



Foreign Threats and Indigenous Police Leadership

Calvin Chrustie – Senior Partner

WHY THIS CONVERSATION MATTERS



Global **instability** increasing.



Intense **competition** over:



ARCTIC
ACCESS



CRITICAL
MINERALS



ENERGY



DATA



INFRASTRUCTURE



INFLUENCE



Criminal and **foreign-state** activity
increasingly overlap.



Hybrid threats target **communities** —
not just governments.



ARE POLICE LEADERS **PREPARED** FOR THE EVOLVING THREAT LANDSCAPE?



**NATIONAL
LEVEL**



**PROVINCIAL
LEVEL**



**MUNICIPAL
LEVEL**



**INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITY LEVEL**

PRESENTATION CONTENT



1

UNDERSTANDING THE THREATS

2

UNDERSTANDING THE VULNERABILITIES

3

THE WAY FORWARD



THREAT ACTOR PERSPECTIVE | DEEP INTEL INSIGHTS | GLOBAL SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS

CRT
CRITICAL RISK TEAM

Part 1 - The Threats

“ *I would say 10, 15...years ago
we would have not used the
term cartel* ”

PM's National Security Advisor - Feb 2025



YESTERDAY'S FOREIGN THREAT



TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME & NATIONAL SECURITY



Transnational Organized Crime Is No Longer Just a Policing Issue.

KEY THREATS



Fentanyl



Money Laundering



Cyber-Enabled Fraud



Illicit Finance



Extortion &
Illegal Gaming



WHY IT MATTERS



Generates funds
for bad actors



Creates the ecosystem
for foreign states to
carry out illicit
operations



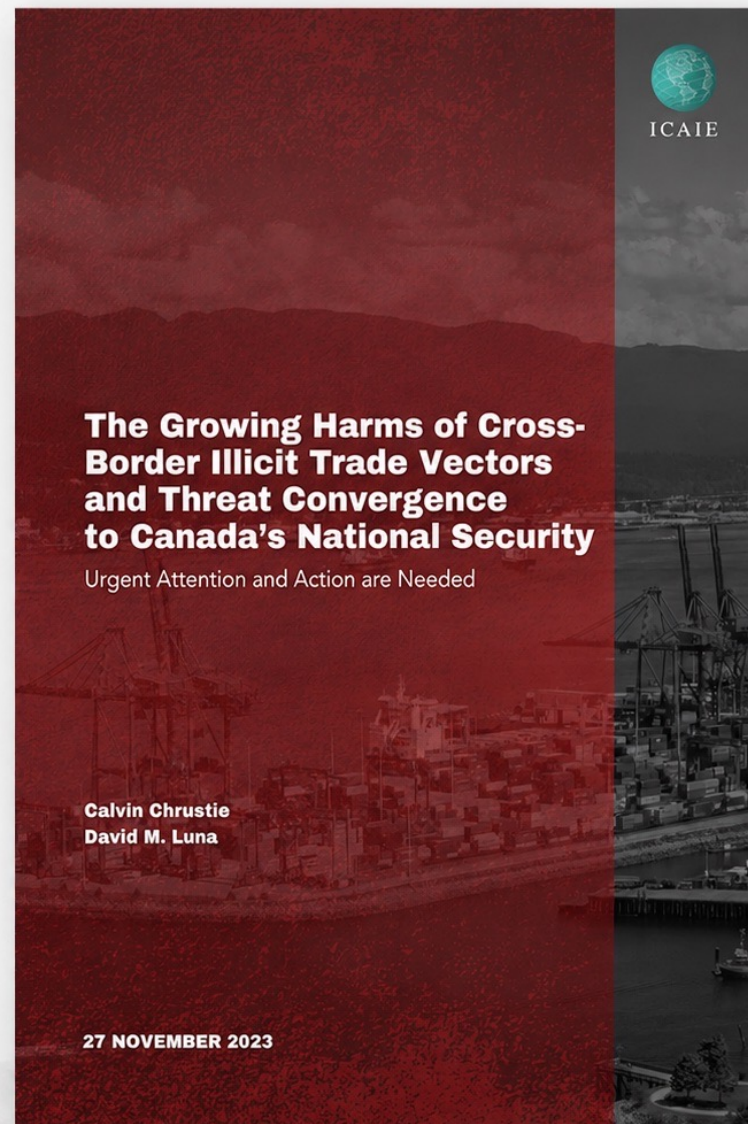
Weakens communities
and institutions



Exploits governance
gaps

Recommended Reading

Canadian landscape



ILLICIT FINANCE, FOREIGN INVESTMENT, INFLUENCE & **GOVERNANCE PRESSURE**

Strategic Influence Can Arrive Through Economic Opportunity.

ACTORS SEEKING ACCESS, INFLUENCE & CONTROL



CHINA

State & Corporate
Influence



IRAN

Strategic Influence
& Proxies



CARTELS

Illicit Networks
& Proxies



**OFFERING MONEY &
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
DESIGNED TO GAIN CONTROL
AND INFLUENCE**

THREAT VECTORS



INFRASTRUCTURE



MINING



ENERGY



PARTNERSHIPS



PROCUREMENT



LOBBYING



DEBT LEVERAGE



**ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND STRATEGIC VULNERABILITY
CAN EXIST SIMULTANEOUSLY.**

CRT
CRITICAL RISK TEAM

WAR

FAMINE

PESTILENCE

DEATH

MISINFORMATION

AND
YOU
ARE...?

MISINFORMATION

CYBER THREATS AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES



1. RANSOMWARE

Disrupts essential services



2. PHISHING & FRAUD

Targets leaders, staff, and members



3. DATA THEFT

Exposes sensitive community information



4. DISINFORMATION

Undermines trust and fuels division



5. CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE ATTACKS

Affects utilities, communications, and operations



6. ONLINE EXTORTION & HARASSMENT

Pressures leaders and vulnerable individuals

TODAY'S FOREIGN THREATS

Context of Hybrid Warfare and Influence



Part 2 - Vulnerabilities

“*they operate in the
cracks and crevasses
of democratic societies*”

GAPS



STRUCTURE GAPS

Barriers across
government and agencies



SYSTEM GAPS

Legal system
built for another era



STRATEGY GAPS

What strategy?

THREATS BELOW THE THRESHOLD

Why communities remain exposed



THREAT PATTERN



Below legal threshold



Hard to attribute



Covert / hybrid activity

LEGAL / POLICE ACTION THRESHOLD



Non-attributable



Difficult to prove

COMMUNITIES MOST EXPOSED



Diaspora communities



Newcomers



Indigenous communities



State response often comes late.

Who Is Most Vulnerable?

Hybrid threats exploit people, trust, and system gaps.

Political leaders

Immigrants & newcomers

Journalists

Faith & cultural communities

Security professionals

Youth & online communities

Witnesses & whistleblowers

Mentally vulnerable people

Diaspora communities

Business & community leaders

The Way Forward for Police Leaders and their Community



NATIONAL SECURITY IS ECONOMIC SECURITY POLITICAL SECURITY SOCIAL SECURITY AND IT SECURITY



WHY INDIGENOUS POLICE LEADERS MATTERS

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Indigenous Police Leaders as Frontline Resilience Leaders



INDIGENOUS POLICE LEADERS OFTEN SEE:



EARLY SOCIAL SHIFTS



OUTSIDE INFLUENCE



VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS



ORGANIZED CRIME
INDICATORS



EMERGING TENSIONS



MISINFORMATION
IMPACTS



IF IT ISN'T YOU
AS A POLICE LEADER—
WHO IS IT?

BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

PRACTICAL WAYS FORWARD

PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS



AWARENESS EDUCATION



DIGITAL LITERACY



GOVERNANCE SUPPORT



STRATEGIC DUE DILIGENCE



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT



TRUSTED REPORTING PATHWAYS



CROSS-COMMUNITY COLLABORATION



REGIONAL INTELLIGENCE AWARENESS

CRISIS PREPAREDNESS

RESILIENCE, NOT FEAR.
Stronger Communities. Stronger Canada.





The North Star

Police and community leaders are urged to make our youth and future generations their North Star.



Questions?

Are We Protecting Our
Communities in Canada ?

Calvin Chrustie – Senior Partner