RCMP employees, whether Regular Members, Civilian Members or Public Services employees, are subject to a Code of Conduct and the Treasury Board Values and Ethics Code for the Public Sector.
- RCMP employees represent one of Canada's most iconic police organizations. Canadians look to each of us to set an example and uphold a standard that is fair, professional, unbiased and honourable.
- Contraventions of the Code of Conduct are taken seriously and the RCMP is committed to handling conduct issues in a responsive, timely, efficient and fair manner.

If pressed on former and current members participating in the protests:

- The RCMP is aware that past and former members participated in, or potentially supported the protests in some manner. The RCMP is still in the process of following up on these matters.
- Generally, only in the event that an investigation results in the laying of criminal charges would the RCMP confirm its investigation, the nature of any charges laid and the identity of the individual(s) involved.

If pressed on the right to employee freedom of expression:

- Due to the legitimate public interest in an impartial and effective public service, a public service employee's right to freedom of expression is not absolute.
- It must be balanced against the employee's duty of loyalty to the employer and the Government of Canada.
- The type of discipline warranted would depend on the facts of the case and could potentially range from a warning up to dismissal.

If pressed on employee use of social media:

- I am aware of the material that circulated on social media pertaining to a chat group that included some of our members, and can confirm that we are looking into the matter.
- This material is not representative of those who have committed themselves to serving Canadians with integrity and professionalism.
- As Canada's national police force, the RCMP is held to a high standard by the public we serve. RCMP members' use of social media must align with these standards.
- All members of the RCMP know that, whether on or off duty, they have a responsibility to hold themselves to the highest professional standards and are subject to the Code of Conduct of the RCMP at all times.
 - This includes acting with integrity, fairness, and impartiality, and avoiding any potential conflicts between their professional responsibilities and private interests.
- We have put measures in place to ensure the continued integrity of police operations as well as the safety of our members.

If pressed on current police-involved incidents as a result of the demonstrations:

- The Ontario Province's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) launched investigations into two police-involved incidents that occurred at the demonstrations in Ottawa.
- The first incident suggests that on February 18, 2022, a Toronto Police Service officer on a horse and a 49-year-old woman on Rideau Street and Mackenzie Avenue. The woman has a reported serious injury.
 - On April 4, 2022, the SIU announced that it had closed its investigation into this incident, as the woman's injury was limited to a strained shoulder, which does not fall under the SIU's mandate of a 'serious injury'.
- The second incident suggests that on February 19, 2022, Vancouver Police Department officers discharged Anti-Riot Weapon Enfields (less-lethal firearms) at individuals in the area of Sparks Street and Bank Street. No injuries have been reported at this time.
- I cannot comment further on these SIU investigations.

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SYSTEMIC RACISM IN POLICING

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Managing protests and protesters respectfully and within the rule of law is always a priority and a preoccupation of the RCMP.
- We understand that it is imperative that policing agencies in Canada take concrete action to identify and address the admittedly longstanding issues of systemic racism in policing.
- The RCMP has developed and is implementing a comprehensive series of actions that promote Equity and Accountability and build Trust across the organization and in the carrying out of its mandates in service to communities.
- Using funds provided through Budget 2021, the RCMP has set processes in motion that will address systemic racism in all areas where the RCMP has a mandate to preserve the peace and maintain public safety.

If pressed on Coastal Gas Link protests:

- The RCMP frequently finds itself in a variety of roles during a protest, including facilitating engagement amongst stakeholders such as private companies and protestors, as well as liaising with various governing entities.
- There is significant benefit for all levels of government to engage with private companies and protest groups prior to the company seeking a Civil Injunction and Enforcement Clause, which places the RCMP in a situation where eventually enforcement action is required.
- The RCMP is taking considerable positive actions towards reconciliation with Indigenous communities and peoples, which is rendered more challenging when it is placed in an enforcement posture.

If pressed on the approach to Indigenous protestors versus convoy protestors:

- The RCMP is taking the necessary actions to maintain order during this challenging period for the country, all while respecting the rights and freedoms of Canadians engaged in lawful assembly and moving the organization forward on its change agenda.
- The RCMP is steadfast in its resolve to improve trust between Black, Indigenous and racialized communities and the RCMP.

If pressed on specific actions the RCMP has taken to address systemic racism:

- Mandatory anti-racism training for all employees, adding anti-racism content in the curriculum for new cadets, and improving de-escalation strategies are but a few of the many concrete and integrated initiatives that are in progress.



Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency

Invocation of the Emergencies Act

May 10, 2022

N.B.: The Committee can request a copy of all witness materials.

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Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC)

Invocation of the Emergencies Act

May 10, 2022

18:30 to 21:30

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11	Social Media Analytical Tools
12	Member Conduct
13	Systemic Racism in Policing
14	Timeline
15	RCMP Role and Jurisdiction in Ottawa/Parliament Hill

Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC)

May 10, 2022

18:30-21:30

via Zoom

RCMP Appearance: Invocation of the *Emergencies Act*

Key Messages

- The goal of law enforcement is always to maintain public order and keep citizens safe. The challenges that we faced were unprecedented in their scope and nature.
- The tools provided to law enforcement under the *Emergencies Act* were targeted, time-limited and proportional measures that sought to help bring about a peaceful resolution to a difficult situation.
- While not the police service of jurisdiction for the demonstrations in Ottawa, the RCMP worked closely with our law enforcement partners, including the Parliamentary Protective Service, the Ottawa Police Service and the Ontario Provincial Police.

Appearance

Officials from the RCMP and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) are scheduled to appear before the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC) regarding their study on the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* on May 10, 2022, from 18:30 to 21:30. Participants include:

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

- Brenda Lucki, Commissioner
- Michael Duheme, Deputy Commissioner, Federal Policing
- Brian Brennan, Deputy Commissioner, Contract and Indigenous Policing

Canadian Security Intelligence Service

- David Vigneault, Director
- Cherie Henderson, Assistant Director, Requirements

Background

The DEDC was established to review the exercise of powers and the performance of duties and functions pursuant to the declaration of emergency that was in effect from Monday, February 14, 2022, to Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

On Monday, April 25, 2022, the Prime Minister announced the establishment of the Public Order Emergency Commission, an independent public inquiry following the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*. The Commission will examine the circumstances that led to the declaration being issued and the measures taken in response to the emergency. This includes the evolution of the convoy, the impact of funding and

disinformation, the economic impact, and efforts of police and other responders prior to and after the declaration. The Honourable Paul S. Rouleau was named as Commissioner of the Public Order Emergency Commission. As Commissioner, Justice Rouleau will submit a final report in both official languages to Cabinet on his findings and recommendations by February 6, 2023. The report then must be tabled in the House of Commons and Senate of Canada by February 20, 2023.

In your previous appearance before DEDC on April 26, 2022, you were asked about jurisdictional issues in Ottawa, the situation on Parliament Hill, RCMP interactions with protesters in Coutts, Alberta, and the RCMP's relationship with Wet'suwet'en protesters.

Strategic Considerations

Conservative members of the DEDC (MPs Brock and Motz, along with Senator Carignan) argued that the *Emergencies Act* should not have been invoked as they felt that law enforcement had the tools required to address the situation.

While MP Green voted in support of the motion for the declaration of a public order emergency, in debate he repeatedly called for a national commission on policing. MP Green pointed to the involvement in the protests of former and current members of the Canadian Forces and RCMP as demonstrating the need for the national commission. Additional notable statements by DEDC members can be found annexed to this note.

It is likely that DEDC members will inquire about the national security threat posed by the protests in Ottawa. On March 24, 2022, officials from the Ottawa Police Service and Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) appeared before the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU) for the committee's study on Occupation of Ottawa and the Federal Government's Response to Convoy Blockades. During this appearance, OPP Commissioner Thomas Carrique stated that on or about February 7, 2022 the OPP's provincial operations intelligence bureau identified a threat to national security related to the Convoy protests.

Further, when appearing before DEDC on March 29, 2022, the Honourable Perrin Beatty, former Minister of National Defence and drafter of the *Emergencies Act*, encouraged DEDC members, "I hope you will insist on seeing that assessment and will evaluate the quality of the intelligence on which it was based". He added, "...the committee should press for any information to help Canadians understand the rationale for invocation, and test against both the facts of the situation and the deliberately high threshold that is required".

During this appearance, Mr. Beatty also encouraged committee members to closely examine policing in Ottawa and whether "...the arrangement that we have today to provide security service for the national capital appropriate or should it be rethought?" During the April 26 DEDC appearance, several committee members sought to understand the dynamics that existed between the various police forces in Ottawa. Additionally, Minister Mendicino encouraged the committee to explore how police operate in Ottawa. It can be therefore expected that the RCMP will be asked to further highlight and explain its role and jurisdiction in Ottawa and on Parliament Hill. Further, the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC) has recently begun a study on Expanding the Federal Jurisdiction for the Operational Security of the Parliamentary Precinct. Deputy Commissioner Duheme and Minister Mendicino are scheduled to appear before PROC on Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

When they appeared before DEDC on April 26, several DEDC members asked Ministers Mendicino and Lametti to provide the documents that the Government used to invoke the *Emergencies Act*. During Question Period on April 27, 2022, MP Motz stated, “The *Emergencies Act* stipulates that the special joint committee and the inquiry are responsible for holding the actions of the government to account, and not that of Canadian citizens. At last night’s committee meeting, the Minister of Public Safety and the Minister of Justice continued to hide behind cabinet confidences and lawyer-client privilege.” It’s possible that the RCMP may be asked to provide DEDC with the advice/recommendations that it made to the Government prior to the invoking of the *Emergencies Act*.

General Information

Rounds of Questioning:

Members of the Committee are allotted four minutes to both ask questions and receive responses during the first round of questioning. In the second round (time permitting), the allotted time for questions and answers is reduced to two-to-three minutes.

- Typical order of questioning for the first round: four minutes House of Commons Conservative, four minutes House of Commons Liberal, four minutes House of Commons Bloc Québécois (BQ), four minutes House of Commons New Democratic Party (NDP) and four minutes for each Senator.
- Typical order of questioning for the second round: three minutes Conservative House of Commons, three minutes House of Commons Liberal, two minutes House of Commons Bloc Québécois (BQ), two minutes House of Commons New Democratic Party (NDP) and two minutes each for two senators on a rotational basis to be determined by the Senate parliamentary groups.

Departmental officials present at Committee are responsible for supporting the Minister’s accountability in Parliament. As departmental officials are not primarily responsible for exercising the powers of the Crown, their relationship to Parliament is different from that of Ministers. While Ministers are responsible for political, partisan matters, and for defending public policies before Parliament, deputy heads and officials support Ministers in providing explanations and information on public policies that Ministers could not be expected to provide due to the level of detail or complexity.

When responding to questions from committee members, keep your answers brief and factual. Avoid taking a position, providing your opinion, stating your personal recommendations or speaking on behalf of others on a given issue. Do not divulge classified information, Cabinet confidences or any information that contradicts privacy laws.

N.B.: The Committee can request a copy of all witness materials brought into the Committee room. Ensure there are no references to Cabinet Confidences or other sensitive information.

Invocation of the *Emergencies Act* - Parliamentary Appearance – Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC)
May 10, 2022

OPENING REMARKS

- Good evening / **Bonsoir**. Thank you for the opportunity to be here again today.
- I am joined this evening by Mike Duheme, Deputy Commissioner of Federal Policing and Brian Brennan, Deputy Commissioner of Contract and Indigenous Policing. **Je suis accompagnée ce soir par Michael Duheme, sous-commissaire de la Police fédérale, et Brian Brennan, sous-commissaire des Services de police contractuels et autochtones.**
- The primary goal of law enforcement is always to maintain public order and keep citizens safe.
- As we all witnessed, police services across the country responded to unprecedented and highly disruptive demonstrations, illegal blockades & occupations.
- In RCMP jurisdiction, we successfully used a measured approach and existing legislation to resolve border blockades at Emerson in Manitoba, Coutts in Alberta, and the Pacific Highway crossing in British Columbia.
- And the RCMP, Ontario Provincial Police, and Ottawa Police Service established both a NCR Coordination Centre and an Integrated Command Centre to ensure continued collaboration, the exchange of information, and coordination of investigation and enforcement activities within our nation's capital.
- On February 14th the Government of Canada provided law enforcement with additional tools. The measures enacted under the *Emergencies Act* provided all police officers across the country – not just the RCMP – with the ability to deal with blockades and unlawful public assemblies.

- The Emergency Measures Regulations supplemented existing authorities and provided new instruments for law enforcement to address illegal blockades. Let's look at some concrete examples:
 - First, police were able to maintain a secure perimeter throughout the National Capital Region and refuse entry to individuals travelling to the illegal protest with the intent of participating;
 - Second, supporting an illegal assembly was also prohibited, and police had the enforcement authority to arrest individuals who continued to supply fuel, food, and other materials to an area of an unlawful assembly; and,
 - Third, there were new powers to compel individuals to provide essential goods and/or services for the removal, towing, and storage of vehicles and equipment. I delegated these powers to the OPP who used them to secure needed equipment to clear the streets of Ottawa.
- The goal was to bring a safe and swift end to this illegal blockade.
- I believe we all effectively achieved this objective, and I want to thank all police officers from all law enforcement agencies who joined this operation.
- I would like to turn now to the Emergency Economic Measures Order. J'aimerais maintenant traiter du Décret sur les mesures économiques d'urgence.
- It is well known that the Freedom Convoy was well funded, with financial support provided to organizers through a variety of means, including crowdfunding platforms using cryptocurrency and money.
- Once implemented, these Orders allowed the RCMP and its partners to work even more closely with Canadian financial institutions in real time.

- The RCMP developed a streamlined process whereby we acted as the central point of contact to disclose information to financial institutions on behalf of provincial, municipal and federal law enforcement.
- Once established, the RCMP provided relevant information, to financial institutions, who then had the onus to determine which financial products could and should be frozen.
- This only included information on owners and operators of vehicles that were active participants in the blockades in Ottawa, or convoy organizers.

To be clear, as I know that this has been raised in a number of different fora, at no time did the RCMP disclose any information on individuals who solely donated to the Convoys, or purchased-related merchandise.

- In addition, the RCMP ensured financial institutions were updated regularly when owners and operators of vehicles left the protest area.
- This allowed financial institutions to better assess and inform their own decisions about when to freeze or unfreeze accounts.
- After the situation was resolved, the *Emergencies Act* was revoked. Une fois la situation résolue, le gouvernement a levé l'état d'urgence déclaré en vertu de la *Loi sur les mesures d'urgence*.
- As of February 23, 2022, RCMP action culminated in:
 - the freezing of 257 financial products, which included bank, corporate accounts, and credit cards;
 - the disclosure of 57 entities to financial institutions, which included individuals and owners or drivers of vehicles involved in the blockades; and,

- identifying 170 Bitcoin wallet addresses that were shared with virtual asset service providers
- In closing, I believe the Act provided us the tools to resolve this crisis swiftly and peacefully.
- I would like to thank you for your time and the opportunity to speak about this important topic.

Merci.

WORD COUNT: ~690

TIME: 5.3 minutes at 130 words a minute

Notable Statements from DEDC Members

Glen Motz (Conservative Party of Canada (CPC)): MP Motz stated on February 17, 2022, “The *Emergencies Act* is not required. We have heard that expressed by constituents, by Canadians and in legal opinions... What do the Oka crisis, the conflict at Caledonia, the Wet'suwet'en rail blockades, the B.C. pipeline protests and 9/11 all have in common? None of them warranted the use of the *Emergencies Act*.”

During Question Period on April 27, 2022, MP Motz stated, “The *Emergencies Act* stipulates that the special joint committee and the inquiry are responsible for holding the actions of the government to account, and not that of Canadian citizens. At last night's committee meeting, the Minister of Public Safety and the Minister of Justice continued to hide behind cabinet confidences and lawyer-client privilege. Will the Prime Minister be transparent and accountable to Canadians and release the documents the government relied upon to justify the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*?”

During Question Period on April 28, 2022, MP Motz argued, “Mr. Speaker, here is a fact: The government's invocation of the *Emergencies Act* was a dark day in Canadian history. Legal experts and Canadians know that there was no need to invoke the act, as Canada's existing laws are sufficient. The government has since shown that it has no intention of providing any justification for stripping away Canadians' charter rights. They just simply want us to trust them. Really? We do not trust them. That is the issue.”

Arif Virani (Liberal Party of Canada (LPC)): During debate on the *Emergencies Act*, on February 17, 2022, MP Virani stated, “At this stage, I firmly believe that the only way to resolve the present threat that is facing this country is to declare a public order emergency under the *Emergencies Act*”. He added, “The protest ostensibly began over vaccine mandates. It has morphed into what resembles an occupation of the city by people who have openly declared on the public record that they are seeking to overthrow the government. That constitutes a complete breakdown of public order in Ottawa. Despite efforts from the Ottawa Police Service, law and order in the nation's capital have been impossible to maintain.”

MP Virani also argued, “What we are doing is not a power grab and it is not the invocation of the War Measures Act; we are simply giving the RCMP the power to enforce local laws and work quickly with local law enforcement. We are not calling in the armed forces. We are not putting the RCMP or any other police force under the control of the government. Policing operational decisions remain independent, as they must in any democracy.”

Rachel Bendayan (LPC): During debate on the *Emergencies Act*, on February 17, 2022, MP Bendayan noted, “Invoking the *Emergencies Act* is not the first thing the Government of Canada should do, or even the second. It must be used as a last resort. However, it is clear that this tool is now necessary.” In referencing the emergency economic measures orders, MP Bendayan stated, “The vast majority of Canadians, those who are law-abiding and not involved in these illegal blockades, will see

absolutely no difference. This order changes nothing for them. These measures are designed to stop the funding that enables illegal blockades.”

Matthew Green (New Democratic Party) (NDP): On February 19, 2022, MP Green expressed concern that the government, “placed an overemphasis on the economic disruptions posed by the blockades, including the adverse effects on businesses and supply chains, without adequately referencing the threat of extremist white supremacy and the reported potential for violence. This is despite reports from the intelligence assessments prepared by Canada's Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre that warned in late January that it was likely extremists were involved and said the scale of the protest could yet pose a trigger point and opportunity for potential lone actors to conduct a terrorist attack.”

During debate MP Green also noted, “We have witnessed the juxtaposition of brutal and excessive responses to legitimate protests, as experienced for generations by indigenous peoples of these lands and as ongoing in unceded, unsundered Wet'suwet'en territory; the use of Canadian military to surveil the Black Lives Matter protest, as recently as 2022; the vicious response to climate justice activists at Fairy Creek; and the violent crackdown on police services against houseless residents and encampment support activists at Trinity-Bellwoods in Toronto and J.C. Beemer Park right here in my riding of Hamilton Centre. Many of these people, in this very moment, fear that the extended powers of the state's monopoly on violence will only serve to further target their causes.”

In his remarks, MP Green also argued, “Canadians cannot maintain faith in our nation's safety and security institutions when faced with this early and ongoing de facto dereliction of duty by local police officers, whose weaponized incompetence and refusal to uphold the law in our nation's capital helped to ultimately bring us to this place. The reports about retired active duty national intelligence and military members, including Joint Task Force 2 members, about the RCMP and about former members of the Prime Minister's security detail further demonstrate the need for a national commission on policing. The last royal commission on policing was in 1962.”

MP Green further echoed his calls for a Royal Commission on Policing during the DEDC meeting on March 29, 2022, “I talk about a Royal Commission on Policing. There are some other important threats within our security frameworks including ideologically motivated violent extremists, including the rise of white supremacy in the far right and for undemocratic ends, i.e. overthrowing the government.”

Rhéal Fortin (Bloc Québécois (BQ)): On February 20, 2022, MP Fortin argued, “the blockades have been removed and the offenders punished without the need to invoke the *Emergencies Act*. The existing laws and provincial and municipal powers to intervene were clearly sufficient.”

Yasir Naqvi (LPC): On February 20, 2022, MP Naqvi explained his support for the invoking of the *Emergencies Act* and noted, “I will go back to what I know best, which is

Ottawa. I have been involved since day one in all the work that has gone on that led to the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*, given the fact that I represent the riding of Ottawa Centre. We have engaged from the very first day with our municipal government and the provincial government in Ontario through the work the federal government was doing, whether it meant providing resources by way of the RCMP or the OPP or by providing other municipal services. These resources to put an end to this illegal occupation came not just two days ago, but over time. We made sure that we had the legal authority or legislative mechanisms to take action.”

In response to a question, MP Naqvi added, “Through the provision of powers, some of which I articulated, and their application, law enforcement was able to end the occupation. We heard that from our local interim police chief in Ottawa. These powers that were given to him through the *Emergencies Act* gave him sufficient tools to end the illegal occupation of downtown Ottawa.”

Larry Brock (CPC): During debate of the *Emergencies Act*, on February 20, 2022, MP Brock, stated, “...the prolonged blockades in Ottawa and at border crossings were against the law, but the invocation to implement the *Emergencies Act* was completely unnecessary and, most important, did not meet the extremely high threshold as set out in the act.” MP Brock added, “Blockades are already in violation of the *Criminal Code*, provincial highway acts and any number of municipal bylaws and court injunctions. This was and still remains the purview of the police. They had all the tools necessary.”

MP Brock also remarked, “I have made it abundantly clear that we disagreed with some of the tactics used by the organizers of this protest. As a lawyer, I follow and hold sacrosanct our charter rights of protest and assembly. This was a failed leadership exercise by the Prime Minister and, by extension, the former chief of Ottawa Police Service, who has now resigned. He had all the tools necessary under the Criminal Code, provincial statutes, municipal bylaws and court injunctions.”

MP Brock added, “there are many lessons to be learned and I hope we decide that a national inquiry should be undertaken forthwith to look at the obvious levels of failed leadership and the decisions that were made. Most importantly, it comes down to looking at the litany of emergencies, the protests, the demonstrations, the blockades, the world events that have impacted Canada and how effectively police agencies and politicians across this great nation have effectively dealt with that without imposing this draconian piece of legislation that has not been used—.”

Many of the points MP Brock raised in the House of Commons were reiterated when the Minister of Public Safety, along with Portfolio Officials, appeared before the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU) on February 25, 2022. During the appearance, in furthering his argument that law enforcement had the tools needed to address the protest MP Brock stated, “The law was available for them to use. Whether they utilized it is a separate issue”.

Senator Claude Carignan (CPC): In an exchange with Senator Marc Gold, the Government Representative in the Senate, on February 22, 2022, Senator Carignan stated, “I don’t have a list of all of the charges that were laid or the tickets that were issued for disturbing the peace, but law enforcement officers are obligated to respond when such acts are being committed, and they can easily do so under the existing legislation. I’m therefore having a hard time understanding why the protesters could not have been forced to leave and the vehicles on Wellington Street could not have been towed under federal, provincial or municipal laws.”

In a speech in the Senate, where he expressed his opposition to the invoking of the *Emergencies Act*, Senator Carignan stated, “The truth is that before the act was invoked, the police had all the legal tools and resources they needed to manage the illegal blockades of public roads and to restore order.” Senator Carignan added, “I refute the argument that there were not enough police officers. I simply do not understand why the mayor of Ottawa claimed that he requested but did not obtain 1,800 additional officers to end the turmoil in Ottawa before the federal government decided to resort to the *Emergencies Act*. In the past, there have been other major events in Ontario and in other provinces where large numbers of police were deployed without the need to invoke this law.” He also noted, “Canada is not only capable of mobilizing thousands of police officers to one location, but it also has access to legislation at all three levels of government, in addition to jurisprudence, that provide the legal tools required to maintain and restore order in the event of large protests, all without the need to invoke the *Emergencies Act*.” He concluded his speech by stating, “The governments and police forces had all the legal tools needed to end this crisis faster in Ottawa, and they could have exceptionally deployed enough police officers well before the act came into effect.”

Senator Vernon White (Canadian Senators Group) (CSG): In a speech in the Senate on February 23, 2022, Senator White stated, “...I believe there was a tipping point where the federal government had to take a greater role, and that role in this case was the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*.” Senator White added, “I supported the invoking of the *Emergencies Act* and, for now, I support its continuance because the authorities are telling me that they continue to need it and to use the tools that the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* brought into play.”

Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC)

The Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency has been appointed to review the exercise of powers and the performance of duties and functions pursuant to the declaration of emergency that was in effect from Monday, February 14, 2022, to Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

Joint Chairs	Hon. Gwen Boniface (Sen)	Independent Senators Group
	Rhéal Éloi Fortin (MP)	Bloc Québécois
	Matthew Green (MP)	NDP

Vice-Chairs	Hon. Claude Carignan (Sen)	Conservative
	Arif Virani (MP)	Liberal
	Glen Motz (MP)	Conservative

Members	Hon. Peter Harder (Sen)	Progressive Senate Group
	Hon. Vernon White (Sen)	Canadian Senators Group
	Rachel Bendayan (MP)	Liberal
	Larry Brock (MP)	Conservative
	Yasir Naqvi (MP)	Liberal

Ontario

Appointment

- Appointed to the Senate in 2016.

Education and Background

- First female Commissioner of the OPP.
- First female President of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.
- Long-time member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, where she served as Deputy Executive Director.
- Founding President of the Canadian Police Chiefs International Service Agency, a non-profit organization created to address sexual exploitation of children.
- Board of Governors of the Law Commission of Ontario from 2011-2014.
- Has international experience with policing reform, transnational organized crime and counter terrorism.
- Initiated many reforms to promote Indigenous policing.
- Holds a certificate in Law and Security Administration from Humber College; B.A. from York University; and LL.B. from Osgoode Hall Law School.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade (AEFA) and Member of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament (RPRD). Joint Chair of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Has worked extensively to repair relationships with First Nations communities.
- Served for three years as the Deputy Chief Inspector of Ireland's Garda Síochána Inspectorate, tasked with bringing reform to the national police service. She then took on the role of Transnational Organized Crime Expert with the United Nations Police Division, where she advanced the fight against organized crime in conflict and post-conflict countries, while also being a member of the UN Counter Terrorism Integrated Task Force.
- Senator Boniface sponsored Bill C-46 (Drug Impaired Driving) in the Senate.
- Received the United Nations Peacekeeping Medal, and was awarded an honorary doctorate of letters from Nipissing University in 2006.
- Was invested into the Order of Ontario in 2001 for her work with the First Nations communities. She is a Commander of the Order of Merit of the Police Forces, the Order of St. John, and has the Humber College Alumnus of Distinction Award.

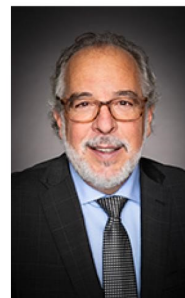
Rivière-du-Nord, Québec

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Studied law at the University of Sherbrooke.
- President of the Bissonnette Fortin Giroux law firm in Saint-Jérôme (Québec).



Points of Note

- Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST), Member of the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (SJUS), and Joint Chair of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Current Bloc Québécois Justice Critic.
- Served as interim leader of the Bloc Québécois from 2015 to 2017.
- In the 42nd Parliament, 1st Session, he sponsored Bill C-349, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and to make consequential amendments to other acts (criminal organization), which was introduced and had First Reading in April 2017.
- Also in the 42nd Parliament, 1st Session, he sponsored Bill C-334, An Act to amend the Canada Evidence Act and the Criminal Code (journalistic sources), which was introduced and had First Reading in January 2017.

Hamilton Centre, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Former Hamilton city councillor.
- Holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Legal Studies from Acadia University.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics (ETHI) and the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics (SETH). Joint Chair of the Standing Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Previous member of the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates (OGGO), its subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure, and the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (PACP).
- Serves as NDP Critic on Ethics and is also the Deputy Critic on Public Services and Procurement; Labour; and, Employment and Workforce Development.
- In February 2022, repeatedly called for the establishment of a national commission on policing that would review the duties assigned to the police and their corresponding budgets.
- In October 2020, presented a petition that called upon the House of Commons to divest from the RCMP and redirect funding towards social services to replace policing functions in recognition of the long history of violence against Black and Indigenous communities and the inefficacy of policing.

Quebec (Mille Isles)

Appointment

- Appointed to the Senate in 2009.

Education and Background

- Holds a LL.B from Université de Sherbrooke, Quebec, and a graduate degree in public law from the Université de Montréal.
- Worked as a lawyer since his admission to the Quebec Bar in 1988, specializing in civil litigation, public law, labour relations, and health and social services law. Also taught public and labour law at the Université de Montréal Faculty of Law and at the Université du Québec à Montréal.
- Former mayor of Saint-Eustache, QC.
- Chair, and then second vice-president of the Union des municipalités du Québec's justice and public safety commission.



Points of Note

- Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and the Rights of Parliament (RPRD). Member of the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs (LCJC) and the Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources (ENEV). Vice-Chair of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Leader of the Opposition in the Senate from November 2015 to March 2017.
- Served as Leader of the Government in the Senate from 2013 to 2015. During this time, was also a member of Cabinet.
- In 2016 as the Senate considered Bill C-7 (Public Service Labour Relations Regime), he stated, "In my opinion, the most powerful person in Canada is the Commissioner of the RCMP because he can dismiss 21,000 people and it is up to him to rule on the appeal for dismissing those 21,000 people".
- Served as president of the Conseil sur les services policiers du Québec in 2008, an advisory body created to advise the Quebec Minister of Public Security on all policing matters.
- Introduced two bills in fall 2016: Bill S-230 (drug-impaired driving) that did not pass and was ultimately replaced by government Bill C-46 (drug-impaired driving), which came into force in June 2018; and Bill S-231 (protection of journalistic sources), which passed unanimously in the Senate and the House of Commons and received Royal Assent in October 2017.

Parkdale-High Park, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Earned a Joint Honours BA in History and Political Science from McGill University.
- Received a Bachelor of Law from the University of Toronto.
- Prior to entering politics, worked as a lawyer for the constitutional law branch of the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General.



Points of Note

- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development
- Member of Standing Committee on International Trade (CIIT) and Vice-Chair of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Previous member of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST).
- Served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada from 2018 to 2021.
- Served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Democratic Institutions from 2018 to 2019
- Served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Canadian Heritage (Multiculturalism) from 2017 to 2018.
- Served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship from 2015 to 2017.

Medicine Hat—Cardston—Warner, Alberta

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2016.

Education and Background

- Served for 35 years with the Medicine Hat Police Service and retired as Inspector in 2015.
- Holds a Bachelor of Religious Education Degree from the Hillcrest Christian College.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on National Defence (NDDN) and Vice-Chair of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Served as a Member of the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP) from February 2020 to June 2021.
- Served as the Opposition Associate Shadow Minister for Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness from 2019 to 2020.
- Opposed to gun control measures and sponsored e-petition 2341, which calls for any new firearms laws, bans, buyback programs or changes to licencing be put before the House of Commons for debate.
- MP Motz has raised concerns about a perceived erosion of border security, noting his concerns are “not just with respect to the crisis of illegal border crossers, but also with drugs, handgun smuggling, human trafficking by many of the gangs running drugs, and the massive backlogs in the monitoring and deportation of known terrorists, criminals and national security risks”.
- He has expressed concern about rural crime and has suggested that RCMP resources in rural areas are insufficient.
- Expressed concern about the privacy of Canadians related to the Equifax hack, and co-wrote (with MP Paul-Hus) a letter to the Prime Minister to this effect
- Called for the Minister of Public Safety to direct the RCMP to dismantle the rail blockades that were set up in support of Wet’suwet’en hereditary chiefs while decrying the economic costs of the disruption.
- Has called in the House of Commons for the Government to “ban Huawei”.

Ontario

Appointment

- Appointed to the Senate in 2016.

Education and Background

- Spent 29 years in the federal public service, 16 of which were served as Deputy Minister of several departments: the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Citizenship and Immigration, Industry, Solicitor General, Public Security, and the Treasury Board Secretariat.
- From 2003-2007, served as Personal Representative of the Prime Minister (Sherpa) to three G8 Summits. Considered an expert on Canada-China relations.
- Recipient of numerous awards, including the Public Service Outstanding Achievement Award and the United Way Community Builder Award.



Points of Note

- Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade (AEFA). Member of the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs (LCJC), the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications (TRCM), and the Standing Committee on Ethics and Conflict of Interest for Senators (CONF). Member of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- In December 2021, the Senate debated a motion from Senator Harder, "That he will call the attention of the Senate to the role and mandate of the RCMP, the skills and capabilities required for it to fulfill its role and mandate, and how it should be organized and resourced in the 21st century."
- Related to this, Senator Harder had an article in Policy Options in June 2021, where he argued for a mandate review of the organization as follows: "The inquiry should look at the role and mandate of the 21 century national police service and the skills needed to be an effective national force, as well as the resources and organization needed, and its recruitment practices."
- Served as the Government Representative in the Senate from 2016 to 2021.

Ontario

Appointment

- Appointed to the Senate in 2012.

Education and Background

- Served as the Chief of Police of the Ottawa Police Service and the Regional Police Service in Durham, Ontario, and spent 24 years with the RCMP, achieving the rank of Assistant Commissioner.
- Holds a Diploma in Business Administration from the College of Cape Breton, a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Psychology from Acadia University, a Master's Degree from Royal Roads University in Conflict Analysis and Management and a Professional Doctorate in Police Leadership from the Charles Sturt University.
- Has been honoured with a number of awards and commendations over the years, including the Commissioners Commendation, a Queen's Jubilee Medal and a United Way Community Builder of the Year award.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee for Ethics and Conflict of Interest for Senators (CONF) and the Standing Committee for Legal and Constitutional Affairs (LCJC). Member of the Standing Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Member of the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP).
- In 2016, sponsored a Senate Public Bill that sought to amend the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* with an enactment that would add certain substances used in the production of fentanyl. While the bill passed the Senate, it did not reach the House of Commons.

Rachel Bendayan

Liberal

Outremont, Quebec

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Prior to entering federal politics, worked as lawyer for almost ten years and specialized in international trade law.
- Taught at the University of Montréal's Faculty of Law.
- Served as Chief of Staff to the federal Minister of Small Business and Tourism.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development (FAAE) and member of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Previous member of the Standing Committee on International Trade (CIIT), Standing Committee on Finance (FINA), and Standing Committee on the Status of Women (FEWO).
- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Tourism and Associate Minister of Finance. Previously served as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade.

Larry Brock

Conservative

Brantford—Brant, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2021.

Education and Background

- Has a Bachelor's degree from the University of Waterloo and a law degree from the University of Calgary.
- Prior to entering federal politics, was the Assistant Crown Attorney in Brant, Ontario.

Points of Note

- Member of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC) and Member of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST).
- Serves as the CPC Deputy Shadow Minister for Justice and Attorney General of Canada.



Ottawa Centre, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2021.

Education and Background

- From 2007 to 2018, served as a member of the Ontario legislature. Served in many roles including as the Attorney General of Ontario, Government House Leader, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, and Minister of Labour.
- From 2018 to 2021, served as the CEO of the Institute for Canadian Citizenship, Canada's leading voice on citizenship and inclusion.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights (JUST) and member of the Special Joint Committee on the Declaration of Emergency (DEDC).
- Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Emergency Preparedness.
- As Ontario's Attorney General, introduced legislation to strengthen police oversight through the of an inspector general to monitor police forces. The legislation also: allowed the ability for police chiefs to suspend officers without pay (though only in relatively rare investigations into off-duty conduct), provided better training for police services boards, and included mandatory coroner's inquests into deaths resulting from police use of force. As a member of the Ontario legislature, he also banned race-based carding in Ontario and modernized the court system.

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KEY ISSUE QUESTIONS

Did the RCMP need the EA to resolve the protests? Was it necessary?

- The RCMP was able to resolve numerous blockades in our jurisdictions, specifically those in Coutts, Emerson, and the Pacific Highway. All within existing legislation.
- Each location and blockage was different with Ottawa presenting unique challenges.
- The EA gave us the tools to get the job done quickly and safely and importantly to return the city back to Ottawa residents.

What made the Freedom Convoy in the NCR unique?

- From the RCMP/policing perspective, the blockade was supported and organized by several organizers who were able to obtain a significant amount of funding.
- This allowed the protests to grow – particularly over the weekends – and be sustained over a three-week period with a significant amount of support from across the country.
- The protestors and trucks were entrenched in our nation's capital and there were no signs that this situation was going to be resolved within existing authorities.

Could you have resolved the protests without the EA?

- It was clear that the protesters had no intention of leaving downtown Ottawa.
And we saw each weekend more people moving into the city's core.
- Within Ottawa, provisions of the *Emergencies Act* granted the RCMP and policing partners with new authorities to:
 - maintain and reinforce the perimeter;
 - restrict travel;
 - prevent children from being brought into the situation;
 - secure equipment like tow trucks; and
 - ensure that we could cut off financial support and other assistance – such as gas – for this unlawful blockade.

How did RCMP use the EA to resolve the protests?

- Within Ottawa, provisions of the *Emergencies Act* granted the RCMP and policing partners new authorities to:
 - maintain and reinforce the perimeter;
 - restrict travel;
 - prevent children from being brought into the situation;
 - secure necessary equipment like tow trucks; and,
 - ensure that we could cut off financial support and other assistance – such as gas – for this unlawful blockade.
- These temporary powers also allowed RCMP officers to use provincial and municipal bylaws to affect a small number of arrests.
- I also believe that the *Emergencies Act* was a successful deterrent against similar activity in other jurisdictions.
- All of these temporary measures allowed law enforcement to resolve this crisis peacefully and swiftly.

Was the situation in Ottawa a failure of the OPS?

- It is not for me to evaluate or pass judgement on another police service and/or their response in any given situation.
- We have a duty to enforce the law and help our policing partners wherever possible.
- We did this quite effectively and I am proud of all RCMP employees who supported the efforts in Ottawa and all those behind the scene supporting.
- My team is conducting an after action review to learn from this experience.

What can you tell us about the threat posed by the protests? Did it constitute a threat to national security?

- I will address this question from my perspective and that of the RCMP. There are a number of organizations that have a mandate in this area.
- From my team's perspective, I can say that:
 - Although most people participating in the Ottawa protest were motivated by a desire to end COVID-related mandates, we assessed that some ideologically motivated extremists were likely present and attempting to leverage the protest and its high profile for their own purpose.

- We knew that some of these individuals posed possible threats to national security.
- Although no formal organized violent plot was identified during the protest in Ottawa, the potential for serious violence by a lone actor or fringe group was never discounted.
- We were fortunate that there was no organized plot of violence as we witnessed in Coutts, Alberta.

What advice did you provide to the Government (Minister/PM) regarding the invocation of the EA?

- I briefed the Prime Minister, various Ministers, and senior officials throughout the crisis and provided regular situational awareness updates.
- While I am not able to speak to the specific advice that I provided, some of the considerations at the time of those briefings were:
 - The illegal blockades and occupations taking place;
 - The situation in Ottawa;
 - Efforts to restore access to the Ambassador Bridge and other ports of entry; and
 - The support that the RCMP was providing to law enforcement partners.

What advice did you provide to the Government (Minister/PM) regarding the revocation of the EA?

- I provided regular briefings to the Prime Minister, various Ministers, and senior officials throughout the crisis and provided regular situational awareness updates.
- Our primary concern is always public and officer safety.
- Some of the considerations at the time of those briefings were:
 - The methodical and complex law enforcement effort that was carried out involving the RCMP, OPP and Ottawa Police Service, including police comments on how they had directly benefited from the Emergencies Act.
 - Law enforcement actions being taken elsewhere to avoid further blockades.
 - How work was expected to continue to bring an end to the illegal blockades and occupations.

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EMERGENCIES ACT AND THE RCMP

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Federal and provincial legislation provides significant authorities and powers to police services to maintain the rule of law.
- The RCMP was able to resolve numerous blockades in our jurisdictions, specifically those in Coutts, Emerson, and the Pacific Highway. All within existing legislation.
- Each location and blockage was different with Ottawa presenting unique challenges.
- The proclamation of a public order emergency under the *Emergencies Act* and associated measures provided all police officers across the country – not just the RCMP – with additional tools to address this crisis in a timely manner.

If pressed on authorities provided under the Emergencies Act:

- Within Ottawa, provisions of the *Emergencies Act* granted the RCMP and policing partners new authorities to:
 - maintain and reinforce the perimeter;
 - restrict travel;
 - prevent children from being brought into the situation;
 - secure necessary equipment like tow trucks; and,
 - ensure that we could cut off financial support and other assistance – such as gas – for this unlawful blockade.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

In your opinion, did a public order emergency exist in Canada on February 13, 2022?

- The basis for the public order emergency was laid out in the Government's proclamation of the *Emergencies Act* on February 14, 2022.

If pressed on advice provided to the Minister:

- I briefed the Prime Minister, various Ministers, and senior officials throughout the crisis and provided regular situational awareness updates.

- Some of the considerations at the time of those briefings were:
 - The illegal blockades and occupations taking place;
 - The situation in Ottawa;
 - Efforts to restore access to the Ambassador Bridge and other ports of entry; and
 - The support that the RCMP was providing to law enforcement partners.

Do you believe that the *Emergencies Act* (EA) was necessary to end this crisis? Why or why not?

- The RCMP was able to resolve numerous blockades in our jurisdictions, specifically those in Coutts, Emerson, and the Pacific Highway. All within existing legislation.
- Each location and blockage was different with Ottawa presenting unique challenges.
- The EA gave us the tools to get the job done quickly and safely and importantly to return the city back to Ottawa residents.

How did the RCMP use the EA to resolve the protests?

- Within Ottawa, provisions of the *Emergencies Act* granted the RCMP and policing partners new authorities to:
 - maintain and reinforce the perimeter;
 - restrict travel;
 - prevent children from being brought into the situation;
 - secure necessary equipment like tow trucks; and,
 - ensure that we could cut off financial support and other assistance – such as gas – for this unlawful blockade.
- These temporary powers also allowed RCMP officers to use provincial and municipal bylaws to affect a small number of arrests.
- I also believe that the *Emergencies Act* was a successful deterrent against similar activity in other jurisdictions.
- All of these temporary measures allowed law enforcement to resolve this crisis peacefully and swiftly.

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NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION COMMAND CENTRE AND INTEGRATED COMMAND CENTRE

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The National Capital Region Command Centre (NCRCC) is the Divisional Emergency Operations Centre (DEOC) for National Division responsible for responding to major events.
- During the recent Freedom Convoy, the NCRCC allowed incident commanders to make time-sensitive informed decisions when working with various policing partners.
- The RCMP, Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), and Ottawa Police Service (OPS) also established an Integrated Command Centre (ICC) to develop and oversee a joint enforcement plan under the leadership of the OPS. Other police services providing support were also part of the ICC.
- This combined effort allowed all three partners to bring a swift and peaceful end to this incident.

What was the NCRCC's role/involvement during the Freedom Convoy?

- The NCRCC is the Divisional Emergency Operations Centre for National Division responsible for responding to all major events.
- It is stood up whenever there are major events in the National Capital Region and brings together all key partners to share information.
- This allowed incident commanders to make time-sensitive informed decisions when working with various policing partners.

What was the RCMP's role/involvement in the ICC during the Freedom Convoy?

- RCMP officers were a part of the ICC in the development of a joint enforcement plan in a secure area at RCMP headquarters.
- With all three partners working together, the ICC was able to safely plan and execute the successful disruption of the blockade activity.

- This enhanced tri-lateral partnership is a positive example of successful domestic cooperation that resulted in securing the National Capital Region (NCR), removing the blockades, and safeguarding public safety and security.

How did the RCMP ensure timely information exchange with other partners as part of the ICC?

- The ICC provided enhanced and seamless communication and operational planning with all three partners to respond and disrupt blockades in the NCR.
- In particular, we were able to develop a time-sensitive and actionable plan that resulted in a safe and peaceful end to the blockades.
- This plan was actioned through ongoing communication between the ICC and NCRCC. We had seamless communication and were aware of all events as they unfolded.
- This communication allowed law enforcement to maintain its close protection stance, and disrupt any potential incidents, while also informing senior leadership of the behaviours of convoy participants.

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RESOURCES DEPLOYED TO THE NCR

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- I can say that as a national police organization, the RCMP can draw resources from across the country in support of major operational needs to effectively respond to any urgent situation.
- Our members stationed in the NCR were leveraged, in addition to members from our Divisions nationwide.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

If pressed on additional information in relation to deployed resources:

How many RCMP officers were deployed to the NCR before the *Emergencies Act* (EA)?

- As of March 30, 2022, our analysis revealed that prior to invocation of the Act we deployed 532 RCMP officers to assist Ottawa Police Service (OPS) with the protests in the National Capital Region (NCR).
- We caution against any reference to specific deployment numbers. Deployment numbers shifted as events unfolded. Also, deployment totals do not capture the totality of RCMP efforts, for example, National Headquarters and program support.

How many RCMP were deployed to the NCR once the proclamation was in force?

- As of March 30, 2022, our analysis revealed that we deployed 787 RCMP officers to assist OPS with an effective law enforcement response to end the illegal protest in the NCR.
- We caution against any reference to specific deployment numbers. Deployment numbers shifted as events unfolded. Also, deployment totals do not capture the totality of RCMP efforts, for example, National Headquarters and program support.

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EMERGENCY MEASURES REGULATIONS

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- In terms of the “Red Zone” perimeter that was established around Ottawa, section 6 of the *Emergency Measures Regulations* designated certain places such as Parliament Hill and government buildings as protected.

If pressed on designation on protected sites:

- It also authorized the Minister of Public Safety to designate other places as protected. My understanding is he made no such designations.

If pressed on requisition of services:

- No RCMP officer requested any person to make available essential goods or services under section 7 of the emergency measures regulations.
 - Outside of the RCMP, I only delegated the new requisition powers under section 7 to the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and any OPP officers designated by him.
 - I understand that the OPP used these powers on my behalf, as per the regulations. For additional details on how, I recommend you consult the OPP.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

What direction did RCMP senior management provide its employees related to the use of Emergency Measures Regulations (EMRs)?

- For the Emergency Measures Regulations, I delegated the new requisition powers to compel people to provide essential goods and services such as tow trucks to the Commissioner of the OPP and OPP officers he designates to use these requisition powers on his behalf.
 - I understand that the OPP used these powers to request needed equipment to clear the streets in Ottawa.
 - The RCMP is currently collating information related to the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* and the events that led up to it. It would be premature to share preliminary data or additional information at this time.

What was the RCMP's involvement in the delegation of authority under section 6 of the Emergency Measures Regulations related to establishing a secure perimeter in the National Capital Region (NCR)?

- The *EMRs* do not provide for the delegation of authority regarding designation of protected places under section 6.
- Section 6 identifies areas that are designated by the *EMRs* itself as protected. It also provides that the Minister of Public Safety may designate additional places as protected. My understanding is he made no such designations.
- The RCMP was an integral partner of the Integrated Command Centre in cooperation with the OPS and OPP. As such, we are aware of discussions related to the establishment of the secure perimeter.
- Police of jurisdiction remained responsible for enforcing that protection. As police of jurisdiction, OPS had the primary authority for determining the scope and nature of the secure perimeter implemented to protect those places designated by the *EMRs*.
- It is my understanding that the secure perimeter established in Ottawa was not based solely on the areas designated under section 6 of the *EMR*, but rather on the assessment of the OPS of what was required to maintain the public peace and ensure public safety. This was established under other authorities.

What was the RCMP's involvement in the delegation of authority under section 7 related to compelling tow truck or other companies to provide essential support services?

- No goods or services were requested directly by the RCMP under section 7 of the *Emergency Measures Regulations*.
- By means of a written instrument of authorization dated February 17, 2022, I had the authority under section 7 (1) to designate both senior RCMP members and the Commissioner of the OPP to request essential goods and services.
- No authority under section 7 (1) was exercised by RCMP members. The RCMP understands that the OPP made requests for services from more than one vendor in Ontario for towing services performed in Ottawa during the blockade.

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EMERGENCY ECONOMIC MEASURES ORDER (EEMO)

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The *Emergency Economic Measures Order* (EEMO) allowed the RCMP and its partners to work more closely with Canadian financial institutions.
- It provided temporary financial measures that were used to strongly encourage individuals to leave the illegal protests, and to deter the counselling of others to commit related criminal offences.
- With the *Emergencies Act* in place, the RCMP developed a streamlined process where it would act as the central point of contact to disclose information to financial institutions on behalf of law enforcement.

With this information, financial institutions were able to make informed decisions to freeze or unfreeze accounts.

If pressed for details on RCMP action:

- On February 23, 2022, the declaration of a public order emergency under the *Emergencies Act* was revoked. As of that day, RCMP action culminated in:
 - the freezing of 257 financial products by financial institutions, which included bank, corporate accounts, and credit cards;
 - the disclosure of 57 entities to financial institutions, which included individuals and owners or drivers of vehicles involved in the blockades; and,
 - identifying 170 Bitcoin wallet addresses that were shared with virtual currency exchangers.
- Law enforcement information provided to financial institutions only included information on owners and operators of vehicles that were active participants in the blockades in Ottawa. At no time did the RCMP disclose any information on individuals who solely donated to the Convoys, or purchase Convoy-related merchandise.
- The RCMP also provided financial institutions with updated information regularly about owners and operators of vehicles as their status changed vis-à-vis ongoing participation in blockade activity.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

What is the source of funding for the Freedom Convoy?

- We know that the Freedom Convoy was well funded, with financial support provided to organizers through a variety of means, including crowdfunding and cryptocurrency.
- At this point, I do not have any information to suggest that foreign funding is connected to any state-based foreign-influenced activity.
- That said, I also understand that other police forces could be investigating the source of funding for the Freedom Convoy.
- As such, I am unable to provide any additional information about the source of funds at this time.

What steps did the RCMP take to assess any information received from OPS and OPP?

- The RCMP served as the central point of contact between the OPS/OPP and financial institutions, to streamline the sharing of information and avoid duplication of efforts. The RCMP was not responsible for validating information pertaining to the OPS/OPP investigation.
- The RCMP conducted database checks, verified social media and internet presence, and called individuals associated with registered vehicles present at the Ottawa blockades to enrich surveillance information collected in downtown Ottawa that was received from the OPP.
- With respect to crypto crowdfunding campaign, the funds raised were primarily in Bitcoin, and the Bitcoin transfers were visible to anyone who looked up the donation collection address.

Additional information and only if pressed on Bitcoin transfers:

- I am not an expert on cryptocurrency tracing - others in the organization could speak to this in more detail.
- However, I can tell you due to the public nature of these Bitcoin transfers, the RCMP was able to conduct cryptocurrency tracing analysis on the Blockchain, and follow the flow of the donated funds to various cryptocurrency addresses.
- Each time a suspicious transaction was identified, the RCMP sent out a Cryptocurrency ALERT to multiple Virtual Currency Money Service Businesses that

were registered with FINTRAC to advise them of any cryptocurrency addresses holding donations. On some occasions, separate emails were sent directly to particular Virtual Currency Money Service Businesses.

How did the RCMP protect people's private information when it was shared with financial institutions and financial entities?

- The uniqueness of this event prompted the need for temporary new and enhanced information sharing powers. We had the authority to disclose information under section 6 of the EEMO, as the primary intent of the Order was to discourage and disrupt any activity.
- These powers - made available through the use of the *Emergencies Act* - allowed the RCMP to share information with entities listed in section 3 of the EEMO.
- In keeping with the *Privacy Act*, RCMP followed standard procedure with regards to the sharing of personal information between law enforcement and financial institutions, and between law enforcement entities. Record keeping and note taking practices and procedures were also followed.
- Outside of the EEMO, the RCMP also continues to have its normal authorities under the *RCMP Act* and by the *Privacy Act* that allows it to share certain information with financial institutions.

How are you supporting the informal investigation of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner?

- My office is committed to assisting the Office of the Privacy Commissioner in their informal investigation of the *Emergency Act*.
- My staff recently met with the OPC to explain the RCMP's role in the Emergency Economic Measures Order.
- These discussions have been very positive and we look forward to working together with the OPC in the future.

How often did the RCMP meet with FI while the EA was in force? What was the purpose of these meetings?

- I know that members of the RCMP were in regular contact with financial institutions on the use of the measures throughout the lifespan of the *Emergencies Act*.

- These initial meetings sought to establish a direct channel of communication and discuss coordination of information sharing between law enforcement and financial institutions, both before the *Emergencies Act* came into effect, and while it was enacted.
- These meetings also were an opportunity to discuss how financial institutions would report back to the RCMP, the implementation of the EEMO instructions, and potential scenarios where the EEMO would apply. It also allowed meeting participants to raise other comments or concerns as they arose.
- The RCMP was also in regular contact with some Virtual Currency Money Services Businesses, in regards to dissemination of the Cryptocurrency ALERTS, discussions around expectations under the EEMO, and future bilateral communication strategies.

Additional information and only if pressed:

- The RCMP met virtually with the financial institutions and other entities with reporting obligations under the *Emergencies Act* on Feb 14th, Feb 16th, Feb 15th, Feb 17th, Feb 18th, and Feb 22nd.
- The RCMP spoke to the central point of contact for the Virtual Currency Money Services Businesses on Feb 15th, 18th, and 24th.

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PROTEST ACTIVITY NATIONWIDE

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The RCMP employs a measured approach to managing protests. This involves proactive engagement, communication, and various measures to support lawful and peaceful protest in an environment safe for protesters and members of the public.
- Where the RCMP was the police of jurisdiction, our role was to ensure that protest activity remained legal and if illegal acts were committed, to enforce the law as required.
- The goal of law enforcement is always to maintain public order and keep citizens safe. The challenges we faced were unprecedented in their scope and nature.
- The measures added to authorities that police services already had, and did not change the authorities or mandate of police of jurisdiction.

If pressed on Police Independence:

- All of Canada's police services, including the RCMP, function independently of political direction or influence in the specific actions or approach they take to addressing law enforcement issues. They are mandated with protecting the public and enforcing applicable laws, including the *Criminal Code of Canada*.
- The principle of police independence in Canada has been subject to Supreme Court decisions, stating "...the Commissioner is not subject to political direction. Like every other police officer similarly engaged, he [she] is answerable to the law and, no doubt, to his [her] conscience."

If pressed on Surrey, British Columbia:

- The protests in Surrey began on February 7, 2022, and were deemed to be unlawful on February 12, 2022.
- Throughout the three weeks of protests, police made a total of 18 arrests. There were also multiple ongoing investigations into unlawful activity that occurred.
- Specifically, on February 19, 2022, a group of aggressive protesters surrounded members of the media. Police intervention was required due to the actions of the

protesters, and to ensure that media members had safe passage to their vehicles.

If pressed on Coutts, Alberta:

- The protests in Coutts began January 29, 2022, and were deemed to be unlawful on the same day, once it was learned there was a full stoppage of traffic on the highway leading to the border.
- While the Alberta RCMP was in a position to conduct enforcement, they were engaged with protesters at the Coutts border crossing in an effort to find a peaceful and safe resolution for all involved. Another challenge faced was the lack of tow trucks. Tow companies declined to assist the police over concerns of repercussions from the trucking industry.
- While they thought they had a path to resolution, the protesters eventually chose not to comply. The highway, as essential infrastructure, could not be blockaded.
- The Alberta RCMP became aware of a small organized group within the larger Coutts protest, and as a result of information received and a subsequent complex investigation, the Alberta RCMP executed a search warrant during the early hours of February 14 on three trailers. This resulted in the arrest and detainment of 11 individuals.
- The blockade was resolved as a result of extensive negotiations between police and protest organizers and the subsequent arrests of several protesters engaged in criminal activity.

If pressed on Emerson, Manitoba:

- The blockade located at the Emerson Port of Entry was established on February 10, 2022 and was determined immediately to be unlawful.
- The Manitoba RCMP worked with the protesters and organizers to reach a peaceful resolution through dialogue and a measured policing response. No tickets were issued and no arrests were made.
- On February 16, 2022, protesters voluntarily left the blockade and the border crossing was reopened.

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INTELLIGENCE AND IDEOLOGICALLY-MOTIVATED VIOLENT EXTREMISM

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Canadians have the legitimate right to protest and express disagreement with Government of Canada policy or decisions.
- Although most people participating in the Ottawa protest were motivated by a desire to end COVID-related mandates, we assessed that some ideologically motivated extremists were likely present and attempting to leverage the protest and its high profile for their own purpose.
- We knew that some of these individuals posed possible threats to national security.
- Although no formal organized violent plot was identified during the protest in Ottawa, the potential for serious violence by a lone actor or fringe group was never discounted.
- We were fortunate that there was no organized plot of violence as we witnessed in Coutts, Alberta.
- The RCMP investigates persons who are suspected of being engaged in criminal activity, including offences related to terrorist entities. Our investigations target criminal activity that threatens the safety and security of Canadians.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

OPP Commissioner Thomas Carrique has stated that intelligence indicated that the convoy posed a national security threat on or about February 7th. Does the RCMP agree with this assessment?

- The RCMP works closely with the OPP and all of its policing partners and this includes the sharing of intelligence information.
- Although I cannot get into operational specifics, it was known to the RCMP that there were some individuals within the convoy who posed potential threats to national security.
- Once a nexus to national security is identified, the RCMP assumes the lead on the investigation and works collaboratively with other police services to ensure that the threat is addressed.

According to the RCMP's assessment, were there IMV extremists among the convoy's participants?

- Although the majority of individuals participating in the Ottawa protest were motivated by a desire to end COVID-related mandates, some individuals assessed to be possible ideologically motivated extremists were present and attempting to leverage the Convoy's platform and its high profile in Ottawa and across the country.

If pressed for further details on what law enforcement knew:

- These individuals were either known to law enforcement before the convoy's events or identified during the convoy by their online presence espousing racially motivated, ethno-nationalist, of anti-government or anti-authority grievances and in many cases espousing threats to violence in the name of these grievances.

Did the majority of convoy participants also demonstrate elements of IMVE?

- Most participants of the protests in Ottawa expressed frustrations with COVID restrictions and government health mandates.
- While this could be considered as an ideological motivation, it is not a violent one and does not fall within the categories associated with ideologically-motivated violent extremism or ideologically-motivated violent criminality.
- However, some ideologically motivated extremists appeared to try to leverage this platform as a mechanism to air their grievances, particularly those aimed at the government.
- Some of these grievances expressed an intent that could be perceived as potentially violent or extreme.

Did the presence of these individuals at the Ottawa protests constitute any form of criminality?

- The presence of ideologically motivated extremists does not necessarily mean ideologically motivated criminality or ideologically motivated violence will occur.
- It is important to remember that the government does not criminalize personal beliefs and police do not investigate belief.

If pressed further on elements of criminality:

- Expressions of hatred, regardless of how unacceptable they may be, do not typically meet criminal standards unless police hold evidence that demonstrates the statements were in a public place and incited hatred against an identifiable group where it is likely to lead to a breach of the peace.

- The belief itself is not criminal, rather it is the mobilization of belief to action – like inciting hatred against an identifiable group, threatening violence, or committing a violent act – that can be criminal.

What advice did you provide the Government (Minister/PM) regarding the invocation of the EA?

- I briefed the Prime Minister, Ministers, and senior officials, throughout the crisis and provided regular situational awareness updates.
- Some of the considerations at the time of those briefings were:
 - The illegal blockades and occupations taking place;
 - The situation in Ottawa; and
 - The support that the RCMP was providing to law enforcement partners in Ontario and across Canada.

Did the RCMP have any tangible evidence to suggest a link between terrorist threat related activity and the protests occurring nationwide?

- The RCMP was aware of the presence of some individuals and groups that fell under the category of IMVE.
- The RCMP had several files on individuals and/or groups where there was a concern from a “threat to public safety” perspective.

If pressed for further details about potential investigations:

- As there is an ongoing criminal investigation and civil lawsuits, the RCMP is not able to provide any information at this time.

At any point throughout the protests in Ottawa, was there ever the threat of a serious organized violent plot in Ottawa?

- Although the potential for serious violence by a lone actor or fringe groups was never discounted, no formal organized violent plot was identified during the duration of the protests in Ottawa.
- While there was no organized violent plot in Ottawa, a cache of firearms, ammunition and body armour was seized at the Coutts, Alberta, border crossing with markings from the extremist militia known as Diagon. This demonstrates the concern of groups with extremist agendas infiltrating larger protests.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYTICAL TOOLS

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- The police are responsible for preventing, detecting and investigating crime to protect the communities they serve.
- As such, the police must have an awareness of online activities and constantly keep pace with the emergence of new technologies.
- The analysis of open source information, including social media, can help detect threats to public safety.
- The RCMP does not access private communications, including private emails and text messages, without a judicial authorization.
- The RCMP's open source activities are in relation to mandated enforcement initiatives and follow rigorous Government of Canada and departmental legislation and policies.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

What is the RCMP's role/involvement in monitoring social media? Please discuss and explain all tools and techniques used.

- The RCMP may maintain situational awareness and collect open source information, including from social media, in relation to emerging and/or ongoing events.
- The RCMP may leverage social media analytical tools that yield results similar to what the general public would uncover using the internet.
- The RCMP's use of social media analytical tools adhere to rigorous departmental regulations and Government of Canada legislation and policies, including the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and *Privacy Act*.

Did the RCMP monitor any protest activity prior to or during the crisis?

- The RCMP maintains situational awareness of certain ideologically-motivated violent extremist groups who have been using the COVID-19 pandemic to spread

propaganda, exacerbate social tensions, encourage criminal or violent actions, and undermine trust in public institutions and government.

If pressed on whether the RCMP engaged with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner:

- The RCMP engaged the Office of the Privacy Commissioner in relation to the enforcement responses against illegal activity during the Freedom Convoy occupations.
 - The open source information leveraged assisted with the identification of threats and investigative leads related to the convoy occupation against public safety, officer safety, Internationally Protected Persons, and critical infrastructure.
 - The RCMP will continue to work with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner on this matter and adhere to departmental regulations and Government of Canada legislation and policies.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

MEMBER CONDUCT

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Public trust is essential for the RCMP to effectively serve and protect Canadians. As a result, RCMP employees must conduct themselves in a manner that meets the rightfully high expectations of Canadians.
- All RCMP employees, whether Regular Members, Civilian Members or Public Services employees, are subject to a Code of Conduct and the Treasury Board Values and Ethics Code for the Public Sector.
- RCMP employees represent one of Canada's most iconic police organizations. Canadians look to each of us to set an example and uphold a standard that is fair, professional, unbiased and honourable.
- Contraventions of the Code of Conduct are taken seriously and the RCMP is committed to handling conduct issues in a responsive, timely, efficient and fair manner.

If pressed on former and current members participating in the protests:

- The RCMP is aware that past and former members participated in, or potentially supported the protests in some manner. The RCMP is still in the process of following up on these matters.
- Generally, only in the event that an investigation results in the laying of criminal charges would the RCMP confirm its investigation, the nature of any charges laid and the identity of the individual(s) involved.

If pressed on the right to employee freedom of expression:

- Due to the legitimate public interest in an impartial and effective public service, a public service employee's right to freedom of expression is not absolute.
- It must be balanced against the employee's duty of loyalty to the employer and the Government of Canada.
- The type of discipline warranted would depend on the facts of the case and could potentially range from a warning up to dismissal.

If pressed on employee use of social media:

- I am aware of the material that circulated on social media pertaining to a chat group that included some of our members, and can confirm that we are looking into the matter.
- This material is not representative of those who have committed themselves to serving Canadians with integrity and professionalism.
- As Canada's national police force, the RCMP is held to a high standard by the public we serve. RCMP members' use of social media must align with these standards.
- All members of the RCMP know that, whether on or off duty, they have a responsibility to hold themselves to the highest professional standards and are subject to the Code of Conduct of the RCMP at all times.
 - This includes acting with integrity, fairness, and impartiality, and avoiding any potential conflicts between their professional responsibilities and private interests.
- We have put measures in place to ensure the continued integrity of police operations as well as the safety of our members.

If pressed on current police-involved incidents as a result of the demonstrations:

- The Ontario Province's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) launched investigations into two police-involved incidents that occurred at the demonstrations in Ottawa.
- The first incident suggests that on February 18, 2022, a Toronto Police Service officer on a horse and a 49-year-old woman on Rideau Street and Mackenzie Avenue. The woman has a reported serious injury.
 - On April 4, 2022, the SIU announced that it had closed its investigation into this incident, as the woman's injury was limited to a strained shoulder, which does not fall under the SIU's mandate of a 'serious injury'.
- The second incident suggests that on February 19, 2022, Vancouver Police Department officers discharged Anti-Riot Weapon Enfields (less-lethal firearms) at individuals in the area of Sparks Street and Bank Street. No injuries have been reported at this time.
- I cannot comment further on these SIU investigations.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

SYSTEMIC RACISM IN POLICING

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- Managing protests and protesters respectfully and within the rule of law is always a priority and a preoccupation of the RCMP.
- We understand that it is imperative that policing agencies in Canada take concrete action to identify and address the admittedly longstanding issues of systemic racism in policing.
- The RCMP has developed and is implementing a comprehensive series of actions that promote Equity and Accountability and build Trust across the organization and in the carrying out of its mandates in service to communities.
- Using funds provided through Budget 2021, the RCMP has set processes in motion that will address systemic racism in all areas where the RCMP has a mandate to preserve the peace and maintain public safety.

If pressed on Coastal Gas Link protests:

- The RCMP frequently finds itself in a variety of roles during a protest, including facilitating engagement amongst stakeholders such as private companies and protestors, as well as liaising with various governing entities.
- There is significant benefit for all levels of government to engage with private companies and protest groups prior to the company seeking a Civil Injunction and Enforcement Clause, which places the RCMP in a situation where eventually enforcement action is required.
- The RCMP is taking considerable positive actions towards reconciliation with Indigenous communities and peoples, which is rendered more challenging when it is placed in an enforcement posture.

If pressed on the approach to Indigenous protestors versus convoy protestors:

- The RCMP is taking the necessary actions to maintain order during this challenging period for the country, all while respecting the rights and freedoms of Canadians engaged in lawful assembly and moving the organization forward on its change agenda.
- The RCMP is steadfast in its resolve to improve trust between Black, Indigenous and racialized communities and the RCMP.

If pressed on specific actions the RCMP has taken to address systemic racism:

- Mandatory anti-racism training for all employees, adding anti-racism content in the curriculum for new cadets, and improving de-escalation strategies are but a few of the many concrete and integrated initiatives that are in progress.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

CHRONOLOGY OF FREEDOM CONVOY ACTIVITIES NATIONWIDE

- January 25, 2022
 - Freedom Convoy from British Colombia entered Ontario
- January 27, 2022
 - Freedom Convoy from Windsor, Fort Erie, Vaughn, and Woodstock en route to Ottawa
- **January 28, 2022**
 - **Convoys started arriving in Ottawa**
- **January 29, 2022**
 - **Coutts, Alberta blockade established**
- January 30, 2022
 - Convoy organizers host news conference in Ottawa
- January 31, 2022
 - House of Commons resumes sitting
 - Initial meeting with OPS Chief Sloly and OPP and RCMP Commissioner.
- February 1, 2022
 - RCMP enforcement activities begin at Coutts, Alberta
- **February 2, 2022**
 - Leader of Official Opposition resigns
 - **RCMP begins to send resources to support OPS**
- February 3, 2022
 - Mayor of Ottawa request federal resources to support OPS
 - OACP Emergency Management Committee begins daily coordination briefings
- February 4, 2022
 - Numerous Quebec convoys enter Ottawa and surrounding area
 - Local towing companies reject OPS request for assistance
- February 5, 2022
 - Multiple farm tractor convoys arrive in Ottawa and surrounding area

- **February 6, 2022**
 - **City of Ottawa declares a State of Emergency**
 - Blue Water Bridge blocked; POE closed
- **February 7, 2022**
 - **Ontario Superior Court grants injunction in Ottawa (honking)**
 - Ambassador Bridge blocked; POE closed
- **February 8, 2022**
 - Ambassador Bridge; POE open for limited US bound traffic
 - Blue Water Bridge reopens; traffic delayed
- **February 9, 2022**
 - **Ontario Superior Court grants injunction (fireworks, noise, idling trucks)**
- **February 10, 2022**
 - **First Incident Response Group (IRG) meeting**
 - Ontario Superior Court grants request to freeze accounts
 - **Emerson, Manitoba: POE blockade begins**
- **February 11, 2022**
 - **Ontario declares State of Emergency**
 - Ontario Superior Court grants injunction for Ambassador Bridge
 - Ontario Court freezes access to crowdsourcing GoFundMe fund
 - Alberta Court of Queen's Bench grants injunction in City of Edmonton (honking)
- **February 12, 2022**
 - **Second IRG and Cabinet meeting**
 - **Integrated Command Centre (OPS, OPP, RCMP, and SQ) established in Ottawa**
 - Police remove protesters from Ambassador Bridge; POE remains closed
 - **Highway to Pacific Highway crossing at POE is blocked**
- **February 13, 2022**
 - **Third IRG and Cabinet meeting**
 - Mayor of Ottawa offers to meet with organizer Tamara Lich
 - Police gain control of Ambassador Bridge; POE remains closed
- **February 14, 2022**
 - **Government of Canada announces *Emergencies Act* invocation**
 - **Coutts, Alberta: RCMP arrests of individuals and seizes of firearms**
 - Ambassador Bridge: POE re-opens to commercial and traveler traffic

- **February 15, 2022**
 - ***Emergencies Act proclamation: Emergency Measures Regulations and Emergency Economic Measures Order* issued**
 - OPS Chief Slowly resigns; Interim Chief Bell appointed
 - **ICC establishes enforcement plan**
 - **Coutts, Alberta; POE operations resume**
 - **Pacific Highway: POE operations resume**
- **February 16, 2022**
 - Ontario Superior Court grants extension to injunction in Ottawa (honking)
 - **Emerson, Manitoba; POE operations resume**
- **February 17, 2022**
 - **OPS warnings provided to protesters to vacate NCR immediately**
 - **OPS and other law enforcement secure a perimeter; arrests begin**
 - Canadian banks start to freeze accounts linked to illegal protest activity
- **February 18, 2022**
 - Ontario Superior Court indefinitely extends Ambassador Bridge injunction
 - **Parliament closed**
 - **Complex police operations commence in Ottawa**
- **February 19, 2022**
 - Police operations in Ottawa continue
- **February 20, 2022**
 - Police operations in Ottawa continue; House of Commons debate *Emergency Act*
- **February 21, 2022:**
 - House of Commons votes on *Emergencies Act* and measures pass
 - **Police ops successfully conclude all illegal protest activity in Ottawa**
- **February 22, 2022**
 - Senate debate on *Emergency Act* starts
- **February 23, 2022**
 - **PM revokes *Emergencies Act*; Ontario terminates state of emergency**

Royal Canadian Mounted Police | Gendarmerie royale du Canada

RCMP ROLE AND JURISDICTION IN OTTAWA/PARLIAMENT HILL

RCMP SPEAKING POINTS:

- During the recent Freedom Convoy in our nation's capital, the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) was the police of jurisdiction (POJ).
- We were fully engaged with the OPS, Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), other law enforcement partners, as well as the Parliamentary Protective Service (PPS), through our National Capital Region Command Centre (NCRCC), allowing for real-time operational coordination between all partners.
- The RCMP, OPP, and OPS also established an Integrated Command Centre (ICC) to develop and oversee a joint enforcement plan under the leadership of the OPS. The PPS was in contact with the ICC throughout the incident.
- The PPS is responsible for safeguarding the physical security of the Parliament Hill and the precinct, while the RCMP is responsible for the protection of various Canadian dignitaries.
 - While the RCMP is the operational lead of the PPS, the PPS is a separate entity from other security or law enforcement partners. Wellington Street is not part of the Parliamentary Precinct.

How is OPS, PPS, and RCMP jurisdictional authority different in the NCR?

- The OPS remains the police of jurisdiction within Ottawa.
- PPS is responsible for Parliament Hill and the 34 buildings designated by the Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Commons that form the Parliamentary Precinct.
- The RCMP has both a protective policing and investigative mandate within the NCR to safeguard principal government officials and to investigate Federal Policing threats related to national security; transnational and serious organized crime; and, cybercrime.

What was the NCRCC's role/involvement during the Freedom Convoy?

- Throughout the convoy, the RCMP was engaged with its partners through its National Capital Region Command Centre (NCRCC). The NCRCC enables efficient and real-time operational coordination between law enforcement and

security partners during major events and emergencies in the NCR.

- During the Freedom Convoy, this included the RCMP, OPP, Parliamentary Protective Service, OPS and other personnel such as OC Transpo, fire services, paramedics, Sûreté du Québec and the Ville de Gatineau.
- This allowed incident commanders to make time-sensitive informed decisions when working with various policing partners.

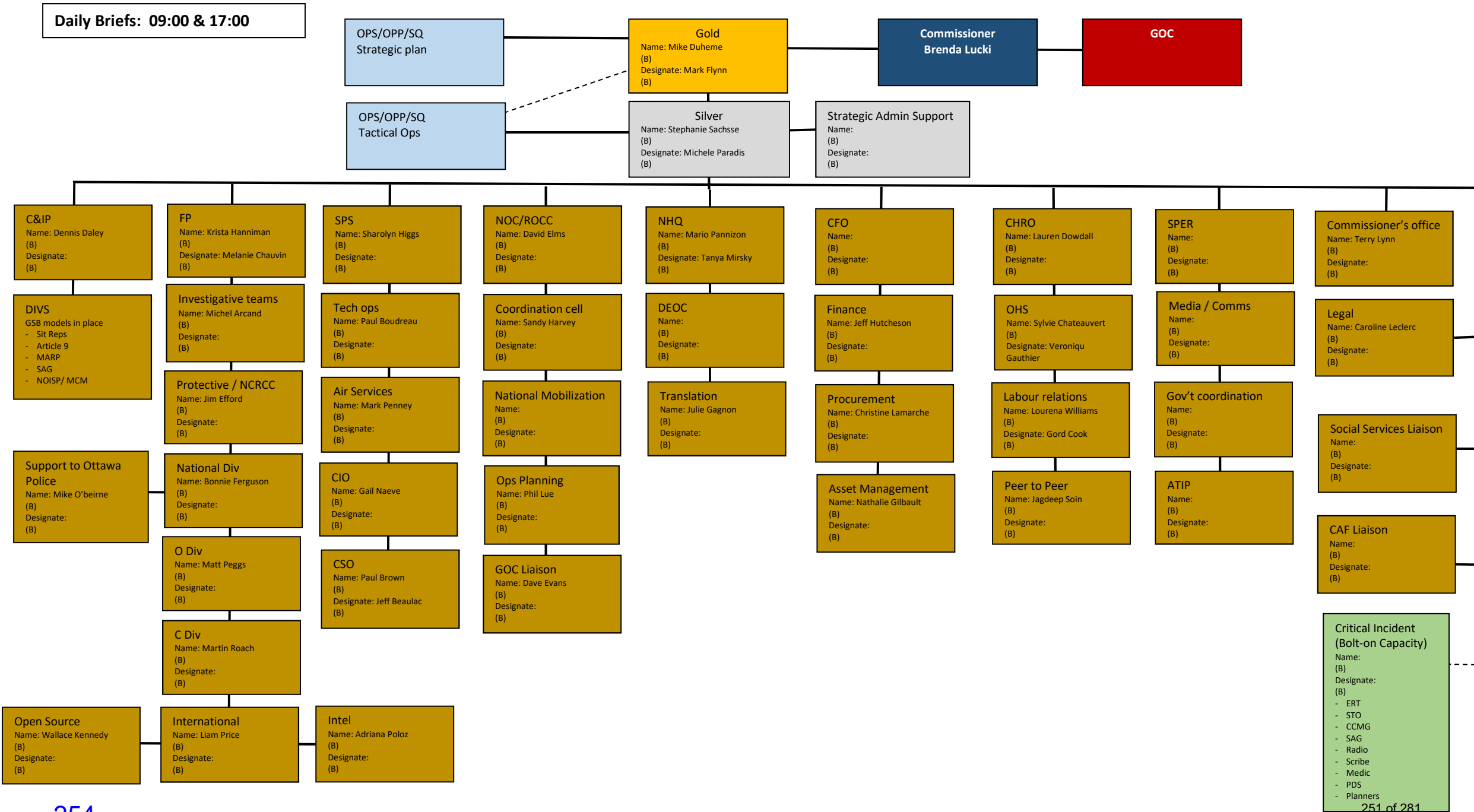
What was the RCMP's role/involvement in the ICC during the Freedom Convoy?

- Through the Integrated Command Centre, RCMP worked in partnership with OPP and OPS, who had operational command, to develop and implement a joint enforcement plan to respond to the situation in Ottawa.
- With all three partners working together the ICC was able to safely plan and execute the successful disruption of the blockade activity.
- This enhanced tri-lateral partnership is a positive example of successful domestic cooperation that resulted in securing the NCR, removing the blockades, and safeguarding public safety and security.

What was the Parliamentary Protective Service's role/involvement during the Freedom Convoy?

- Established by statute on June 23, 2015, the PPS is comprised of personnel from the former Senate Protective Service, the former House of Commons Security Services, and the RCMP's Parliament Hill Security Unit.
- PPS fulfills its physical security mandate throughout the grounds of Parliament Hill and the 34 buildings designated by the Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Commons that form the Parliamentary Precinct.
- During the Freedom Convoy in the NCR, the PPS had in place its own critical incident command centre that was in communication with the NCRCC and ICC. The PPS also held a position alongside other essential services at the NCRCC to ensure open communications and timely decision making.
- PPS maintained its operational and physical security mandate in protecting parliamentarians, parliamentary staff, employees and visitors to the Precinct and to Parliament Hill.
- The Acting Director PPS was responsible for briefing the House of Commons and Senate.

FREEDOM CONVOY GOLD SILVER BRONZE COMMAND STRUCTURE



FEDERAL COURT

B E T W E E N:

CANADIAN FRONTLINE NURSES AND KRISTEN NAGLE

Applicants

and

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA

Respondent

AFFIDAVIT OF DENIS BEAUDOIN

FEDERAL COURT

B E T W E E N:

CANADIAN CIVIL LIBERTIES ASSOCIATION

Applicant

and

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA

Respondent

AFFIDAVIT OF DENIS BEAUDOIN

FEDERAL COURT

B E T W E E N:

CANADIAN CONSTITUTION FOUNDATION

Applicant

and

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA

Respondent

AFFIDAVIT OF DENIS BEAUDOIN

FEDERAL COURT

B E T W E E N:

JEREMIAH JOST, EDWARD CORNELL, VINCENT GIRCYS, and HAROLD RISTAU

Applicants

and

**GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL, HER MAJESTY IN RIGHT OF CANADA, ATTORNEY
GENERAL OF CANADA, and MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS**

Respondents

AFFIDAVIT OF DENIS BEAUDOIN

I, Denis Beaudoin, of the city of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario, swear that:

1. I am a superintendent for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). My current position is Director of Financial Crime, Federal Policing Criminal Operations. I have served in this position since 2021. My responsibilities in this role include overseeing financial crime operations for the RCMP nationally.
2. In this capacity, I was responsible for overseeing the use of the economic measures put in place under the Emergencies Act proclamation. I developed the process used by the RCMP for verifying and sharing information with financial institutions as described below. As such, I have personal knowledge of the information in my affidavit.

Economic Order and Regulations

3. On February 15, 2022, the Governor General in Council enacted the Emergency Economic Measures Order found at P.C. 2022-108 of the CTR (the Order), as well as the Emergencies Measures Regulations found at P.C. 2022-107 of the CTR (the Regulations), pursuant to its proclamation the previous day that a public order emergency existed.
4. On February 23, 2022, the Order and Regulations were revoked and ceased to apply.
5. The Order and Regulations did not apply retroactively and applied only to individuals who acted in contravention of sections 2 to 5 of the Regulations between February 15 and 23, 2022.

Objective and Scope of the Order and Regulations

6. The RCMP's primary role with respect to implementing the measures was to provide financial service providers with information gathered by police about people and companies potentially involved in illegal activities, which the financial service providers could use to ensure their compliance with the Order.
7. The Order gave financial institutions the ability to freeze financial products of individuals and companies involved in prohibited activities and gave law enforcement authority to share information with financial institutions with the ultimate goal to end illegal acts peacefully.

Implementation of the Order

8. Neither the Order nor Regulations specified a procedure through which financial service providers would identify individuals or entities that met the definition of "designated person" under the Order.

9. In practice, the police provided financial service providers with information about particular individuals or entities, which the financial service providers could use in conjunction with other information at their disposal to make their own determinations about whether they needed to take steps to comply with the Order.
10. Once the Order came into effect, the RCMP worked closely with municipal and provincial policing partners, including the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and Ottawa Police Service (OPS), to collect relevant information regarding persons, vehicles and entities that were believed to be directly or indirectly involved in prohibited activities.
11. The RCMP served as the conduit for sharing all information between police and financial service providers. The OPP and OPS provided the RCMP with relevant information in their possession and the RCMP validated this information and then shared it with financial service providers. I attach as **Exhibit "A"** a copy of a blank template that the RCMP used to provide the information it described, if available, to financial institutions.
12. During the eight days that the Order was in place from February 15 to 23, 2022, the RCMP disclosed information to banks, the Canadian Bankers Association, the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada, the Canadian Securities Administrators, credit unions, and the Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada.
13. The RCMP shared two main types of information with financial service providers: information obtained from the OPP and OPS regarding individuals already identified as part of their criminal investigations into the illegal protests and blockades; and information regarding trucks and other vehicles located in downtown Ottawa.
14. Initially, the RCMP shared with financial service providers the identities of 15 entities that the OPP and OPS had identified as suspects of their criminal investigation. Financial service providers used this information to determine whether to take action in order to comply with their obligations under the Order.
15. With respect to the second type of information, the OPP collected licence plate information and other identifying information of vehicles blockading downtown Ottawa. The RCMP then collected information from police and public sources to corroborate the presence of individuals and vehicles in the illegal protest. This information was then shared with financial service providers so that they could decide whether to take action in order to comply with the Order.
16. The RCMP and other law enforcement agencies focused their efforts on identifying and disclosing information pertaining to individuals and entities who were actively involved in illegal action, either by organizing or influencing the illegal activities or by being present at the illegal protest.

17. The RCMP did not disclose information pertaining to those who made donations in support of the protests or who purchased merchandise supporting the protests as it would have had no immediate impact to end the protest peacefully.
18. The RCMP communicated information to financial institutions but did not advise on the methods financial institutions should use to ensure compliance with the Order.
19. In a number of instances, the RCMP decided to not disclose information to the financial service providers following the investigative phase. The reasons for not disclosing were that there was not enough information to believe the person or entity was involved, the plate was invalid in the police database system, the person was attempting to leave but was unable, or it was no longer believed the person or entity was involved (either left on their own accord or were removed by police).
20. In total, the RCMP disclosed information on approximately 57 entities and individuals to financial service providers and approximately 257 accounts were frozen by financial institutions pursuant to the Order. Some individuals or entities had multiple accounts or services frozen.
21. Additionally, the RCMP identified and disclosed 170 Bitcoin wallet addresses to virtual currency financial service providers via a series of cryptocurrency alerts. These accounts received funds linked to the HonkHonkHodl crowdfunding campaign, which raised 20.7 Bitcoin with a value of between \$1 million to \$1.2 million during the period during which the Order was in force. No personal information was included in those alerts and this information was available publicly. I attach the three cryptocurrency alerts provided by the RCMP to financial service providers as **Exhibit "B"**.
22. The alerts noted that these e-wallets were linked to a joint RCMP and OPP/OPS investigation and directed the providers to cease facilitating transactions involving these e-wallets and to disclose relevant transaction information to the RCMP.
23. The RCMP clearly communicated to these electronic financial service providers that the Order was not to be applied retroactively and could only be applied while the Order was in effect.
24. Although the RCMP did not give information to financial institutions to enable them to freeze accounts of persons who had donated for use in the convoys and illegal blockades, some information was publicly available about donations that had been made to "GiveSendGo" for use in the illegal blockades.

Efforts to Minimize Negative Impact

25. The RCMP attempted to contact many of the individuals or entities whose information was to be disclosed to financial service providers, in order to re-confirm their ongoing participation in prohibited activities. For example, a number of individuals contacted by the RCMP confirmed that they were participating in the blockade in Ottawa and that they refused to leave. At that point, the RCMP advised the individuals of the Order and the risk that their bank accounts could be frozen.
26. Some people indicated when contacted that they wanted to leave, but were not in a position to do so because the streets were not cleared. These people were instructed to be ready and to make sure their truck was ready to leave when the streets were cleared. The information on these persons was not provided to the financial service providers.
27. The persons identified by the OPS and the OPP as suspects in their criminal investigation were not contacted prior to their information being shared.
28. After the illegal blockade was cleared, the RCMP reached out to some people to ascertain if it was their intention to return. Some indicated that they were not going back because they did not want their accounts frozen.
29. The Order imposed on financial service providers a duty to determine on a continuous basis if they were in possession of property owned, held or controlled by or on behalf of a designated person. Individuals who had their account frozen would have to contact their financial service provider to make arrangements to unfreeze their account. They could do this as soon as they stopped participating in the activities targeted by the Order. The RCMP facilitated this process by remaining in communication with financial service providers to assist them in assessing the involvement of their clients in the illegal activities.
30. On February 21, 2022, the RCMP communicated with the financial service providers and advised them that, without taking into account independent information available to financial entities, the RCMP no longer believes the individuals or entities disclosed were engaged in conduct or activities prohibited under the EMR, and therefore no longer met the criteria of a designated person under the Order. Attached as **Exhibit "C"** is an email with the subject line "Emergency Economic Measures Order (EEMO) - SITUATIONAL UPDATE."
31. Attached as **Exhibit "D"** is a copy of the RCMP statement about the unfreezing of accounts released by the RCMP on February 23, 2022.
32. The RCMP did not share information with insurance providers because the goal remained to facilitate a peaceful end to the blockade by allowing fully insured drivers to remove their vehicles from downtown Ottawa of their own volition.

33. As far as I am aware, all accounts that were frozen under the Order are now unfrozen.

Utility of the Order

34. The powers granted under the Order allowed the RCMP and other law enforcement agencies to work closely with Canadian financial institutions to implement asset freezes that strongly encouraged individuals to leave the illegal protests and deter the counselling of others to engage in prohibited activities. It also deterred protesters from staying in the area and coming back.
35. I believe the additional powers allowed by the Order played a role to resolve effectively an unprecedented, urgent, and rapidly evolving situation. The information the RCMP provided to financial service providers helped incentivize many involved in the blockade of downtown Ottawa to leave peacefully and minimized the risk of a violent end to the blockades by depriving those engaged in prohibited activities of access to funds.

Applicants Edward Cornell and Vincent Gircys

36. The RCMP disclosed the names of the Applicants, Edward Cornell and Vincent Gircys to financial institutions due to their overt participation in prohibited activities in Ottawa.
37. Both Mr. Cornell and Mr. Gircys participated in a press conference on February 16, 2022 at which they urged people to come to Ottawa to participate in prohibited activities. The press conference is posted on Instagram at [Kristen Nagle on Instagram: "Press conference with Daniel Bulford, Vincent Gircys, Eddie Cornell."](#)
38. I make this affidavit in response to the applications for judicial review in court file numbers T-306-22, T-347-22, T-316-22, and T-382-22 and for no other or improper purpose.

SWORN BEFORE ME at the City of
Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario
this 4th day of April, 2022


A Notary Public in and for the
Province of Ontario

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DENIS BEAUDOIN

Marc Germain Tremblay, a Commissioner etc.,
Province of Ontario, for the Government of Canada,
Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness.
Expires November 25, 2022.

This is Exhibit "A" referred to in the
affidavit of

Denis Beaudoin

sworn before me this April 04/2022
day of April A.D., 2022



Notary Public in and for
the Province of Ontario

**Marc Germain Tremblay, a Commissioner etc.,
Province of Ontario, for the Government of Canada,
Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness.
Expires November 25, 2022.**



File 2022-198524

Disclosure of Information

The following report is made pursuant to the *Emergency Economic Measures Order (SOR/2022-22)* and *Emergency Measures Regulations (SOR/2022-21)* enacted under the *Emergencies Act* on February 15th, 2022.

I, _____, am a regular member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), currently posted to the RCMP's National Division (Ottawa area). I am engaged in the collection and disclosure of information to entities that have a duty to determine as defined in Section 3 of the *Emergency Economic Measures Order*.

The information being disclosed is relevant to individuals or entities that are engaged, directly or indirectly, in an activity prohibited by sections 2 to 5 of the above noted *Emergency Measures Regulations*.

The specific disclosure is related to the following individuals or entities:

The information collected has been compiled and summarized in the attached Appendix "A".

This document is the property of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). It is loaned to your agency on the understanding that it is not to be further disseminated, reclassified, or used in affidavits, court proceedings, or other legal or judicial process without the consent of the originator. Distribution within your agency is to be done on a need-to-know basis. The document is to be protected in accordance with normal safeguards for law enforcement information. Please contact the sender for any clarifications regarding the information or the caveat.

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APPENDIX "A"



VEHICLE PROFILE

Registered Owner

Name:

DOB :

Address (last known) :

Date of search:

Complete by :

Vehicle information

- XXX

Database checks

CPIC:

- XXX

PROS:

- XXX

PIP:

- XXXX

Open Source

Social Media Queries

Facebook:

Twitter:

LinkedIn:

Other:

Corporate Checks

Company involved:

Company Inquiries (reach out /call)

Company's involvement:

Vehicle Involved

Synopsis:

OCC Cameras

Observations:

Other Relevant Information

Information collected:

This is Exhibit "B" referred to in the
affidavit of

Denis Beaudoin

sworn before me this April 04, 2022
day of April A.D., 2022



Notary Public in and for
the Province of Ontario

**Marc Germain Tremblay, a Commissioner etc.,
Province of Ontario, for the Government of Canada,
Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness.
Expires November 25, 2022.**

CRYPTOCURRENCY ALERT

The Ontario Provincial Police and Royal Canadian Mounted Police are currently investigating cryptocurrency donations being collected in relation to illegal acts falling under the scope of the *Emergency Measures Act*.

Pursuant to the *Emergency Economic Measures Order*, under subsection 19(1) of the *Emergencies Act*, there is a duty to cease facilitating any transactions pertaining to the following cryptocurrency address(es):

Any information about a transaction or proposed transaction in respect of these address(es), is to be disclosed immediately to the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, at CryptocurrencyNHQ-CryptomonnaieDG@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

Asset	Address
LTC	ltc1qqhzc2dflesccd5gx6ugqqgcplzakrk8wvxl8zq
ADA	addr1qxwxppd3ahfsh43f88h4jn8ngrum64fe6meck3nnwkwgtsp6elsk4xhyrdtm5v6tnq3ulw9u9gcmvkhjr4xcu3sm60hqtz3wuy
XMR	423nPDQqsPrAAGFSHaUBMrYQQCgb2562iLLWu1dZyEGEGsaxvfpNxWtDjreSUzwqWQCxi6GrSz8jtYWjS4pW9mK9DoBVDWo
ETH	0x859481ef7dac321078547f50c756c8924eab183f
ETC	0x88cd1d4611d456357ef8620450d3121672305d03
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Thank you for your assistance with this investigation,

CryptocurrencyNHQ-CryptomonnaieDG@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

CRYPTOCURRENCY ALERT

The Ontario Provincial Police and Royal Canadian Mounted Police are currently investigating cryptocurrency donations being collected in relation to illegal acts falling under the scope of the *Emergency Act*.

Pursuant to the *Emergency Economic Measures Order*, under subsection 19(1) of the *Emergencies Act*, there is a duty to cease facilitating any transactions pertaining to the following cryptocurrency address(es):

Any information about a transaction or proposed transaction in respect of these address(es), is to be disclosed immediately to the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, at CryptocurrencyNHQ-CryptomonnaieDG@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

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Thank you for your assistance with this investigation, CryptocurrencyNHQ-CryptomonnaieDG@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.



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bc1qz4632qm3eqmev8ja3mv99xrqhycvltstq0cawk
bc1qz7c3yl38ayfm8c5q98mng08cwjq2zrjxejl74n
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bc1qzlh6l5wyppw86vxc2hxswa4zskc9fdghfyv6pl
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bc1qzrz3ap086sq5pwwyp8le0vccdn4j0rjsr9az76
bc1qzzt7hls8339j9lu9eegmtv9x8y66n40qvl6d5

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

CryptocurrencyNHQ-CryptomonnaieDG@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

This is Exhibit "C" referred to in the
affidavit of

Denis Beaudoin

sworn before me this April 04/2022
day of April A.D., 2022



Notary Public in and for
the Province of Ontario

**Marc Germain Tremblay, a Commissioner etc.,
Province of Ontario, for the Government of Canada,
Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness.
Expires November 25, 2022.**

From: [FPCO Financial Crime / OCPF Criminalité Financière](#)
Sent: February 21, 2022 1:14 PM
To: [FPCO Financial Crime / OCPF Criminalité Financière](#)
Subject: RE: Emergency Economic Measures Order (EEMO) - SITUATIONAL UPDATE

Good day,

Following the publishing of the *Emergency Economic Measures Act* (EEMO), the RCMP and its policing partners have provided you information regarding specific individuals and entities in an effort to contribute to the application of the EEMO by assisting to identify property belonging to people who were engaged in the illegal activities set out in the *Emergency Measures Regulations* (EMR). Following these disclosures, financial assets were frozen.

Not taking into account independent information available to financial entities, the RCMP no longer believes the above-mentioned individuals or entities are engaged in conduct or activities prohibited under the EMR, and therefore no longer meet the criteria of a designated person under the Order.

As the law is still currently in effect, listed entities must determine on a continuing basis whether they are in possession or control of property that is owned, held or controlled by, or on behalf of, a designated person.

Should information about designated persons becomes available, the RCMP may decide to disclose further information to financial entities to contribute to the application of the EEMO.

Thank you,
Kelley

Kelley Hughes (Cpl.)

Federal Policing Criminal Operations - Financial Crime (FPCO-FC) |
Opérations criminelles de la Police fédérale – Criminalité Financière (OCPF-CF)
Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) | Gendarmerie royale du Canada (GRC)
National Headquarters | Direction générale
Ottawa, ON
Phone/Tél: (343) 550-7279

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From: FPCO Financial Crime / OCPF Criminalité Financière
Sent: February 21, 2022 12:23 PM
To: FPCO Financial Crime / OCPF Criminalité Financière <FPCOFC-OCPFCF@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Subject: Emergency Economic Measures Order (EEMO) - SITUATIONAL UPDATE

Good afternoon,

We would like to reassure you that it remains our priority to communicate information that may assist listed entities with their assessment to unfreeze financial products related to the disclosures of designated person information.

Although we are not currently in a position to do that yet, we anticipate being able to provide you with relevant information later this afternoon.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we work through this complex time together.

Kelley

Kelley Hughes (Cpl.)

Federal Policing Criminal Operations - Financial Crime (FPCO-FC) |
Opérations criminelles de la Police fédérale – Criminalité Financière (OCPF-CF)
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This is Exhibit "D" referred to in the
affidavit of

Denis Beaudoin

sworn before me this April 04, 2022
day of April A.D., 2022



Notary Public in and for
the Province of Ontario

**Marc Germain Tremblay, a Commissioner etc.,
Province of Ontario, for the Government of Canada,
Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness.
Expires November 25, 2022.**



STATEMENT

Enforcement under the *Emergencies Act – Unfreezing of accounts*

The *Emergencies Act* has allowed law enforcement and monitoring agencies to work more closely with Canadian financial institutions; which has enhanced the effectiveness of law enforcement's investigations pertaining to the illegal convoy protests.

The RCMP and its policing partners used the Emergency Economic Measures Order to strongly encourage individuals to leave the illegal protests and deter them from counselling others to commit criminal offences.

The RCMP provided relevant information to financial institutions, who have the onus to determine which financial products should be frozen, pertaining to entities (i.e. individuals or companies) believed to be involved in illegal acts. As previously stated, at no time did the RCMP disclose information on donors or on those who purchased merchandise.

As of February 21, 2022, the RCMP has gone back to financial institutions with some updated information about certain entities whose status may have changed pertaining to the illegal protest activity. This new information can be assessed alongside all other information to help inform decisions to unfreeze certain accounts.

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DÉCLARATION

Application de la loi en vertu de la *Loi sur les mesures d'urgence* – Dégel de comptes

La *Loi sur les mesures d'urgence* a permis aux organismes d'application de la loi et de surveillance de collaborer plus étroitement avec les institutions financières canadiennes et d'ainsi accroître l'efficacité des enquêtes policières sur les manifestations illégales entourant le convoi de la liberté.

La GRC et ses partenaires policiers ont eu recours au *Décret sur les mesures économiques d'urgence* pour encourager fortement des individus à quitter les lieux des manifestations illégales et les dissuader de conseiller à d'autres personnes de commettre des infractions criminelles.

La GRC a fourni aux institutions financières, qui ont la responsabilité de déterminer quels produits financiers doivent être gelés, des renseignements pertinents au sujet d'entités (individus ou entreprises) que l'on croit participer à des actes illégaux. Comme il a été déclaré précédemment, la GRC n'a à aucun moment divulgué de renseignements sur des donateurs ou des personnes qui ont acheté des marchandises.

En date du 21 février 2022, la GRC a transmis des renseignements actualisés aux institutions financières sur certaines entités dont la situation peut avoir changé relativement aux manifestations illégales. Ces nouveaux renseignements peuvent être évalués au même titre que toutes les autres informations disponibles afin d'éclairer les décisions relatives au dégel de certains comptes.

FEDERAL COURT

B E T W E E N:

CANADIAN FRONTLINE NURSES AND KRISTEN NAGLE

Applicants

and

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA

Respondent

AFFIDAVIT OF DENIS BEAUDOIN
