

# REPORT: NATIONAL SECURITY AND CHINESE STATE INFLUENCE

**Pro-Hong Kong Democracy Events  
During August 16-19, 2019**



**ALLIANCE CANADA HONG KONG**

Released August 2020 in commemoration of the one-year anniversary of these events.

## Table of Contents

<b>REPORT: NATIONAL SECURITY AND CHINESE STATE INFLUENCE .....</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>BACKGROUND .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SUMMARY OVERVIEW OF INCIDENTS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>INCIDENTS IN CANADA.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>CALGARY, AB.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>HALIFAX, NS.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>MONTREAL, QC.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>ST. JOHN’S, NL.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>TORONTO, ON .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>VANCOUVER, BC .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>WINNIPEG, MB.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>INTERNATIONAL INCIDENTS.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>UNITED STATES: .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>EUROPE: .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>ASIA &amp; AUSTRALASIA:.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>ANALYSIS .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>ALLEGED PAYMENTS .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>SOCIAL MEDIA.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT USE .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>OUR RECOMMENDATIONS.....</b>	<b>23</b>

## **APPENDIX A: CANADIAN INCIDENT REPORTS..... 25**

<b><u>CALGARY, AB .....</u></b>	<b><u>25</u></b>
<b><u>HALIFAX, NS.....</u></b>	<b><u>27</u></b>
<b><u>WINNIPEG, MB .....</u></b>	<b><u>32</u></b>
<b><u>VANCOUVER, BC - INCIDENT 1.....</u></b>	<b><u>35</u></b>
<b><u>VANCOUVER, BC - INCIDENT 2.....</u></b>	<b><u>40</u></b>
<b><u>SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS .....</u></b>	<b><u>41</u></b>
<b><u>VANCOUVER, BC - INCIDENT 3.....</u></b>	<b><u>44</u></b>
<b><u>VANCOUVER, BC - INCIDENT 4.....</u></b>	<b><u>47</u></b>
<b><u>SAINT JOHNS, NL.....</u></b>	<b><u>51</u></b>
<b><u>TORONTO, ON .....</u></b>	<b><u>53</u></b>
<b><u>MONTREAL, QC.....</u></b>	<b><u>59</u></b>

## **APPENDIX B: GLOBAL INCIDENT REPORTS ..... 64**

<b><u>HAMBURG, GERMANY .....</u></b>	<b><u>64</u></b>
<b><u>MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.....</u></b>	<b><u>68</u></b>
<b><u>COLOGNE, GERMANY.....</u></b>	<b><u>72</u></b>
<b><u>SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA .....</u></b>	<b><u>75</u></b>

# INTRODUCTION

The nuances in tactics of foreign interference deployed by the People's Republic of China's (PRC) can be particularly difficult for Western liberal democracies to understand. This is also amplified by language barriers and the PRC's lack of adherence to the international order, norms and organizations. Often navigating a legal grey zone, pro-Beijing forces are insidiously asserting their influence into Canadian society via academia, media, social media, student communities, private sector, education, political institutions and more. Operating under the presumption of "guan xi", benefits, business, funding, gifts and good-will received most often comes with a price tag of reciprocity, and with Xi Jin Ping's increasingly authoritarian rule, ties are being strengthened to bolster the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) global authoritarian agenda.

A key focus of the CCP's narrative discursive strategy is to neutralize any opposition voices.<sup>1</sup> Hong Kong pro-democracy activists -- one of PRC targeted groups -- are increasingly on the receiving end of coordinated attempts across the world.<sup>2</sup> The weekend of August 16-19, pro-democracy Hong Kong groups had coordinated protests in solidarity with Hong Kong and were met with harassment and intimidation from pro-CCP counter protestors. In order to shed further light on this phenomenon and the foreign interference tactics of the CCP, Alliance Canada Hong Kong (ACHK) has reached out to diasporic community organizations and local grassroots associations, domestically and internationally. ACHK has requested for any evidence collected by said groups detailing their encounters with, threats received, and harassment by pro-CCP counter-protesters during the August 16-19 timeframe.

This report shall document and extrapolate on the evidence received by ACHK, to highlight the nature of these counter-protests and the relentless harassment and threats directed at pro-democracy Hong Kong groups. The following report comprises an overview of various incidents in both Canadian and international cities during the weekend of August 16-19 and analysis.

# BACKGROUND

The 2019 Anti-Extradition Law protests, which took place in Hong Kong, garnered widespread global support. International protests and shows of solidarity by both overseas Chinese and foreign nationals were intended to bolster the morale and momentum of protesters in Hong Kong by demonstrating a sense of international solidarity with their struggle.

---

<sup>1</sup> Report by Amnesty International - Human rights defenders increasingly face threats, intimidation over China advocacy ([source](#))

<sup>2</sup> Report by Australian Strategic Policy Institute - The party speaks for you ([source](#))

The first set of international “Global Solidarity with Hong Kong” events<sup>3 4</sup> were scheduled to coincide on the weekend of August 16 to 19, 2019 during Stand with Hong Kong’s “Power to the People Rally”<sup>5</sup>. 30 cities around the globe organized rallies and demonstrations during that weekend. Organizing these solidarity events during this time period was done via social media in a loosely coordinated effort by the disparate pro-Hong Kong democracy groups across the world in order to amplify their message and garner increased media attention<sup>6</sup>. Prior to the aforementioned weekend in August, when marketing of the events happened, concerns began to rapidly emerge among the pro-Hong Kong movement, in Canada and abroad, about an increase in harassment from pro-CCP organizations and individuals.



Figure 1: August 18, 2019 Pro-CCP crowd surrounded a church - a prayer meeting for Hong Kong.

---

<sup>3</sup> Full list of global solidarity protests, posted on Facebook by Stand with Hong Kong ([source](#))

<sup>4</sup> Update list of global solidarity protests, posted on Twitter by Global Solidarity Hong Kong ([source](#))

<sup>5</sup> Hong Kong protest event, posted on Facebook by Stand with Hong Kong ([source](#))

<sup>6</sup> One of the global solidarity event posted by Victoria Hong Kong Tertiary Student Association on Facebook ([source](#))





Figure 2: Pro-CCP counter protest information on sites that were being circulated on WeChat.

Organic and spontaneous resistance to the planned pro-Hong Kong events was expected. Peaceful counter-protests are naturally permissible given existing free expression guaranteed in Canada and elsewhere. However, pro-Hong Kong organizers expressed concerns about a more concerted and organized counter-movement. Organizers began to see evidence of a coordinated effort to disrupt and/or prevent pro-Hong Kong events. These efforts bear the hallmarks of official, state-condoned Chinese disinformation and intimidation campaigns.

Given the rapid organization and mobilization of pro-Chinese Communist Party (pro-CCP) counter-protesters in Canada and abroad and the similarities in tactics and messaging used by said protesters, it points to premeditated plans by pro-CCP community organizations and government agencies. Furthermore, organizing the international solidarity events the weekend of August 16 - 19 by pro-democracy Hong Kong groups, the rapid counter response of pro-CCP elements within a three-to-five-day period after events are announced seems to suggest an external sophisticated orchestrating force.

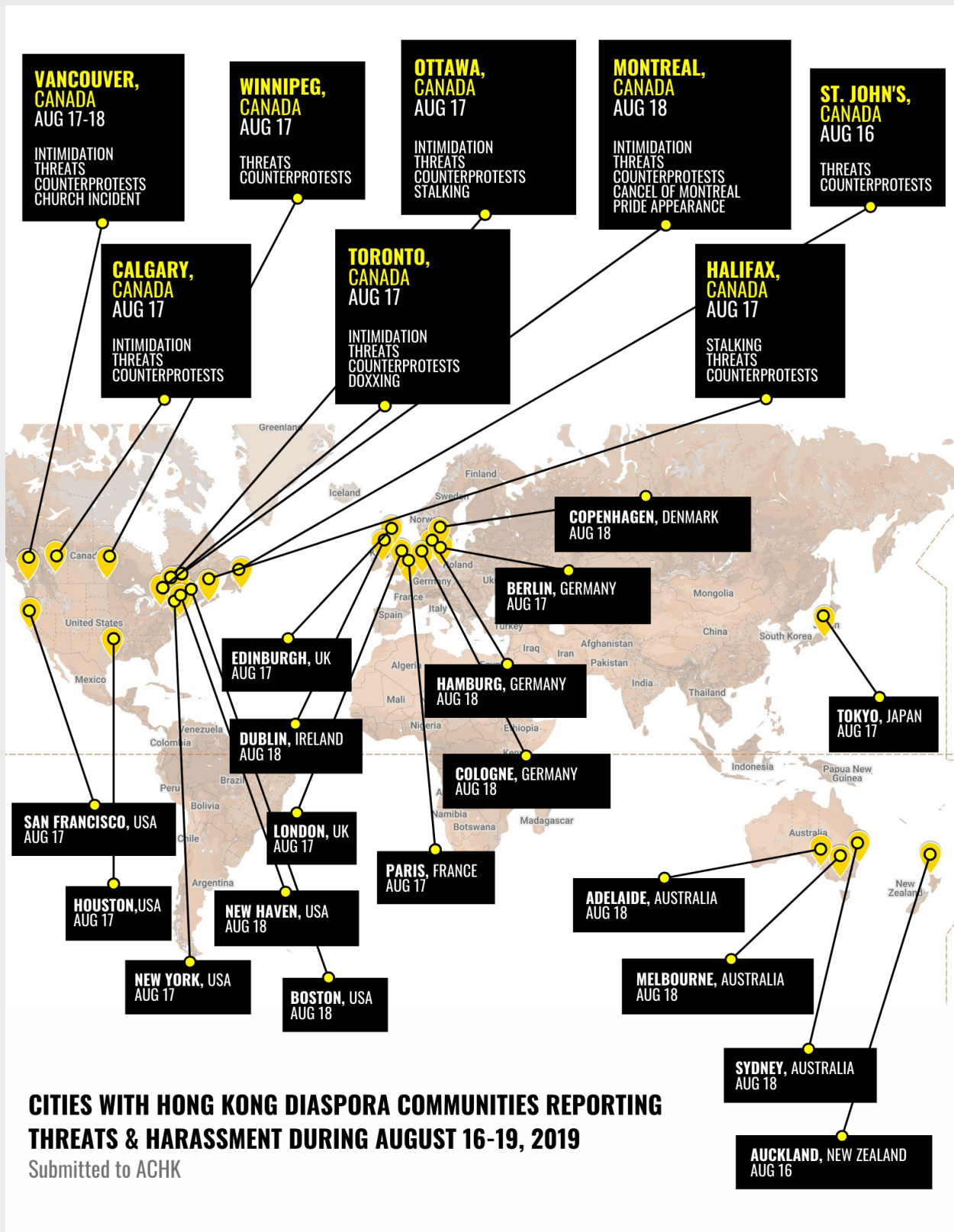


Figure 3: Map of incident submissions to ACHK.

# SUMMARY OVERVIEW OF INCIDENTS

The organizing and coordination of solidarity events by diasporic communities started around the time of Stand With Hong Kong's announcement<sup>7</sup> on August 6, 2019. Despite the lack of adequate time, community groups around the globe mobilized a series of solidarity events to correspond with the "Power to the People rally" held in Hong Kong after a few weeks of logistical planning.

After posting and promoting the events between August 13-16, organizers noticed an increase in pro-CCP social media activity in all major cities that targeted the event and community groups. Pro-CCP forces were intimidating, rebuking and harassing Hong Kong pro-democracy protesters. They coordinated highly organized counter protests within days of event announcements. These coordinated efforts includes the creation of multiple WeChat groups (in many of the cities), with corresponding pages on tencent and other sites signalling to bring down the "港獨" (Hong Kong pro-independence activists, which is propaganda and misinformation). The movement called for the Hong Kong Government to answer to the protests' five demands, which does not include the narratives that the pro-CCP forces are conveying, with attempts to mischaracterize the movement.<sup>8</sup>



Figure 4: Pro-CCP counter protests in San Francisco taken from video submission to ACHK.

---

<sup>7</sup> Hong Kong protest event, posted on Facebook by Stand with Hong Kong ([source](#))

<sup>8</sup> What do the Hong Kong protesters want? - The Guardian ([source](#))



Though separated by cities and claiming to have sprung up organically, chants, slogans, signs and tactics of the pro-Beijing supporters are too similar to be coincidental. Large, crisp, new Chinese flags were seen at almost every rally and the Chinese anthem was loudly chanted and sung to silence Hong Kong pro-democracy protesters. Senior members of several Chinese pro-Beijing community organizations were also identified among the pro-CCP crowd in a few cities.<sup>9</sup> Threats and insults were hurled, shouting matches occurred and it was an entirely bizarre experience for the Hong Kong pro-democracy supporters as it was a blatant attempt to suppress their freedoms of expression.



Figure 5: Pro-CCP counter protesters in Toronto hurling insults, photo credit: Joshua Best (IG: @joshuabest).

---

<sup>9</sup> See: Incident Report for Calgary and Vancouver, Church Prayer Meeting Incident



Figure 6: Pro-CCP counter protesters in Toronto inciting violence, photo credit: Joshua Best (IG: @joshuabest).

At almost every counter protest, several individuals in the crowd were holding DSLRs and cell phone cameras to take videos and headshots of pro-democracy protesters. This is similar to surveillance tactics employed by CCP agents who try to capture images to later identify using facial recognition processes.<sup>10</sup> In some cases, headshots and candid photos of organizers were posted online and several individuals were doxxed after the incidents.

---

<sup>10</sup> In the battle over Hong Kong, the surveillance state knows no boundaries - The Maclean's ([source](#))

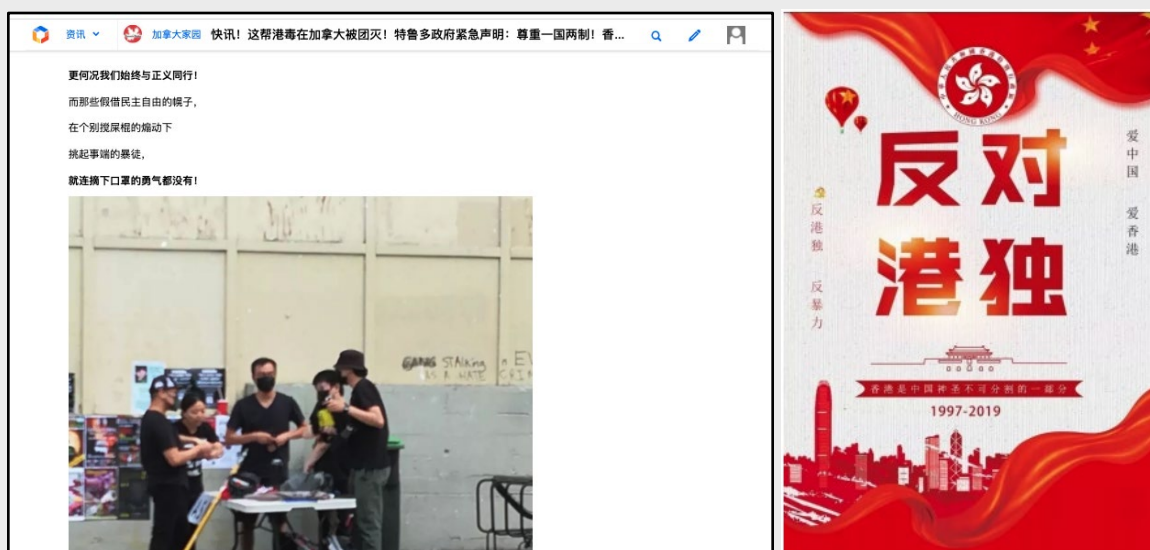


Figure 7: Many photos of protesters and headshots were posted online.<sup>11</sup>

## INCIDENTS IN CANADA

The below incident summaries pertain to pro-Hong Kong protests and pro-CCP counter-protests which occurred in Canada and were organized by groups and individuals in Canada. Note: Some timeline events mentioned below occur prior to or after the August 17-19th interval in question.

### Calgary, AB

Reporting Organization: Friends of Hong Kong Calgary (FHKC)

Incident Description:

- Pro-Hong Kong demonstration organized by Friends of Hong Kong Calgary was disrupted by a pro-CCP group waving Chinese flags, as well as community organization flags, notably that of the Chinese Freemasons Society of Calgary (represented by the current and former chiefs of the organization).

<sup>11</sup> Chinese social media post calling Hong Kong protesters rats ([source](#)), pdf link [here](#)

- Senior members of several other Chinese community organizations were identified among the pro-CCP crowd, including from the: Calgary Hung Mon Athletic Club, Dat Coon Club, Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA), and Alberta Chinese Students Sports Shooting Association.
- Prior to the start of the pro-Hong Kong demonstration, tensions between the two groups escalated leading to a shouting match on both sides, necessitating the intervention of the Calgary Police (called to the scene at the behest of the pro-Hong Kong group).
- Physical confrontation between pro-Hong Kong and pro-CCP groups was accompanied by harassment and threats on social media against pro-Hong Kong supporters. Several pro-CCP WeChat groups (e.g. the 'One China YYC' WeChat group, approx. 500 members) were quickly formed following the announcement by Friends of Hong Kong Calgary to stage an event on August 17, 2019.
  - A Vancouver-based FHKC supporter notified the organization of another WeChat group whose members were issuing threats, posting images of weapons (axes, guns, pepper spray, knives) in relation to the planned FHKC event in Calgary
  - Alleged death threats made against pro-Hong Kong protesters together with suggestions to bring the aforementioned weapons to pro-Hong Kong events

---

## Halifax, NS

Reporting Organization: Halifax Hong Kong Link

Incident Description:

- Prior to the planned pro-Hong Kong event on August 17, Halifax Hong Kong Link organizers noticed an increase in pro-CCP social media activity, including the creation of three WeChat groups with 900 members in total, titled 'One China' between August 14 and 16
- Pro-Hong Kong demonstration in Halifax disrupted by pro-CCP supporters, leading to verbal harassment, yelling, and attempts to destroy the protest-related belongings of the Halifax Hong Kong Link group (i.e. protest signs and Lennon Wall)
- Around 60 pro-CCP protesters organized a counter-demonstration between 10am-5pm



on August 17 where counter protesters sang the Chinese national anthem every 15 minutes. Pro-CCP protesters also took photos of pro-Hong Kong demonstrators: these images were later shared online in a pro-CCP WeChat group as part of an intimidation campaign

- At least one pro-Hong Kong protester reported being stalked by pro-CCP supporters for several days (August 18 & 19) after the event.

---

## Montreal, QC

Reporting Organization: Action Free Hong Kong Montreal

Incident Description:

- Beginning on August 5, 2019 Action Free Hong Kong Montreal organizers had been in conversation with Montreal Pride officials for the inclusion of the pro-Hong Kong organization in Montreal's Pride Parade, an arrangement that was approved on August 14
- On August 16, supporters of Action Free Hong Kong Montreal reported that at least two WeChat groups with 800 members (primarily overseas Chinese students) were planning to disrupt the Pride Parade in response to the presence of the pro-Hong Kong group.
- During this time there was also evidence that some Montreal-based Chinese platforms were promoting the counter-protest plans. Chinese-backed media sites were also reporting on attacks against pro-Hong Kong events in six other cities
- Between August 16th-17th attempts were made by core members of nationalist WeChat groups to spread pro-CCP messaging in other WeChat groups: some group users rebuked these efforts, claiming that pro-CCP messengers were receiving payments from the Chinese consulate in Montreal.
  - WeChat records from pro-CCP social media groups have detailed direct communication between consulate workers and group members, including discussions of pre-planned disruption tactics, as well as demands / offers of payment for prospective pro-CCP demonstrators
- Further evidence pointing towards premeditated action include WeChat discussions about ensuring message consistency when talking to the press, together with

suggestions to bring loudspeakers to drown out pro-Hong Kong slogans, and the possibility of smuggling water guns filled with chili pepper water into the parade in order to harass Free Hong Kong Montreal supporters.

- On August 17, Free Hong Kong Montreal was informed by the Montreal Pride committee that the group was removed from the parade due to security concerns (including at least 10 threats sent to the organization), and based on information from the police about potential disruptions
  - Free Hong Kong Montreal's withdrawal from the parade was not publicly announced, yet at least one pro-CCP WeChat group was already aware of the matter the same day the decision was communicated to Free Hong Kong Montreal.
  - The short interval between the decision and said decision being known among pro-CCP supporters would seem to indicate that some pro-CCP individuals had connections to the Pride committee and was therefore privy to insider information
- There continued to be confusion on August 18, the day of the Pride Parade, as Free Hong Kong Montreal was still listed as a parade participant on parade material, and the general parade coordinator was apparently unaware that the group had been removed from the roster
  - While Free Hong Kong Montreal did not participate in the parade, an invited guest from Hong Kong did participate. Said guest was spotted by pro-CCP supporters and their movements were followed by around 150 individuals via WeChat
- On August 27, Radio-Canada reported (SEE MONTREAL INCIDENT REPORT FOR LINK, pg. 27) that Pride Montreal vice-president Jean-Sébastien Boudreault claimed that he was in hospital during the period leading up to the parade, so other organizers were left to make the decision regarding the threats against Free Hong Kong Montreal's participation in the event
- That same day, Montreal Police issued a statement which denied any communication with Pride Montreal over potential threats:
  - "After verification, it does not seem like anyone from SVPM contacted the organizers of Fierté Montréal's Pride Parade concerning militant groups of pro-communist Chinese protesters [translated from French]," according to a SVPM

spokesperson.

---

## **St. John's, NL**

Reporting Organizations: Memorial University Hong Kong Students' Association

Incident Description:

- Event organizers received threats on WeChat on August 15, the day after publicly announcing their information and “lennon wall” event
  - On August 16, the day of the event, pro-CCP counter-protesters were present, setting up an opposing booth at the event venue
- 

## **Toronto, ON**

Reporting Organizations: Toronto Hongkongers Alliance, Canada Hong Kong Link

Incident Description:

- Event organizers and pro-Hong Kong supporters encountered violent social media threats and messages on Facebook, WeChat, and Yorkbbs Forum. Threats use language advocating the killing of Hongkongers, with statements like “Keep the island, but don’t keep the people,” appearing to endorse the forcible removal of Hong Kongers from the region
- References to pro-Hong Kong supporters as “poor garbage,” “slaves,” and “Han Chinese traitors” were shared on social media messages prior to and during the August 17 event
- Threats directed towards pro-Hong Kong supporters, with pro-CCP social media users calling for the capture of high-definition video footage and photographs of pro-Hong Kong individuals, and for said data to be sent to Chinese government agencies (consulates, embassies) and security services
- During the event, pro-Hong Kong protesters noted the presence of representatives

(including the chairman) from the Canadian Confederation of Fujian Associates, indicating coordination between pro-CCP community organizations and counter-protesters

- During the August 17 event, several pro-Hong Kong protesters were attacked by pro-CCP counter-protesters, including one man aged 50-60 who was punched and pushed to the ground at the close of the event while crowds were dispersing
- Several pro-CCP protesters brought rubber mats which were used as shields to push against pro-Hong Kong protesters. This would suggest that said individuals arrived expecting violence and prepared ahead of time accordingly. Some pro-CCP protesters threw coins at pro-Hong Kong demonstrators during the event, and a convoy of supercars sporting Chinese flags were deployed to intimidate the pro-Hong Kong group

---

## Vancouver, BC

### Reporting Organizations:

Vancouver Hong Kong Political Activists, Vancouverites Concerned about Hong Kong, Vancouver Society In Support of Democratic Movement

### Incident Description:

- On August 14, news of the pro-Hong Kong event scheduled to take place at Broadway-City Hall Station on August 17th went live on Facebook
- The following day, both newly created and extant WeChat groups began to respond to news of the event, with online threats against pro-Hong Kong groups beginning to emerge, including threats to resort to physical violence (pictures of guns - later determined to be airsoft products - were posted online alongside said threats)
- On August 17, around 400 pro-Hong Kong protesters encountered a similar number of pro-CCP counter-protesters. The pro-CCP group was primarily wearing red, carrying many large Chinese flags, and singing the Chinese national anthem. During this time a convoy of supercars with Chinese flags circled the block in support of the pro-CCP group
- Pro-Hong Kong protesters remarked that the large number of new, still creased Chinese



flags looked like they had been recently acquired. Similarly, the uniformly printed and written posters / signs of the pro-CCP group aroused suspicion that the pro-CCP protesters may have quickly received material from a sympathetic third-party

- Similar to in Toronto, pro-CCP supporters with supercars drove around bearing large Chinese flags on the hood of the car, in an attempt to show off and intimidate
- Prior to the start of the demonstration, pro-CCP protesters were seen filming and capturing close-up photographs of pro-Hong Kong supporters, a tactic that hints at related threats to disclose the identities of protesters to Chinese authorities
  - After the event, many headshots of pro-Hong Kong protesters were shared online and prominently posted. One prominent Hong Kong painter received rape threats on Facebook after being identified at the protest
- During the event there was one altercation between a pro-CCP protester and pro-Hong Kong protester, with the former approaching the pro-Hong Kong group, where they proceeded to yell and push the aforementioned pro-Hong Kong individual: both persons were escorted out of the demonstration
- Pro-Hong Kong protesters also noted that the pro-CCP group disbursed all at once, en masse at 6pm, as if on a schedule, in contrast to how participants tend to trickle out as such events come to a close.
- A downtown film screening scheduled later in the evening during August 17 was cancelled after discussions with the RCMP due to threats received on social media. However, pro-Beijing counter protesters still showed up en masse, and did not disperse after finding out the event was cancelled as if they needed to stay the entire hour to finish an assigned shift. The group waved Chinese flags and chanted with no audience.
- On August 18, the following day, pro-CCP counter protesters showed up to a rally outside the Chinese consulate with massive Chinese flags and a sound system. Again, threats and insults were hurled at pro-Hong Kong democracy protesters. Organizers said “We have done the same protest for the last 30 years, but never have come across a counter protest to try to stop our right to protest, against our freedom of assembly.”
- Later that day on August 18, more than 100 pro-CCP counter protesters surrounded a church with around 70-80 pro-democracy supporters praying for Hong Kong. They could not get out until they were escorted out to safety by the police. Attendees of the prayer meeting had close-up photos taken by the pro-Beijing crowd who surrounded the building.

- On the following day on August 19, several pro-Hong Kong democracy activists that were present at the events reported online intimidation, threats and doxxing.
- 

## Winnipeg, MB

Reporting Organization: Winnipeg Hong Kong Concern

Incident Description:

- Prior to the August 17 event organized by Winnipeg Hong Kong Concern, rumours of it lead to the creation of a pro-CCP WeChat group, with group members posting threats on social media directed at pro-Hong Kong supporters
- During the August 17 event, pro-Hong Kong supporters encountered pro-CCP counter-protesters waving Chinese flags.
- No specific pro-CCP slogans were chanted and the encounter ended without verbal or physical violence

## INTERNATIONAL INCIDENTS

In addition to cataloguing incidents in Canada between pro-Hong Kong and pro-CCP protest groups, ACHK has also sought to draw attention to similar events outside of Canada during the same highlighted timeframe. The international nature of these counter-protests (which mirror the coordinated efforts of the pro-Hong Kong community) appears to provide further evidence of an overarching effort by pro-CCP elements, allegedly in conjunction with Chinese diplomatic outposts.

---

## United States:

Confrontations between pro-Hong Kong and pro-CCP protesters occurred in several US cities during the August 17 weekend, including: San Francisco, New York, Houston, Boston, and New Haven.

- In **New York**, pro-Hong Kong protesters received threatening social media messages -

including images of weapons and ammunition - from pro-CCP individuals. A Pro-Hong Kong event encountered pro-CCP counter protesters with large Chinese flags and uniformly designed placards and signs denouncing the former group. There was also evidence of pro-CCP protesters using recording equipment to capture images / footage of pro-Hong Kong protesters<sup>12</sup>

- In **Houston**<sup>13</sup> and **San Francisco**<sup>14</sup>, pro-CCP protesters with Chinese flags harassed pro-Hong Kong protesters by swearing and issuing verbal threats
- In **Boston**, social media posts and threats from gun owners referencing shooting pro-Hong Kong protesters led at least one volunteer to contact the FBI due to safety and security concerns<sup>15</sup>
- Similarly, pro-Hong Kong students at **Yale University** received threatening social media messages from pro-CCP elements. Specifically, death threats and photoshopped warnings were directed at famous Hong Kong student leader and former Demosistō (former Hong Kong pro-democracy organization and political party) chairman Nathan Law, who received a scholarship from Yale in 2019<sup>16</sup>

---

## Europe:

Confrontations between pro-Hong Kong and pro-CCP protesters occurred in several European cities, including: London, Edinburgh, Berlin, Cologne, Hamburg, Dublin, Copenhagen, and Paris.

- In **London**, pro-CCP protesters displayed Chinese flags and derogatory signs / posters

---

<sup>12</sup> Pro-Beijing Demonstrators In Chinatown Allegedly Throw Bottles At Activists Marching For Hong Kong - The Gothamist ([source](#))

<sup>13</sup> Video of the Houston protest on Facebook ([source](#))

<sup>14</sup> Hong Kong Protests Cause Rift Between UC Berkeley Summer Session Students - SFist ([source](#))

<sup>15</sup> Boston Rallies On Opposing Sides Of Hong Kong Protests Held In Chinatown - WBUR News ([source](#))

<sup>16</sup> Hong Kong activist Nathan Law GRD '20 receives social media threats - Yale News ([source](#))

insulting pro-Hong Kong protesters<sup>17</sup>

- In **Edinburgh**, pro-Hong Kong protesters encountered pro-CCP groups displaying Chinese flags on their phone screens en masse<sup>18</sup>
- In **Berlin**, pro-CCP counter-protests were launched in response to pro-Hong Kong protests, with supporters receiving threats on social media<sup>19</sup>
- In **Cologne**, the mayor of Cologne-Mitte received threats from pro-CCP individuals, after attending and showing support for pro-Hong Kong protests in that city. Social media post identifying pro-Hong Kong protesters were also created<sup>20</sup>
- In **Hamburg**, pro-CCP counter-protestors made attempts to physically remove masks from pro-Hong Kong protestors to identify and dox them, targeting them with harassment and threats<sup>21</sup>
- In **Dublin**, pro-Hong Kong protesters faced death threats on social media from pro-CCP individuals deriding the former as ‘separatists’<sup>22</sup>
- In **Copenhagen**, pro-CCP counter-protesters were witnessed filming and photographing pro-Hong Kong protesters, a common tactic in intimidation campaigns
- In **Paris**, photos and the identities of pro-Hong Kong protesters were leaked online and threats sent to said individuals in response<sup>23</sup>

---

<sup>17</sup> Hong Kong protests: Hundreds march through London for #standwithHK and pro-China demonstrations - Evening Standard ([source](#))

<sup>18</sup> Hong Kong protests – Edinburgh pro-democracy demonstration met by pro-China supporters - The Edinburgh Reporter ([source](#))

<sup>19</sup> Local news coverage about the protest in Berlin ([source](#))

<sup>20</sup> Mayor of Cologne’s Facebook update after attending the Hong Kong protest ([source](#))

<sup>21</sup> Local news coverage about the protest in Hamburg ([source](#))

<sup>22</sup> Garda investigate death threats against Hong Kong demonstrators - The Irish Times ([source](#))

<sup>23</sup> Local news coverage about the protest in Paris ([source](#))



---

## Asia & Australasia:

Confrontations between pro-Hong Kong and pro-CCP protesters occurred in the following cities: Tokyo, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Auckland.

- In **Tokyo**, 400 pro-Hong Kong protesters were harassed by pro-CCP supporters carrying Chinese flags and issuing verbal threats. In one incident, a vehicle driven by a pro-CCP individual attempted to hit pro-Hong Kong protesters<sup>24</sup>
- In **Adelaide**, pro-Hong Kong protesters faced verbal harassment by pro-CCP protesters, and at least one person of Hong Kong descent was attacked by counter-protesters<sup>25</sup>
- In **Melbourne**, pro-Hong Kong protesters were surrounded by pro-CCP protesters singing the Chinese national anthem. In one incident, an Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) news crew was attacked by a pro-CCP supporter. Harassment by pro-CCP protesters forced the pro-Hong Kong group to disperse 30 minutes early due to safety concerns<sup>26</sup>
- In **Sydney**, pro-CCP counter-protesters harassed pro-Hong Kong protesters by singing the Chinese national anthem and shouting pro-Hong Kong police slogans<sup>27</sup>
- In **Auckland**, a pro-Hong Kong Lennon Wall at the University of Auckland was defaced with violent and derogatory messages, an act later praised by Chinese media as a “heroic act” and a “victory over the separatists”<sup>28</sup>

## ANALYSIS

---

<sup>24</sup> Tokyo solidarity protest, Facebook event ([source](#))

<sup>25</sup> Hong Kong protester targeted on Chinese social media platform WeChat following protest in Adelaide - ABC News ([source](#))

<sup>26</sup> Hong Kong protester targeted on Chinese social media platform WeChat following protest in Adelaide - SCMP News ([source](#))

<sup>27</sup> Hundreds rally in Sydney in support of Hong Kong pro-democracy protesters - The Guardian ([source](#))

<sup>28</sup> Uni wraps up investigation into Hong Kong protest - Newsroom ([source](#))

In mirroring the efforts of the pro-Hong Kong community, pro-CCP groups arguably aimed to negate any boon garnered by the pro-Hong Kong community from increased media attention and public awareness during the August 16 weekend. The presence of organized counter-protest efforts point to plans to dilute the media narrative surrounding the pro-Hong Kong events around the world.

Specifically, the level of counter-protest activity (in many instances) appears to distinguish itself from the type of expected - and in the spirit of public discourse and freedom of expression, wholly permissible - grassroots, organic opposition to the pro-Hong Kong movement. It would be misleading to characterize all participants of these counter-protests as individuals with ulterior motives beyond simple public assembly, yet certain elements and tactics of the counter-protests, appear to point towards undue influence and guidance from local Chinese authorities.

---

## **Alleged Payments**

Of particular note is the evidence gathered from internal pro-CCP social media conversations of links between local pro-CCP protests and Chinese diplomatic outposts, as well as the references in said conversations to offers of payment in exchange for protest attendance. Suspicions among pro-Hong Kong protesters regarding the origin, 'newness,' and uniformity of counter-protest signage, posters and flags during several encounters, suggests that these materials were assembled and distributed by third parties.

## Community Organizations

The presence of various Chinese overseas organizations and other Chinese community groups at pro-CCP counter-protests seems to point to a more coordinated effort by pro-CCP elements to organize said counter-protests. The close links (documented in third party research) between many such organizations and local Chinese consulates, embassies, and other government organs - notably the United Front Work Department, whose mandate includes relationship management with overseas Chinese groups - also raises concerns among pro-Hong Kong supporters about Chinese state influence.

---

## Social Media

Furthermore, the rapid establishment of pro-CCP WeChat groups in the cities enumerated above, in the days leading up to the planned pro-Hong Kong August 17-19 events raises questions about the independence of said groups from official Chinese direction. Certainly, some of these groups were established organically by individuals opposing the pro-Hong Kong events, although this does not excuse instances of online harassment and threats performed by said groups, whether their origins are grassroots or otherwise.

---

## Surveillance Equipment Use

The widespread use of surveillance equipment by pro-CCP counter-protesters to capture video and photographic evidence of pro-Hong Kong protesters raises particular concern. Efforts to identify and publicly expose pro-Hong Kong protesters are not in keeping with grassroots protest efforts, as there exists little value in doing so outside of a context of coordinated intimidation.

These efforts to name and shame pro-Hong Kong protesters, accompanied by the widespread threats to share captured footage with Chinese state authorities would seem to point towards a coordinated effort to harass and frighten overseas supporters of the Hong Kong movement. References to Chinese diplomatic organs and security agencies in the aforementioned threats also imply, at least some level of interaction between pro-CCP protesters and Chinese authorities, irrespective of which side first initiated contact.

# CONCLUSION

Previously, these incidents have been regarded as separate cases occurring on the same weekend. In an effort to illustrate a holistic picture for those outside diaspora communities, Alliance Canada Hong Kong compiled these incidents into a coherent report of an international effort from pro-Beijing forces that is increasingly difficult to ignore.

It is becoming clear that these are not one-offs. The similarities in tactics across all the counter protests, the ability to command opposition voices in a moment's time, the threats, intimidation and relentless harassment from pro-Beijing forces to silence opposing voices are all a worrying trend of the growing PRC control and influence in Canada.

Following Canada and the European Union's joint statement about the importance of upholding Hongkongers' freedoms, such as peaceful assembly that same weekend, the China embassy in Ottawa then told Canada to "immediately stop meddling in Hong Kong affairs and China's internal affairs."<sup>29 30</sup>

More needs to be done by our governing bodies to ensure that Chinese-Canadians and other groups fleeing persecution by the CCP are not exposed to the kind of threats, intimidation and censorship that prompted many of them to leave China in the first place.

---

## OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

China state influence and interference is a serious and urgent issue that Canadian government and policymakers can no longer ignore. Silencing of dissenting voices is only one part of the multifaceted strategies that the Chinese State utilizes to control narratives. In reality, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is brazenly interfering on all levels of Canadian politics, including but not limited to the suppression and surveillance of the Chinese diaspora communities, censoring Canadian media, and exerting influence in politics.

---

<sup>29</sup> China warns Canada to 'stop meddling' in Hong Kong affairs - Global News ([source](#))

<sup>30</sup> Witnessing the Hong Kong-China Protesters Face Off in Vancouver - The Tyee ([source](#))



We strongly urge Canada to:

- Protect Canadians' fundamental freedom from erosion, and proactively combat disinformation and Chinese Communist Party interference in Canadian society;
- To investigate and combat foreign interference into Canadian institutions, including state-funded and/or affiliated Chinese Students and Scholars Associations, Confucius Institutes, and other state-sponsored political, cultural and private events, trips, expenses, and gifts, through a national registry of foreign agents and national foreign influence transparency legislation.

At the beginning of the report, we noted “the nuances in foreign interference in Canada by the People Republic of China’s (PRC) is particularly difficult for Euro-centric communities to understand”. The structures of Canadian governmental agencies are not currently set up in a way that can easily connect the patterns of multi-faceted chess moves from a coherent one-party state that mobilizes across communities, cultural influences, businesses, politics and institutions. We strongly urge our parliamentarians to re-examine Canada’s China policy, and to immediately set up a non-partisan panel of China experts to navigate this process.

# APPENDIX A:

# Canadian Incident Reports

## Calgary, AB

### LOCATION

Crescent Heights Park  
Calgary, Alberta  
Canada

### DATE OF EVENT

17th August, 2019

### ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizer:

[Friends of Hong Kong Calgary](#)

Witness(es):

Calgary Police Service

### ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Aggressive counter-protest of 50~60 pro-Beijing individuals
- Physical altercations between pro-Beijing and Hong Kong protestors
- Verbal harassment at the protest
- Singing the Chinese national anthem and waving Chinese national flags
- Physical altercations during the demonstration

- Taking photos and videos of the pro-democracy demonstrators

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

Messages on Posters:

- “Supporting Hong Kong”
- “Against Hong Kong Independence”
- The Chinese national flags

What they’re chanting

- “Destroy the community” in Mandarin
- “Traitors” in Mandarin
- “Stop lying”
- “Shame on you”
- “Hong Kong is China”
- The Chinese national anthem

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
Days leading up to August 17th, 2019	Organizers suspect pro-Beijing groups such as Chinatown leaders, Calgary Hung Mon Athletic Club, Jin Wah Sang Music Society of Calgary, Calgary Students and Scholars Association, and Alberta Chinese Shooting Sports Associations are leading the counter-protest.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>

17th August, 2019	<p>About 50~60 pro-Beijing individuals gathered on the second floor of Lambda Oriental Foods Supermarket, and marched to Crescent Heights to disrupt the pro-Hong Kong rally.</p> <p>Pro-Beijing groups showed up, began screaming and pointed fingers at the Hong Kong protestors.</p> <p>Calgary police officers stood between pro-Beijing and Hong Kong protestors.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p> <p><a href="#">Videos of the protest</a></p>
-------------------	--	---

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

### [Evidence Folder](#)

*Calgary Herald* (Aug. 18, 2019): [“Political unrest in Hong Kong draws duelling protesters at Calgary rally”](#)

*CBC News* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Police step in as pro-Beijing protesters show up at Calgary rally in support of Hong Kong”](#)

*CTV News* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Duelling protest in Calgary in response to Hong Kong rallies”](#)

*Global News* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Protestors clash at Calgary’s Hong Kong independence rally”](#)

### Videos of the protest

[Clip #1](#)

[Clip #7](#)

[Clip #2](#)

[Clip #8](#)

[Clip #3](#)

[Clip #9](#)

[Clip #4](#)

[Clip #10](#)

[Clip #5](#)

[Clip #11](#)

[Clip #6](#)

[Clip #12](#)

# Halifax, NS

## LOCATION

Seaport Farmers Market  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
Canada

## DATE OF EVENT

17th August, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizer:

[Halifax-Hong Kong Link](#)

Witness(es):

N/A

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Created three WeChat group with around 900 people after they saw the open letter published on The Coast Halifax: [What Canada can do to help the Hong Kong protesters](#)
  - Online harassment including taking participants' photos and upload them onto a Wechat pro-China group
  - To mobilize members to counter-protest the event
- Organized a counter-protest which has around 60 people attended
- Verbal assault during the demonstration
- Attempted to destroy some of the belongings of the Hong Kong pro-democracy group including protest signs and Lennon wall
- Taking photos and videos of the pro-democracy demonstrators
- Stalked the organizers after the day of the event
- Organizers are offering sunscreen for attendees and giving 50% off beverages for those who has a Chinese flag

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

Protest Signs & Messages:

- “One China policy”
- The Chinese national flag
- “Hong Kong is forever a part of Hong Kong”

Chants:

- The Chinese national anthem

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
10th August, 2019	Chinese websites are posting the details of the pro-democracy protest.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
14th August, 2019	Organizers of the protest wrote and published an article in the local papers.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a> <a href="#">What Canada can do to help the Hong Kong protesters</a> <a href="#">Misinformation blog about the English article</a>
14th-16th August, 2019	Created WeChat groups called “One China” and organized the counter-protest.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a> <a href="#">Weixin (Chinese) blog post</a> <a href="#">Weixin (Chinese) blog post 2</a>
17th August, 2019	Counter-protested the Hong Kong anti-ELAB rally from 10 am to 5 pm.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a> <a href="#">News Coverage</a>



	Pro-Beijing attendees were singing the Chinese national anthem every 15 minutes, and were verbally assaulting pro-Hong Kong demonstrators.	<a href="#">News Coverage 2</a> <a href="#">Weixin (Chinese) blog post</a> <a href="#">Weixin (Chinese) blog post 2</a> <a href="#">Blog by international student participating in the counter-protest</a> <a href="#">Blog by international student participating the counter-protest 2</a>
17th August, 2019	Organizer and writer of the opinion piece were doxxed on WeChat, their private information was released.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
18th-19th August, 2019	Halifax attendees stated that there were people stalking them and followed them the day after the rally	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

### [Evidence Folder](#)

*CBC News* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Ottawa urged to support Hong Kong protesters at Halifax demonstration”](#)

*Global News* (Aug. 20, 2019): [“Halifax residents hold dueling protests over political unrest in Hong Kong”](#)

*Global News* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Hundreds rally in Halifax over Hong Kong political unrest”](#)

*The Chronicle Herald* (Aug. 17, 2019.): ["Two views of Hong Kong protests face off in Halifax"](#)

[What Canada can do to help the Hong Kong protesters](#)

Related Chinese social media posts:

[Weixin \(Chinese\) blog post](#)

[Weixin \(Chinese\) blog post 2](#)

[Misinformation blog about the English article](#)

[Blog by international student participating in the counter-protest](#)

[Blog by international student participating the counter-protest 2](#)

# Winnipeg, MB

## LOCATION

University of Manitoba  
Winnipeg, MB  
Canada

## DATE OF EVENT

17th August, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizer:

[Winnipeg Hong Kong Concern](#)

Witness(es):

N/A

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

Protest Signs & Messages:

- The Chinese national flag

Chants:

- “One Country”
- “Hong Kong is a part of China”

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Online threats on social media
  - To mobilize members to counter-protest the event
  - Spreading misinformation about the event
  - Providing financial and legal support for those attending the counter-protest
- Counter-protesting outside of the event
- Event venue entrance was filled with pro-Beijing supporters
- Some joined the event and watched the documentary together

- Organizers offering financial and legal support to those attending the counter-protest

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
August 14, 2019	<p>A user posted on Chinese Winnipeg Forum is misleading the audience to believe the event is directly associated to the University of Manitoba, encouraging readers to write to the university to complain.</p> <p>Using #AntiViolence and #ProtecttheCampus in their promotion materials.</p>	<p><a href="#">Screenshot</a></p> <p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p>
14th-16th August, 2019	<p>On WeiBo and other Chinese social media chatrooms, pro-Beijing groups are formed to counter-protest.</p> <p>Organizer is asking for people to join the chat group or contact directly. And also offering to pay for time off, overtime, and any potential legal fees.</p>	<p><a href="#">Screenshot</a></p> <p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p>
14th-16th August, 2019	<p>Canada-China International Immigration Service promoted the counter protest with their branded posters.</p>	<p><a href="#">Screenshot</a></p> <p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p>
17th August, 2019	<p>Before the start of the documentary viewing event, the venue entrance was packed with pro-Beijing protesters holding Chinese flags. In the theatre capacity for 200, only 20 pro-Hong Kong democracy attendees showed up. Most pro-Beijing demonstrators left, while some sat down and watched the documentary.</p> <p>The event ended without any verbal or physical altercations.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p> <p><a href="#">LIHKG Post</a></p>

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

### [Evidence Folder](#)

CTV News (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Winnipeggers support protesters in Hong Kong”](#)

### [LIHKG Post](#)

*LIHKG is a Hong Kong platform similar to Reddit*

# Vancouver, BC - Incident 1

## LOCATION

Broadway-City Hall Station Vancouver, British Columbia

## DATE OF EVENT

August 17th, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizers:

[Vancouver Alliance Defending Hong Kong Democracy](#)

[Vancouver Hong Kong Political Activists](#)

Key Witness(es):

Vancouver Society In Support of Democratic Movement 溫哥華支援民主運動聯合會

[Vancouverites Concerned About Hong Kong](#)

Kevin Huang - Executive Director of Hua Foundation

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Yelling and singing (with the slogans above)
- Taunting at the frontlines (e.g. “come beat me up, you coward!”)
- Unsolicited close-up photo/video-taking coupled with uncomfortable questioning
- Shoving between a pro-CCP protester and a HK protester.
- Super cars with the Chinese flag drove around the block, some drivers were yelling at the HK protesters as they drove by.

Prior to the event:

- Constant discussion of physical assault, including:
  - Bringing knives to the protest to “chop those pieces of shit up”
  - Pictures of glocks (later confirmed to be airsofts)
  - Bringing sand to throw into the eyes of pro-democratic protesters



- Supplying pro-democratic protesters with water with laxatives

During the event:

- Pro-CCP protesters entered the pro-democracy crowd to take pictures/videos while repeatedly questioning pro-democracy protesters, with questions such as:
  - Are you Chinese?
  - Why are you supporting Hong Kong independence?
  - If you support the protests, say it here, directly.
  - Why are you covered up? Are you doing something wrong?

After the event:

- Close-up photos of protesters and organizers were circulated in their social networks.
- At 6pm, the chatrooms had an influx of “hong bao” (red packets), where members of the chatroom can click and add balance to their WeChat account.
- Some protesters were recognized as university students, which generated some threatening discussions on how to “fuck them up when school starts in September”.
- More photo/video-taking in subsequent events, profiling pro-democratic individuals that show up to multiple events.

## **SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS**

Protest Signs & Messages:

- Love Hong Kong, Love China. These were all printed and uniform
- The Chinese national flag, large and new-looking, creased

Chants:

- “One China”
- “Die Hong Kong Independence” in Mandarin
- “China’s your daddy”
- “Love China! Love Hong Kong!”
- The Chinese national anthem
- “Hong Kong is a part of China”

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
August 6th, 2019	Organizing began, as Stand with Hong Kong officially announced the event publically	<a href="#">Event Facebook link</a>
August 14th, 2019	Event went public on Facebook	<a href="#">Event Facebook link</a>
August 15th, 2019	Multiple WeChat groups (existing or new) were informed of this event. These groups were made specifically for the purposes of counter-protests, with names such as 'Singing our (Chinese) national anthem downtown'.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 15th - 16th, 2019	Discussions started to brew on WeChat. Multiple groups were formed on WeChat, but not much discussion on logistics/event organization. Many members of the group had threats of physical violence, pictures of guns (later found as airsoft) were sent in the chat.	<a href="#">Photo 1</a> <a href="#">Photo 2</a> <a href="#">Tweet</a> <a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 17th, 2019 1PM - 2PM	Pro-Beijing camp started to gather, mostly wearing red.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a> <a href="#">News article</a>
August 17 2PM - 6PM	Pro-Beijing camp started to use DSLR and phone cameras to take close up shots of Hong Kong protesters.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a> <a href="#">News article</a>

August 17 4PM	Event officially began. Pro-Beijing camp had many banners and Chinese flags to give out. They started to chant “One China” and such. There are about ~400 people on each side.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 17 4:30PM - 6PM	Pro-CCP Super Cars start appearing to circle the block.	<a href="#">Photo 1</a> <a href="#">News article</a> <a href="#">News article</a> <a href="#">Video 1</a>
August 17th, 2019 Around 5PM	Pro-CCP protester came over and started yelling threats and shoving a hk protester, the Hong Kong protester shoved back. Both were escorted out.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 17th, 2019 6PM	All the pro-Beijing camp dispersed all together, as if they were on a schedule.	<a href="#">Reddit post</a> <a href="#">News article</a> <a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 17th - 18th, 2019	Business cars were seen with flags and appearing at multiple events.	<a href="#">Photo 1</a> <a href="#">Photo 2</a> <a href="#">Photo 3</a> <a href="#">Tweet</a> <a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 17th, 2019	Head shots of organizers were found online.	<a href="#">Site pdf</a> <a href="#">Site link</a>

During and after event		<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 17th, 2019  After the event	A prominent Hong Kong painter received rape threats on her Facebook when she was identified. She received rape threats received on messenger.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>  Key witness testimony

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

[Evidence Folder](#)

[Reddit post of when CCP protesters left at 6:00pm](#)

*CBC News* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Vancouver police bring in more officers as tempers flare at competing Hong Kong protests”](#)

*Daily Hive* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Hong Kong supporters and China nationalists face off at Vancouver SkyTrain station \(VIDEOS\)”](#)

*Global News* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Duelling Hong Kong protests in Vancouver shut down major intersection near city hall”](#)

*News 1130* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Dueling Hong Kong protests face-off in Vancouver”](#)

*South China Morning Post* (Aug. 18, 2019): [“Hong Kong protests: rallies held in Sydney, Vancouver, Toronto and London”](#)

*South China Morning Post* (Aug. 20, 2019): [“‘Worst Fast and Furious movie ever’: convoys of Ferrari-driving pro-China patriots rev up protests in Vancouver and Toronto”](#)

*The Georgia Strait* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Duelling demonstrations over Hong Kong’s future held outside Canada Line station in Vancouver”](#)

*The Globe and Mail* (Aug. 17, 2019): [“Protest in Vancouver mirrors Hong Kong as opposing sides face off”](#)

*The Tyee* (Aug. 21, 2019): [“Witnessing the Hong Kong-China Protesters Face Off in Vancouver”](#)

*Vancouver Sun* (Aug. 18, 2019): [“Pro-Hong Kong and pro-China protesters vent on Vancouver street”](#)

# Vancouver, BC - Incident 2

## LOCATION

Downtown Vancouver, outside of Nordstrom.

## DATE OF EVENT

Evening of August 17th, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizers:

[Vancouver Alliance Defending Hong Kong Democracy](#)

[Vancouver Hong Kong Political Activists](#)

Eyewitnesses from:

[Vancouver Hong Kong Political Activists](#)

## CONCERNS/ THREAT

- Prior to the event: same threats as the incident report for the Broadway station event.  
Claims such as:
  - Bringing knives to the protest to “chop those pieces of shit up”
  - Pictures of glocks (later confirmed to be airsofts)
  - Bringing sand to throw into the eyes of pro-democratic protesters
  - Supplying pro-democratic protesters with water with laxatives
- After dispersing from the previous event at 6 (see Broadway doc), many WeChat messages saying “see you in a few hours at the next one”.
- The original event was a planned video screening. It was cancelled due to security threats after discussions with the RCMP
- Despite the event cancellation, pro-CCP protesters still showed up in large groups
- When key witnesses passed by the scene, they were followed closely by two other girls speaking in Mandarin until two blocks after.
- Pro-Beijing supporters took close up photo/video-taking of people that showed disagreement.

# SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Yelling “One China” in Mandarin
- Singing the Chinese National Anthem repeatedly
- Waving the Chinese flag.
- Someone did a Nazi salute while the pro-CCP protesters were singing the Chinese National Anthem.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

A large group of 50-80 people gathered despite the event they were protesting against being cancelled. Some pro-CCP protesters were dispersed across the block, seemingly scanning for any counter (pro-democratic) protesters. The majority of the protesters were centered outside of Nordstrom, chanting the same slogans as the preceding event and repeatedly singing the Chinese National Anthem.

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
August 6th, 2019	Organizing began, as Stand with Hong Kong officially announced the event publically	<a href="#">Event Facebook link</a>
August 14th, 2019	Event went public on Facebook	Original post deleted. <a href="#">Other pages shared the event.</a>
August 15th, 2019	Multiple WeChat groups (existing or new) were informed of this event. These groups were made specifically for the purposes of counter-protests, with names	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>



	such as 'Singing our (Chinese) national anthem downtown'.	
August 15th - 16th, 2019	Discussions started to brew on WeChat. Multiple groups were formed on WeChat, but not much discussion on logistics/event organization. Many members of the group had threats of physical violence, pictures of guns (later found as airsoft) were sent in the chat.	<a href="#">Photo 1</a> <a href="#">Photo 2</a> <a href="#">Tweet</a> <a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 17th, 2019 5:30 PM	Original event declared cancelled on social media due to ongoing physical threats.	Announced on telegram
August 17, 8:00 PM	Original start time of the screening; many pro-CCP protesters (50-80 people total) gathered with Chinese flags. Some congregated around Nordstrom and started to sing Chinese anthem. One video of a Nazi salute was posted online.	<a href="#">Video</a> <a href="#">Reddit post</a> <a href="#">News article 1</a> <a href="#">News article 2</a>
August 17, 8:30 PM	Key witness passed by the scene and stopped there for 10 minutes.	Key witness testimony
August 17, 8:40 PM	Key witness left to grab dinner, but was followed by two Mandarin-speaking ladies for two blocks.	Key witness testimony

August 17, 10:00 PM	Allegedly: when the pro-CCP protesters started to leave the scene.	Key witness testimony
------------------------	--	-----------------------

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

Link to online folder (hosted on ACHK site)

[Video](#)

[Reddit post](#)

*Vancouver Sun* (August 20, 2019): [Daphne Bramham: China's long reach laid bare by Hong Kong protests](#) - Article mentioned the Nazi Salute by the pro-CCP counterprotesters in front of Nordstrom. (Video since deleted)

*The Tyee* (Aug. 21, 2019): [“Witnessing the Hong Kong-China Protesters Face Off in Vancouver”](#) - Article mentioned that the pro-Beijing supporters showed up at the cancelled event

# Vancouver, BC - Incident 3

## LOCATION

Vancouver - Chinese Consulate

## DATE OF EVENT

August 18, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizers:

Vancouver Society In Support of Democratic Movement 溫哥華支援民主運動聯合會

Key witnesses:

[Vancouverites Concerned About Hong Kong](#)

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Blocking and corners off spots to disrupt pro-democracy protesters from protesting in front of the consulate
- Chanting, yelling and amassing in large numbers to intimidate and suppress pro-Hong Kong protesters.
- A woman was using her camera to take participants' headshots.

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

Protest Signs & Messages:

- The Chinese national flag
- Love China, Love Hong Kong
- No Secession
- No Riot/Violence

Chants:

- The Chinese national anthem
- "China, add oil"

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
August 18 morning	<p>When organizers arrived, they were blocked by three big trucks deliberately parked in front of the consulate, which is being used to block them from using the sidewalk in front of the Chinese Consulate to protest.</p> <p>This was seen as threatening behaviour.</p> <p>Organizers had no choice except to move to the other side of the street.</p>	<a href="#">Testimony Statement from VSSDM</a>
August 18 before the event started	<p>100 pro-Beijing counter-protester arrived bearing Chinese flags, chanting “we love China”. “we love Hong Kong”, “one country” and “ No secession” to intimidate and suppress pro-Hong Kong protesters.</p> <p>They also sang the Chinese national anthem “March of the volunteers” to try and drown out the slogans from the protesters.</p>	<a href="#">Testimony Statement from VSSDM</a> <a href="#">Photo 1</a> <a href="#">Photo 2</a> <a href="#">Screenshot - Love Hong Kong, Love China signs</a>
August 18 during the event	<p>A woman was using her camera to take participants’ headshots as a method of surveillance/ doxxing.</p>	<a href="#">Testimony Statement from VSSDM</a> <p>This is believed to be “white terror”, which is very common in China. CCP often uses facial recognition to identify dissents.</p>

		Family members in China can be harassed and intimidated.
--	--	--

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

From ACHK's evidence folder:

- [Testimony Statement from VSSDM](#)
- [Photo 1](#)
- [Photo 2](#)
- [Screenshot - Love Hong Kong, Love China signs](#)
- [Video](#)

*CTV News* (Aug. 18, 2019): [“Dueling Vancouver protests over Hong Kong for second straight day”](#)

*Global News* (Aug. 18, 2019): [“Duelling Hong Kong protests held outside Vancouver Chinese consulate”](#)

*News 1130* (Aug. 18, 2019): [“Day two of pro-Hong Kong and pro-China demonstrations in Vancouver”](#)

*The Province* (Aug. 20, 2019): [“‘Overseas Chinese’ urged to be more vocal in support of Beijing, says Chinese cultural historian”](#)

*The Star* (Aug. 18, 2019): [“Pro-Hong Kong democracy protesters rally outside Chinese consulate in Vancouver”](#)

*Vancouver Sun* (Aug. 19, 2019): [“Duelling Hong Kong protests face off outside Chinese consulate in Vancouver”](#)

# Vancouver, BC - Incident 4

## LOCATION

Vancouver, Tenth Church

## DATE OF EVENT

August 18, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizers:

Vancouver Christians For Love Peace And Justice 溫哥華基督徒守護愛與和平公義團契

Key witnesses:

Father Richard

[Vancouverites Concerned About Hong Kong](#)

Ina Mitchell

Bob Mackin

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Pro-Beijing supporters surrounded the church where a prayer meeting for Hong Kong is taking place
- They took photos and videos and headshots of the attendees at the prayer meeting for Hong Kong
- Attendees of the prayer meeting had to be escorted out by the police

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Posters: Love China, Love Hong Kong
- They were not chanting, but waving their flags and surrounding the prayer meeting attendees in silence



## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
August 12	Event of prayer meeting for Hong Kong was posted online	<a href="#">Facebook event link</a>
August 12 3:40pm	First signs of Pro-Beijing supporters near the site of the prayer meeting spotted by late-comers.	Interview with <a href="#">Vancouverites Concerned About Hong Kong</a>
August 12 4:15pm	Prayer meeting was drawing to a close, and attendees (Hong Kong pro-democracy activists) noticed the huge crowd of more than 100 pro-Beijing supporters outside that has surrounded the building	<a href="#">Tweet</a> <a href="#">Photo 1</a> <a href="#">Photo 2</a> <a href="#">Photo 3</a> Interview with <a href="#">Vancouverites Concerned About Hong Kong</a>
August 12 4:20pm	RCMP/VPD came into the building to explain how the police will be escorting attendees (around 60-70) out	Interview with <a href="#">Vancouverites Concerned About Hong Kong</a>
August 12 4:20pm - 4:40pm	Pro-Beijing supporters were trying to film or take photos of the attendees of the prayer meeting who are inside, or take photos or videos as they are walking out.	<a href="#">Picture 1</a> <a href="#">Picture 2</a> <a href="#">Video</a> Interview with <a href="#">Vancouverites Concerned About Hong Kong</a>

August 12 4:30pm - 5:00pm	Prayer meeting attendees drove back around in the car to discreetly take photos to document the incident	<a href="#">Picture 1</a> <a href="#">Picture 2</a> <a href="#">Picture 3</a>
August 12 later in the day	Ina Mitchell and Bob Mackin notified Ian Young who came quickly to cover the events	<a href="#">Link to coverage</a>  <a href="#">Link to coverage</a>  <a href="#">Link to article</a>
September 21	One of the pro-Beijing Flag bearers has been identified as a pro-CCP Canadian Alliance of Chinese Association with deep ties	<a href="#">Photo 1</a>  <a href="#">Tweet link</a>

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

[Evidence folder](#)

[Tweet](#)

Video by Bob Mackin (August 19, 2019): [Pro-China mob surrounds Vancouver church, police called to escort worshippers](#)

Breaker news (August 19, 2019): Pro-China government mob follows Hong Kong democracy supporters to Vancouver church, police called to protect worshippers

Breaker news (August 20, 2019): [“We’re in a free country and they want to stop people from praying. It’s just mind boggling.”](#)

*Daily Hive* (Aug. 19, 2019): ["VPD escort Hong Kong prayer group after pro-China rally outside church"](#)

*South China Morning Post* (Aug. 19, 2019): ["Canadian police escort worshippers as 'bullying' pro-China protesters surround church holding prayers for Hong Kong"](#)

*The Star* (Aug. 20, 2019): ["Christian group says its religious rights were violated when pro-China supporters 'surrounded' church"](#)

# Saint Johns, NL

## LOCATION

Memorial University  
Saint Johns, Newfoundland and Labrador  
Canada

## DATE OF EVENT

August 16, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizers:

[Memorial University Hong Kong Students' Association](#)

Witness(es):

N/A

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Online violence on WeChat
  - Pro-Beijing individuals suggesting to use violence against organizers
  - To mobilize members to counter-protest the event
- Pro-Beijing individuals showed up at the same time of the event to set up a booth with pro-Beijing misinformation materials. They put some of those materials nearby the Hong Kong booth.

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

Protest Signs & Messages:

- Pro-Beijing materials that contains misinformation

Chants:

- N/A

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
August 14th, 2019	Protest event was announced to the public.	
August 15th, 2019	Organizers were threatened on WeChat groups, who feared for their personal safety.	
August 16th, 2019	Pro-Beijing protesters showed up at the event venue and set up another booth at a different location of the same building. They also printed their version of what happened in HK and laid them in front of my booth.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

[Evidence Folder](#)

# Toronto, ON

## LOCATION

Toronto Old City Hall  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada

## DATE OF EVENT

17th August, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizer:

[Canada-Hong Kong Link](#)

Toronto Hongkongers Alliance

Kevin Yueng

Witness(es):

Toronto Police Service

Several Hong Kong Canadian - J Tang, P Lau, J Wong, and NY

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Physical assault against a Hong Kong protester
- Online threats on WeChat in days leading up to the protest
  - To mobilize members to counter-protest the event
  - Threats of gun violence
  - Death threats
- Verbal assaults at the protest and as the Hong Kong groups are dispersing
- Physical altercations at the protest
  - Pro-Beijing folks came with rubber mats to use them as shields
- Singing the Chinese anthem, waving Chinese flags
- Taking close-up photos and videos of the pro-democracy demonstrators
- Throwing things (water bottles, coins) at the pro-democracy Hong Kong protesters

- Attempts to snatch the Canadian flags, clipboard, signages from pro-Hong Kong protesters
- Climbed onto the Cenotaph and waving the Chinese flag on top of the war memorial
- A fleet of supercar were driving by the rally location and revving the engines
- Attempts to remove attendee's face covering
- Attempts to chase after and follow pro-democracy rally attendees after the rally
- Pro-Beijing groups took group photos to demonstrate their claim of the rally site
- Presence of Mainland Chinese Community Groups (potential affiliation with United Front)
  - Canada Confederation of Fujian Associations - their banner was at the front
  - Canada Heilongjiang Chamber of Commerce (CHCC) - pro-CCP protesters wearing CHCC t-shirt found in their group photo)

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

### Protest Signs & Messages:

- "I love Hong Kong, I love China"
- "I support the Hong Kong police. You can hit me."
- The Chinese national flag
- "Hong Kong is a part of China forever"
- "Don't want violence? Don't do violence!"
- "Stop Riots"
- "Stop lying"
- "One Country, Two Systems"
- "Love China"
- "HK Rioters = Giant Babies + Hypocrites"
- "One Nation. One Country"

### Chants:

- "Long live China" in Mandarin
- "Free China"
- "One China"
- "China add oil" and "Chinese add oil" in Mandarin  
(add oil is a Chinese slang, to cheer for)

- “Han Chinese traitors dogs” in Mandarin
- “No Tyranny. Only Rioters” in Mandarin
- “Shame on you”
- “Support police” in Mandarin
- “Take off your mask” in Mandarin
- “Rioters” in Mandarin
- “Slaves” in Mandarin
- Accused protesters of supporting Hong Kong independence
- “Hong Kong is a part of China”
- “One Country”
- Death threats
- “Poor garbage” in Mandarin
- Suggesting that the People’s Liberation Army will “cleanse” Hong Kong
- The Chinese national anthem

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
15th-16th August, 2019	<p>Supporters sent messages to organizers’ Facebook to warn them of a pro-Beijing counter-protest. There were screenshots from various Chinese social media platforms (WeChat and Weibo) of messages in Chinese calling for people in Toronto to join a counter-protest against the pro-Hong Kong democracy rally.</p> <p>Many users were asking counter-protesters to take high definition photos and videos of the Hong Kong rally, to send them to the Chinese government.</p> <p>The rally organizing team had filed demonstrated notice to the Toronto Police, and had contacted Toronto Police regarding the potential disruption by counter protestors.</p>	<p>Evidence Folder - screenshots of <a href="#">(1)</a> <a href="#">(2)</a> and WeChat <a href="#">(1)</a> <a href="#">(2)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Weixin (Chinese) blog post</a></p>



17th August, 2019 3PM	<p>Hong Kong protest organizers showed up at the rally location, there were no police presence. There was immediate disruption, a group of pro-Beijing individuals showed up with Chinese flags. There was an individual who was always on the phone and seems to be directing others.</p> <p>A larger crowd of pro-Beijing protesters arrived and some of them carried red rubber mats that were used as attack shields to push towards pro-Hong Kong protesters.. They were extremely hostile and intimidating, shouting at the pro-democracy protesters. Most pro-Hong Kong protesters were peacefully sitting down at the steps of the Old City Hall, but organizers and volunteers formed a human chain to block the aggressive pro-Beijing groups. The tension escalated quickly and organizers called the police, who came and formed a barrier between the two groups.</p>	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a> <a href="#">Facebook Live Video</a> <a href="#">Twitter thread</a> <a href="#">Video of Aggressive Counter-Protesters</a> <a href="#">Photo album of the counter-protest</a>
17th August, 2019 3:30PM	<p>Some pro-Beijing individuals tried to snatch the Canadian flag carried by the pro-Hong Kong protesters. The pro-Beijing individuals used their rubber mats to charge towards pro-Hong Kong protesters.</p>	<a href="#">Facebook Live Video</a> (5:50-7:40)
17th August, 2019 4PM	<p>Pro-Beijing protestors threw water bottles and coins at pro-Hong Kong crowd, but the Toronto Police did not take any action.</p> <p>There were several occasions of pro-Beijing supporters attempting to infiltrate the Hong Kong protest, to take photos and videos of people's faces. The pro-Beijing protesters took photos and videos of Hong Kong rally attendees' faces, and threatened to send them to the Chinese government.</p> <p>Several luxury sports cars began driving up to the rally, the drivers revving their engines as they</p>	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a> <a href="#">Facebook Live Video</a> <a href="#">Video of Aggressive Counter-Protesters</a> <a href="#">Photo album of the counter-protest</a> <a href="#">NTD-EPOCH Times SF reporting on the fleet of supercars</a>

	<p>slowly drove by. Pro-Beijing crowds were cheering and applauding them.</p> <p>The march was cancelled for safety concerns as there were many seniors and childrens attending the pro-Hong Kong rally.</p>	YouTube - compilation of video circulating on Chinese social media
<p>17th August, 2019</p> <p>5PM</p>	Organizers asked the Toronto police to monitor the situation as the pro-Hong Kong crowd was dispersing. Pro-Beijing crowd followed the Hong Kong protesters, and Hong Kong protesters asked for assistance from the Toronto Police.	From witnesses and one of the organizers
<p>17th August, 2019</p> <p>5PM ~ 5:30PM</p>	A Hong Kong protester was punched by a pro-Beijing supporter, but the attacker fled the scene.	From witnesses and one of the organizers
<p>17th August, 2019</p> <p>5:30PM</p>	Hong Kong protesters were facing verbal threats and harassment, they were followed by pro-Beijing individuals.	From witnesses and one of the organizers

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

[Evidence Folder](#)

[Facebook Live Video](#)

[Twitter thread](#)

[Photo album of the counter-protest](#)

[Youtube video recorded by pro-democracy mainland Chinese](#)

Local Coverage:

*BlogTO* (Aug. 19, 2019): [“Chinese nationalists crash Hong Kong rally in Toronto with luxury cars”](#)

*CBC News* (Aug. 17, 2019): ["Police called in as groups of pro-Hong Kong, China protesters clash in Toronto"](#)

*CTV News* (Aug. 17, 2019): ["Toronto march in support of Hong Kong protests blocked by pro-China group"](#)

*Global News* (Aug. 17, 2019): ["Protesters face off at rally for Hong Kong in Toronto"](#)

*The National Post* (Aug. 21, 2019): ["Former Ontario Liberal cabinet minister headlines pro-Beijing rally near Toronto"](#)

[Ming Pao Video of the Clashes](#)

Related Chinese media reporting and social media posts:

[Weixin \(Chinese\) blog post](#)

[YorkBBS \(Local Toronto Chinese Forum\)](#)

[Singtao Canada \(Featured Article - Pro-China\)](#)

[CCTV Reporting Propaganda](#)

[NTD-EPOCH Times SF reporting on the fleet of supercars](#)

YouTube - compilation of video circulating on Chinese social media

# Montreal, QC

## LOCATION

Montreal Pride - Montreal, Quebec

## DATE OF EVENT

18th August, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizer:

Fierté Montréal – Montréal Pride (Organiser)

[Action Free Hong Kong Montréal](#) (Participant, as Team Hong Kong)

Witness(es):

Henry Lam (Co-founder & Advisor of the Action Free Hong Kong Montreal, Freehkmtl)

Francis Tang (Hong Kong Pride Parade)

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Coordinated a counter-protest on social media (WeChat) and local news platforms
- Planned ambush attacks to the Hong Kong Team using chili pepper water guns and other weapons
- Alleged influenced the Pride committee with their connections that led to the swift decision to remove Freehkmtl from the parade
- 2 group of 150+ pro-Beijing supporters in total showed up. They tried to search and to harass any participants from Hong Kong
- They ended up marching alongside the Pride Parade, uninvited, waving Chinese national and Hong Kong SAR flags
- At one point, they stalked a guest marcher from Hong Kong (Francis Tang) and followed him closely for a block, he had to flee into a nearby shopping centre
- During the silent moment they sang the Chinese national anthem

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

Protest Signs & Messages:

- The Chinese national flag
- Hong Kong SAR flag

Chants:

- The Chinese national anthem

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
August 5th - August 14th, 2019	Freehkmtl granted participation by the Pride committee on 12 <sup>th</sup> Aug. A meeting with broad member Karl Boulanger and general coordinator Valentine Pham on 14 <sup>th</sup> Aug at 1100 further confirmed the participation details.	
August 14th, 2019	Montreal-based Chinese platforms were promoting counter-protests.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 16th, 2019	Freehkmtl were informed at least 2 WeChat groups are created, with 800 pro-Beijing supporters were planning the attacks. Most of the members were overseas students.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 17th, 2019	Information and screencaps showed that the pro-Beijing	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>

	<p>supporters were planning attacks using chili water guns and other weapons like guns, small knives, razor, steel whip.</p> <p>One participant pointed out that the Chinese Consulate distributed payments to participants (to the core organizers at least).</p>	
<p>August 17th, 2019 12:30PM</p>	<p>Freehkmtl received an email from Montreal Pride to inform decision of removing Freehkmtl from the Parade, due to “security concerns”. Cited that they received Montreal Police (SMVP) information about the planned sabotage acts.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p>
<p>August 18th, 2019</p>	<p>While Pride committee did not publicly announce the ban, pro-Beijing participants were informed about the removal of Freehkmtl, that created a confusion among pro-Beijing supporters.</p> <p>But they still decided to go on the streets in search of pro-Hong Kong participants. 150+ pro-Beijing supporters in total showed up in 2 groups.</p> <p>They marched alongside the Pride Parade, uninvited, waving Chinese national and Hong Kong SAR flags, and</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p> <p><a href="#">SCMP News Report</a></p>

	<p>stalked a guest marcher from Hong Kong.</p> <p>During the silent moment they sang the Chinese national anthem.</p> <p>They took group photos in front of the Chinatown gate.</p>	
August 27th, 2019	<p>Initial news report stated that the SMVP denied Montreal Pride's claim, that SMVP did not inform Fierté Montréal's Pride Parade "concerning militant groups of pro-communist Chinese protesters".</p>	<p><a href="#">CBC News Report</a>  <a href="#">MTL Blog Report</a>  <a href="#">Le Devoir Report</a></p>

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

### [Evidence Folder](#)

CBC News (27<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): [Hong Kong activists booted from Montreal Pride parade after alleged pro-Communist threats](#)

The Globe And Mail (27<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): [Hong Kong activists barred from Montreal pride parade after threats of sabotage](#)

MTL Blog (28<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): [Hong Kong Activists Were Kicked Out Of The Montreal Pride Parade After "Sabotage" Threats](#)

Le Devoir (27<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): [Des Hongkongais écartés du défilé de Fierté Montréal](#)

ICI-RDI (27<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): [Des militants hongkongais exclus du défilé de la Fierté en raison de menaces](#)

CTV (28<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): [Hong Kong solidarity group was pulled from Montreal Pride Parade over threats](#)

South China Morning Post (29<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): [Montreal Pride expels gay Hong Kong marchers, blaming 'threats by pro-Communists' to sabotage parade](#)

La Presse (29<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): [Ombres chinoises sur la Fierté](#)

MTL Blog (29<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): [Montreal Police Say They Never Warned Montreal Pride About Threats To Hong Kong Activists](#)

CBC News (30<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): ['A major fail': Ex-ambassador to China says Montreal Pride should have protected Hong Kong activists](#)

CBC (29<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019): [Le Tele Journal](#) - Tensions entre Hong Kong et la Chine : des répercussions au Canada



# APPENDIX B: Global Incident Reports

## Hamburg, GERMANY

### LOCATION

Hamburg, Germany

### DATE OF EVENT

August 17th, 2019

### ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizers:

[Hong Kong Hamburgers - Stand with Hong Kong](#)

Key Witnesses:

Police officers

### ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Nearly starting physical altercations with pro-Hong Kong protesters
- Verbal insults and threats
- Waving the Chinese national flag and singing the Chinese national anthem
- Online harassment and threats
  - Pro-CCP individuals are posting threats in Facebook comments such as "your mother(s) die today"
  - Another comment was from a self-claimed member of Chinese Communist Party, and that he will report to Chinese government about the protest, warning them to stop protesting in a foreign country
  - WeChat screenshots of pro-CCP groups being furious about the protest

- Organizing a counter-protest near where the Hong Kong protest is held
- Taking photos and videos to identify the attendees of the Hong Kong protest, sending that information to the Chinese consulate to send to the central government
  - Information and photos were shared via WeChat groups
- Tried to physically rip masks off the Hong Kong protesters

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

Protest Signs & Messages:

- The Chinese national flag

Chants:

- The Chinese national anthem
- Laughing and shouting at the Hong Kong group
- “Shame on you”

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
August 10th - 12th, 2019	Organizers begin receiving insults and harassment on the Facebook event, and later pro-Beijing individuals start to report their posts.	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>
August 16th, 2019  10PM	Organizers received warning from other Hongkongers about the pro-Beijing hostile and aggressive reactions towards the assembly the next day. Seen in screenshots of Chinese messages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Supporting verbal insults and physical violence against Hong Kong protesters</li> <li>● Supporting taking photos and sending it</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Evidence Folder</a>  <a href="#">Local coverage</a>

	<p>to the embassy/consulate to the central Chinese government</p> <p>Pro-CCP groups organized another assembly on the same day at a location of 1km away from the Hong Kong protest.</p>	
<p>August 17th, 2019</p> <p>Morning</p>	<p>Organizers informed the police there would be many Chinese counter-protesters, and conflict might happen.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p> <p><a href="#">Local coverage</a></p>
<p>August 17th, 2019</p> <p>2:30PM</p>	<p>Small groups of 3~5 pro-CCP supporters were hanging around at the plaza and observing the organizers who were setting up.</p> <p>The first speaker was a young Chinese student, later he was found out to be a key member in the Hamburg branch of Vereinigung Chinesischer Akademischer und Studentischer Gesellschaften in Deutschland e.V. (Association of Chinese academic and student organisation in Germany, abbreviated as CASD in German). He (spoke first in English, then switched to Chinese) was accusing us for supporting the independence of Hong Kong and "violent riots" in Hong Kong.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p> <p><a href="#">Local coverage</a></p>
<p>August 17th, 2019</p> <p>3PM</p>	<p>More people showed up and there are about 100 pro-CCP individuals, gathered around the pro-democracy demonstrators.</p> <p>The organizer was provoked by the pro-Beijing groups and had her mask pulled down, they took the chance and took a photo of her. She was the victim in the Wechat group that her photo would be sent to Chinese consulate.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p> <p><a href="#">Local coverage</a></p>

<p>August 17th, 2019</p> <p>3:15PM ~ 3:30PM</p>	<p>Pro-Beijing groups accused us for supporting the independence of Hong Kong, soon later, the attendees of the two groups almost clashed. Police intervened.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p> <p><a href="#">Local coverage</a></p>
<p>August 17th, 2019</p> <p>4PM</p>	<p>Session of shouting slogans.</p> <p>A pro-CCP lady shouted at us and grasped the hand of one volunteer. The pro-CCP group sang the national anthem and waved the Chinese national flag. The flag was taken away by the police and the pro-CCP leader was charged for unlawful assembly.</p> <p>Many left after singing the national anthem, some stayed until the end of the protest.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p> <p><a href="#">Local coverage</a></p>
<p>August 17th, 2019</p> <p>9:30PM</p>	<p>Organizers received screenshots of a conversation in WeChat group, including photos of the assembly and saying that they would send photos to Chinese consulate.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence Folder</a></p>

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

[Evidence Folder](#)

[Facebook Album](#)

[Local coverage](#)

# Melbourne, AUSTRALIA

## LOCATION

Melbourne, Australia

## DATE OF EVENT

August 16th, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizer:

[Victoria Hong Kong Tertiary Student Association](#)

Witness(es):

[Victoria Hongkongers Association - Australia](#)

[Australia-Hong Kong Link](#)

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Online harassment and threats leading up to the event
  - University students received death and rape threats days before the event due to the ongoing Lennon wall demonstrations and other demonstrations
  - Pro-Beijing individuals threatened the crash the event on Chinese social media
- Aggressive counter-protesters around 500 to 600 people
  - Began physically assaulting people, including ABC news reporter
- Physical altercations between local supporters and the pro-CCP groups
  - One pro-CCP counterprotestor was arrested by Victoria Police
  - Two men were interviewed by Victoria Police in relation to unlawful assault, before being released pending summons
- An ABC news crew was attacked by a pro-CCP counterprotester
  - The reporter's camera gear was targeted after he was pushed

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

Protest Signs & Messages:

- The Chinese national flag
- “I support the Hong Kong police, you may now beat me. What a shame for Hong Kong”

Chants:

- The Chinese national anthem
- “One China”
- “You are rubbish, China is great”
- “China, add oil”
- “No violence”
- “Long live China” (Global times source)
- “Support the Hong Kong Police” (Global times source)
- “Call us dad”

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
After 6th August, 2019	Since the clash at the Lennon wall event, pro-Beijing groups have been threatening Hong Kong students and threatening to crash the protest on 16th on Chinese social media.	
August 16th, 2019  2 hours before the event	A few pro-CCP individuals showed up 2 hours before the event to take pictures of the organizers with a professional camera. Some claimed that they’re ‘students reporters’ and asked us sensitive questions.	
August 16th, 2019  During the event	Pro-Beijing protesters gathered as the rally began and started playing loud Chinese music to disrupt speeches, and then started shouting to disrupt the Hong Kong group from singing and shouting slogans, ultimately pro-CCP groups started a fight.	

	The event ended after physical altercations, as the police asked everyone to disperse.	
August 17th, 2019  After the event	Chinese Ambassador to Australia Cheng Jingye, released a statement warning the Australian government not to “interfere in Hong Kong’s affairs and China’s internal affairs in whatever form” and asked people in Australia to “see the real picture of situation in Hong Kong, act in the interests of Hong Kong’s prosperity, stability and rule of law.	

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

[Evidence Folder](#)

[Facebook video](#)

*Australian Associated Press* (Aug. 17, 2019): <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/aug/17/pro-hong-kong-rally-in-melbourne-turns-violent-amid-clashes-with-china-supporters>

*The Age* (Aug. 16, 2019): <https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/pro-hong-kong-rally-in-melbourne-threatens-to-turn-violent-as-rival-protesters-clash-20190816-p52hzi.html>

*ABC News* (Aug. 15, 2019): <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-08-16/pro-china-protest-delayed-over-fake-melbourne-council-permit/11416848>

*SCMP* (Aug. 16, 2019): <https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/australasia/article/3023191/pro-hong-kong-group-clashes-rival-protesters-melbourne>

*SBSNews* (Aug. 17, 2019): <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/pro-hong-kong-activists-rally-in-melbourne-for-second-day>

*Daily Mail Youtube* (Aug. 16, 2019): <https://youtu.be/fURF4vsdFWU>

Global Times Youtube (Aug. 16, 2019):

[https://youtu.be/ZpdguiFL9\\_E](https://youtu.be/ZpdguiFL9_E)

Embassy of the PRC in the Commonwealth of Australia press release (Aug. 17, 2019):

[http://au.china-embassy.org/eng/sghdxwfb\\_1/t1689528.htm](http://au.china-embassy.org/eng/sghdxwfb_1/t1689528.htm)

News.Com.AU (Aug. 18, 2019):

<https://www.news.com.au/national/hong-kong-protests-in-melbourne-sydney-and-adelaide-turn-ugly/news-story/0e221010c4c7144ae53bc8decc854f5d>

ABC News video (Aug. 16, 2019):

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-08-17/protester-attempts-to-stop-abc-cameraman/11424078?nw=0>



# Cologne, GERMANY

## LOCATION

Cologne, Germany

## DATE OF EVENT

August 17th, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizers:

Informal group of German-Hong Kongers

Witness(es):

Mayor of the City of Cologne, Andreas Wolter

Reporter Kölnische Rundschau

Reporter Dominic Röltgen

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Online harassment on Facebook event page
- Taking photos and videos of the pro-democracy demonstrators in close range
- Verbal harassment at the protest
- Singing the Chinese national anthem and waving Chinese national flags
- Physical altercations with pro-Hong Kong protesters
- Following the pro-democracy protesters

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

Protest Signs & Messages:

- "I love China"
- "Peaceful"
- "No Violence"
- The Chinese national flag

Chants:

- The Chinese national anthem

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
August 16th, 2019	<p>Organizers received news that pro-Beijing groups would stage a counter protest at the same location that they have applied for our rally. On Weixin, pro-Beijing organizers encouraged individuals to show up to counter protest.</p> <p>The Facebook event received online harassment leading up to the protest event.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence folder</a></p> <p><a href="#">Weixin (Chinese) blog post</a></p>
August 17th, 2019	<p>A group of pro-Beijing supporters showed up before the start of the protest with Chinese national flags. They stood beside the Hong Kong protesters.</p> <p>There were police presence, so the situation did not escalate. Pro-Beijing individuals were singing the Chinese national anthem and other Chinese songs, and were waving many Chinese flags. Some of the pro-Beijing individuals rushed forward but were held back by others. They filmed and photographed the attendees with professional cameras. The counter-protesters were also shouting insults at the Hong Kong protest. Every 30 minutes or so, the whole pro-Beijing crowd would advanced their closer to us, some of them lingered around the Hong Kong protest.</p> <p>Organizers were worried that the pro-Beijing individuals would follow them home.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence folder</a></p> <p><a href="#">Facebook Post (Chi)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Facebook Post (Eng)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Mayor of the City of Cologne, Andreas Wolter's Facebook post</a></p> <p><a href="#">Local Chinese news coverage</a></p>

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

[Evidence folder](#)

[Facebook Post \(Chi\)](#)

[Facebook Post \(Eng\)](#)

[Mayor of the City of Cologne, Andreas Wolter's Facebook post](#)

[Local Chinese news coverage](#)

[Weixin \(Chinese\) blog post](#)

# Sydney, AUSTRALIA

## LOCATION

Martin Place (16th)  
Sydney, Australia

Belmore Park  
Sydney, Australia (18th)

## DATE OF EVENT

August 16th, 2019 & August 18th, 2019

## ORGANIZER AND KEY WITNESSES

Organizer:

[Australia-Hong Kong Link](#)

[NSW HongKongers](#)

Witness(es):

N/A

## ACTIVITIES OF THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

- Social media
- Verbally harassing by yelling at the Hong Kong supporters
- Pro-Beijing protesters were tearing down pro-Hong Kong democracy posters
- Pro-Beijing supporters tried to physically fight and beat up Hong Kong supporters
- About 30-50 mainland Chinese attempted to disrupt the protest. Mainlanders proceeded to sing the Chinese national anthem, and chanting slogans to supporting the HK police.
- Pro-Beijing supporters made attempts to identify Hong Kong supporters
  - Subsequently, AHKL received reports that students and other Hong Kong supporters present at the protest were doxxed

## SLOGANS FROM THE PRO-BEIJING SUPPORTERS

### Protest Signs & Messages:

- The Chinese national flag
- China's Hong Kong
- Stop violence//I support the HK Police
- Five-starred Red Flag, You are my pride (五星紅旗, 你是我的驕傲)
- The freedom I gave you has gone too far (是我給你的自由過了火)

### Chants:

- The Chinese national anthem
- "Hong Kong is a part of China"
- "Support the Hong Kong Police"
- "F\*\*k your mother's c\*\*t"

## INCIDENT TIMELINE

DATE/ TIME	HIGHLIGHT/ INCIDENT	NOTES
August 15th, 2019  (Martin Place)		
	About 30-50 mainland Chinese attempted to disrupt the protest. Mainlanders processed to sing the national anthem, chanting slogans to support HK police.  However, public order and riot police performed a cordon line	

	separating the mainlanders across the street.	
August 18th, 2019  (Belmore Park)		(Cannot find much about counter-protestors)

## EVIDENCE/ PHOTOS/ VIDEOS

[Evidence Folder](#)

[Australia-Hong Kong Link official statement](#)

[Video of the Sydney event](#)

News.Com.AU (Aug. 18, 2019):

<https://www.news.com.au/national/hong-kong-protests-in-melbourne-sydney-and-adelaide-turn-ugly/news-story/0e221010c4c7144ae53bc8decc854f5d>

SCMP (Aug. 18, 2019):

<https://www.scmp.com/news/world/united-states-canada/article/3023304/hong-kong-protests-rallies-held-sydney-vancouver>

AFP/HKFP (Aug. 17, 2019):

<https://hongkongfp.com/2019/08/17/hong-kong-protest-tensions-heat-australia-pro-china-demonstrators-hit-streets/>