

# CANADIAN CENTRE FOR **CYBER SECURITY**

## National Water and Wastewater Conference 2022

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Cyber Centre Partnerships

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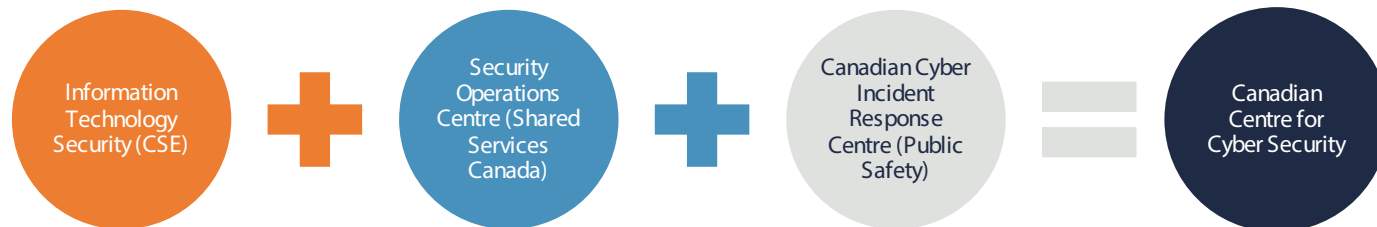
# THE CANADIAN CENTER FOR CYBER SECURITY (CYBER CENTER)

- Business line of the Communications Security Establishment, a Federal Agency
- Located in Ottawa, Ontario
- Created in 2018

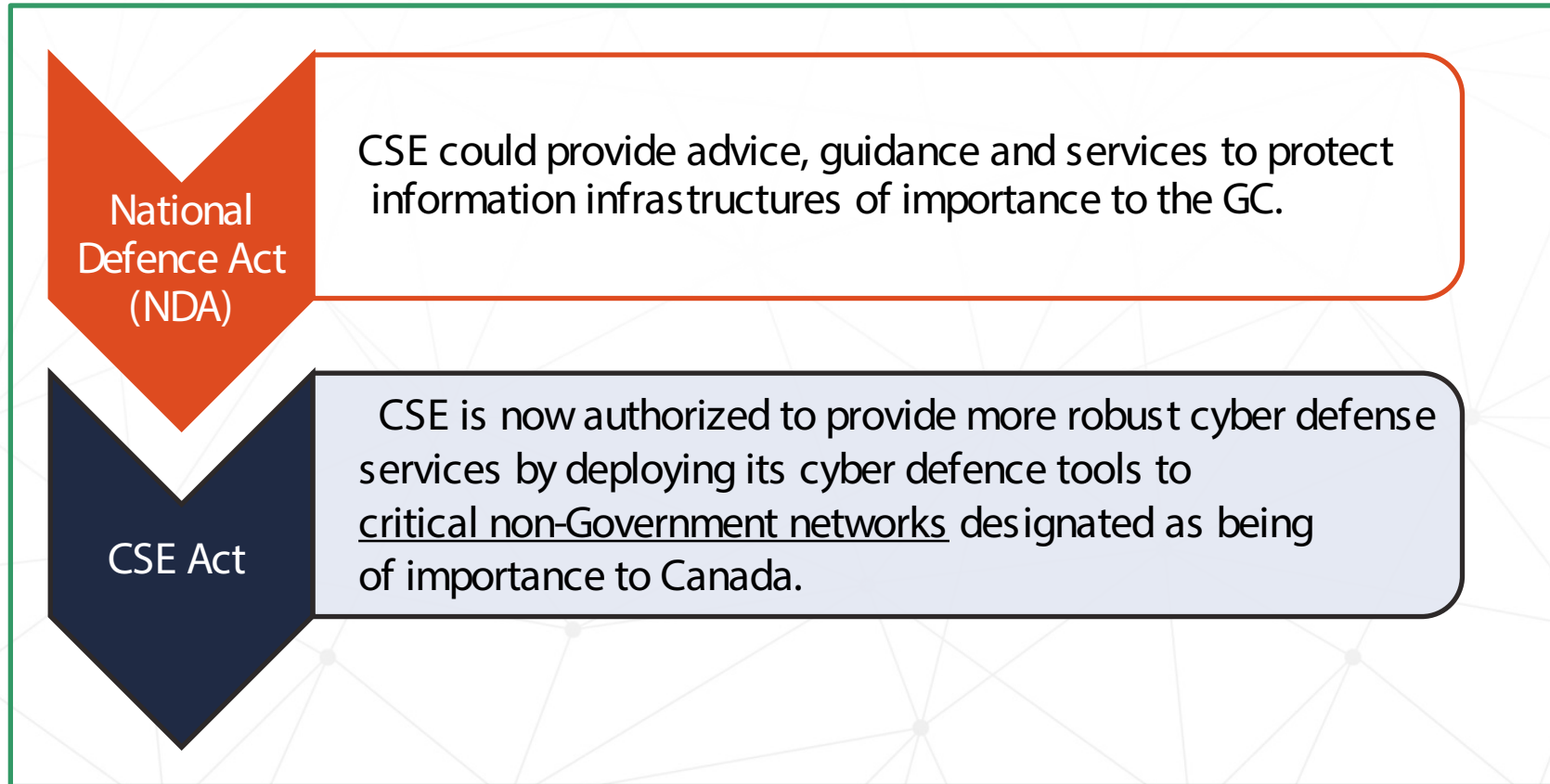
The Cyber Centre provides expert advice, guidance, services and support on cyber security for government, critical infrastructure owners and operations, the private sector and the Canadian public.



CANADIAN CENTRE FOR  
**CYBER SECURITY** | CENTRE CANADIEN POUR  
LA  
**CYBERSÉCURITÉ**



# CYBER CENTRE MANDATE





# CCCS PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

**CANADIAN CITIZENS**  
Citizens

**SMOs**  
Small Organizations | Medium Organizations

**WATER**  
Generic | Potable Water Provider (Drinking Water) | Sanitation & Wastewater Management

**FOOD**  
Agriculture Supply Chain | Agriculture/Farms & Producers | Food Distribution & Grocery | Food Processing | Food Safety | Generic

**SAFETY**  
Emergency Management & Response | Fire | Generic | Hazardous Materials | Law Enforcement | Paramedic & Ambulatory Services | Security & Intel

**MANUFACTURING**  
Defence Industrial Base | Other Manufacturing | Production of Goods

**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**  
Crown Corporations & Other Institutions | Departments | Federal Courts | Parliamentary Entities

**DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS**  
Electoral Bodies | Political Parties

**ICT**  
Telcos & Internet Service Providers | Generic | Managed Service Providers / Managed Security Service Providers | Cloud Service Provider | Hardware / Software vendors | Social Media | Cyber Security Vendors

**ENERGY**  
Electricity | Mining | Nuclear | Oil | Gas

**FINANCE**  
Banks | Credit Unions | Generic | Insurance | Payment Infrastructure | Finance and Leasing | Pension Funds | Investments

**GOVERNMENT**  
Indigenous | Municipal | Provincial | Territorial

**TRANSPORT**  
Air | Marine | Municipal Transit | Rail | Road

**HEALTH**  
Health Associations and COE | Patient Care | Bio/Pharmaceutical Organizations | Academic Research Institutes | Regional Health Authorities | Medical Device Manufacturers | Government of Canada Partners

**INNOVATION**  
Academic partner | Private organizations | Not-for-profit organizations | Government-based organizations | Groups

**ACADEMIA**  
Universities | Colleges | Polytechnics | Other academic institutions | Service Providers | Associations | Government of Canada Partners



# FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE (RCMP)

The RCMP works to prevent crime, enforce the law, investigate offences, keep Canadians, and their interests, safe and secure, and assist Canadians in emergency situations/incidents. It operates within three main areas of responsibility:

## CANADIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (CSIS)

CSIS is at the forefront of Canada's national security system with a role to investigate activities suspected of constituting threats to the security of Canada and to report on these to the Government of Canada.

## PUBLIC SAFETY (PS)

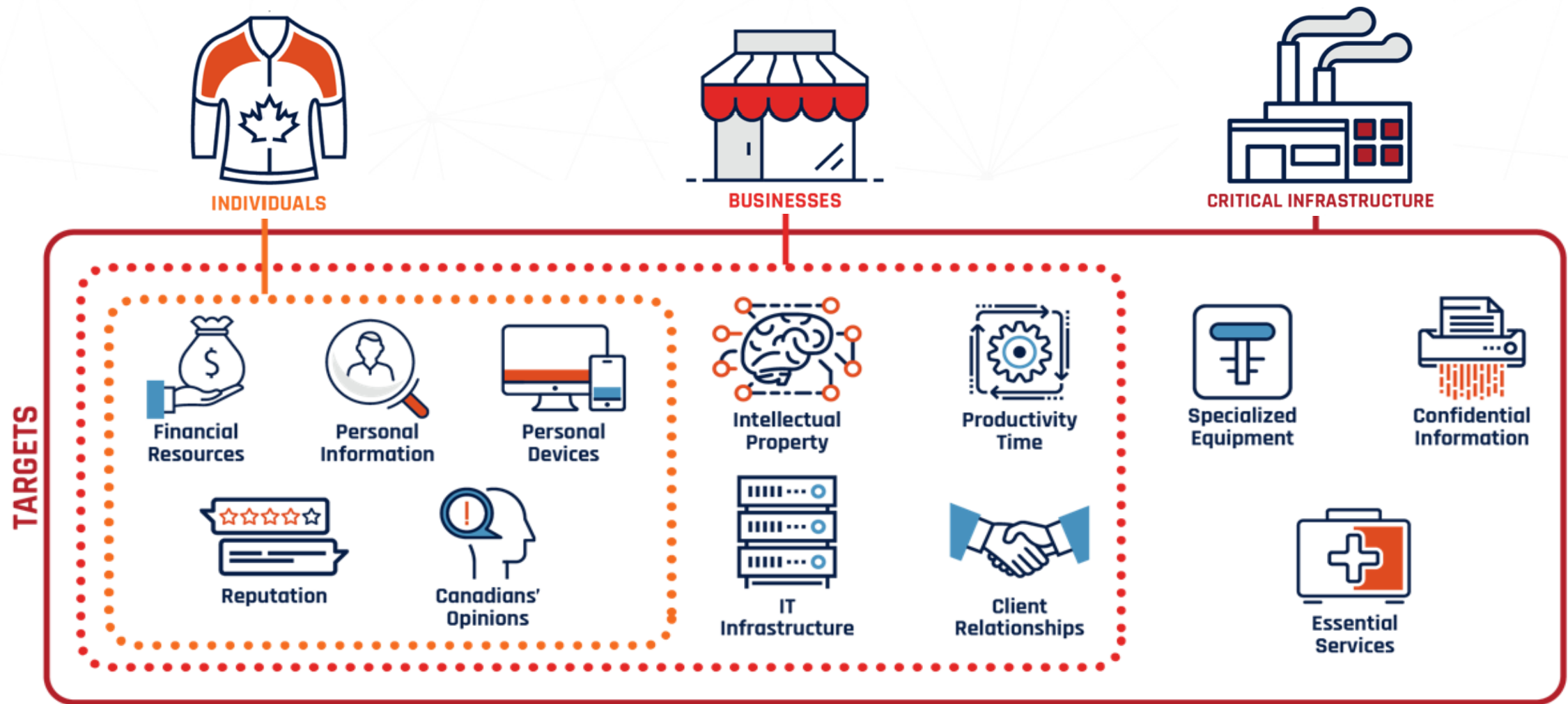
PS Canada ensures coordination across all federal departments and agencies responsible for national security and the safety of Canadians. The mandate is to keep Canadians safe from a range of risks such as natural disasters, crime, and terrorism with a mission to build a safe and resilient Canada.

## INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CANADA (ISED)

ISED works with Canadians in all areas of the economy and in all parts of the country to improve conditions for investment, enhance Canada's innovation performance, increase Canada's share of global trade and build a fair, efficient and competitive marketplace.

\*Information provided for each organization comes from their respective web sites.

# THE CANADIAN CYBER THREAT LANDSCAPE



# EVOLVING THREAT LANDSCAPE



RANSOMWARE



CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE



STATE-SPONSORED THREAT ACTORS



MDM



DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGY

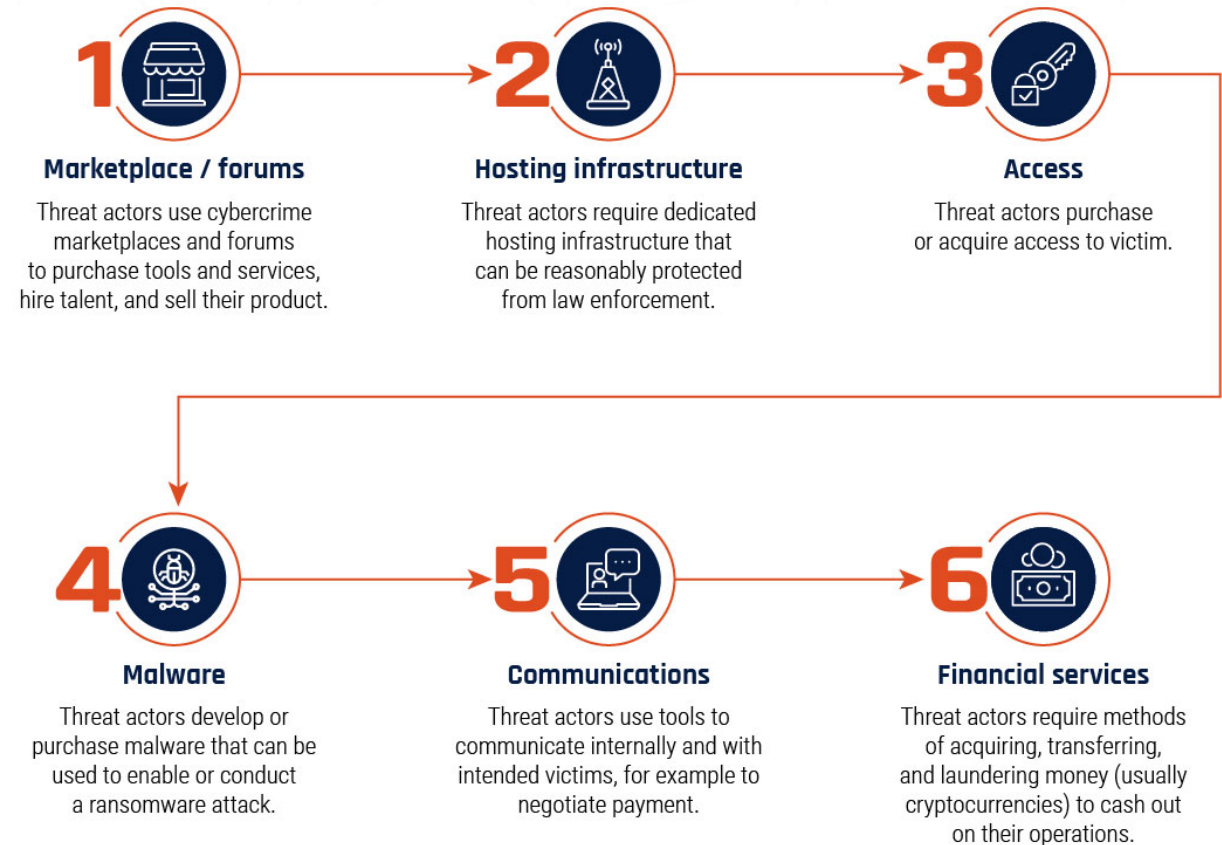




# RANSOMWARE

Ransomware-as-a-service has significantly lowered the bar to entry for Ransomware

- Due to its impact on an organization's ability to function, ransomware is almost certainly the most disruptive form of cybercrime facing Canadians
- Critical infrastructure organizations are perceived by cybercriminals to be more willing to pay significant ransoms to limit or avoid physical disruption and impacts to their customers







# RANSOMWARE

## THE RANSOMWARE THREAT IN 2021

- First half of 2021, global ransomware attacks increased by 151% when compared of the first half of 2020 (fueled by Ransomware-as-a-service)
- 2021 was marked by the highest ransoms and the highest payouts
  - In Canada, average cost of a data breach (includes ransomware) was \$6.35M CAD
  - Global average cost of recovery from ransomware incident (paying ransom / remediating compromised network) increased from \$970 000 CAD in 2020 to \$2.3M CAD in 2021
- Cyber Center is aware of 305 ransomware incidents against Canadian victims from Jan 2021 to Jan 2022

Reporting Portal: <https://portal-portail.cyber.gc.ca/>





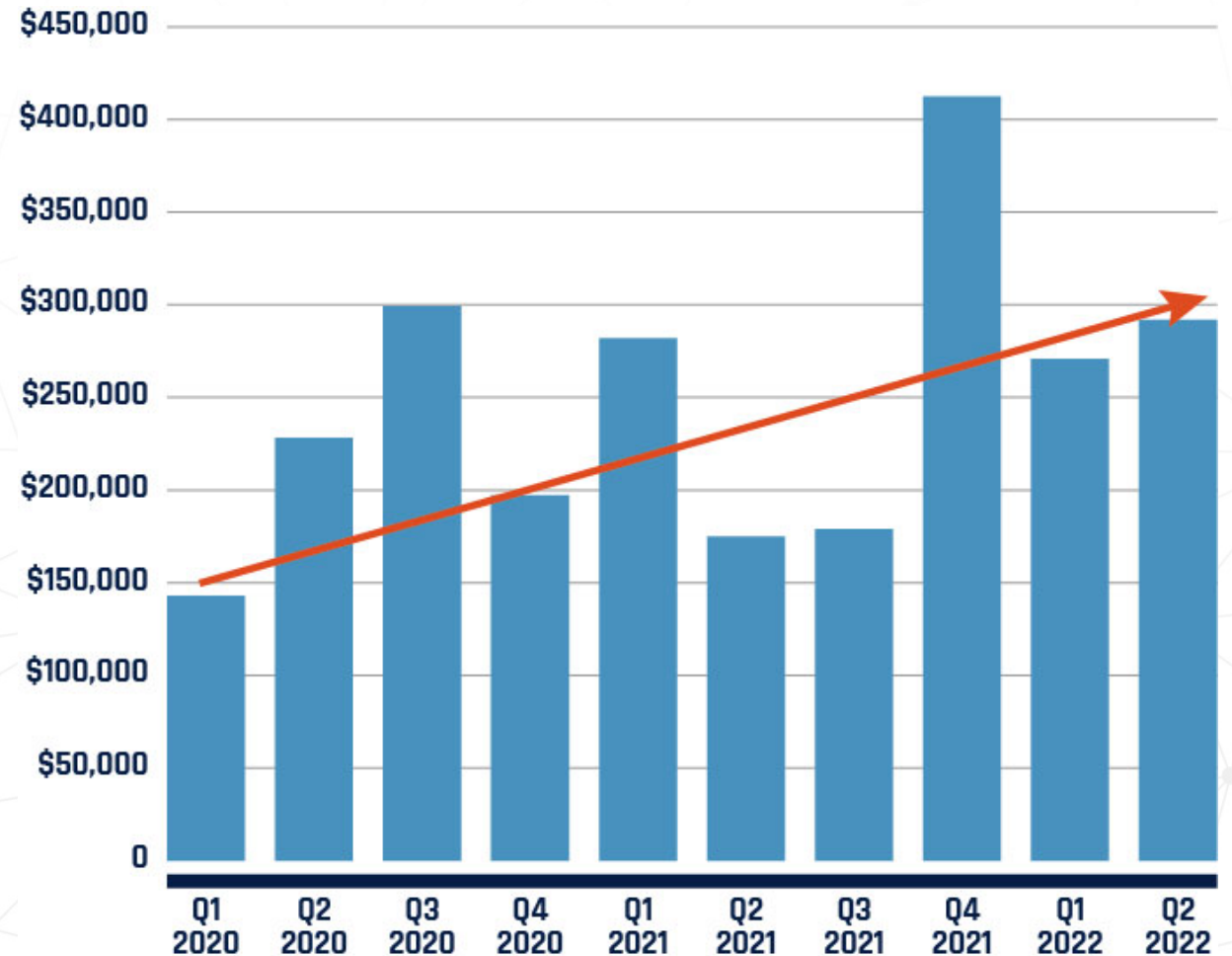
# RANSOMWARE

Ransomware is growing in popularity

## Ransomware Playbook

- Top Measures to Enhance CyberSecurity for SMO
- Spotting Malicious Email Messages
- Ransomware: How to prevent and recover
- Ransomware: How to recover and get back on track
- Have You Been A Victim of Cyber Crime?

Reporting Portal: <https://portal-portail.cyber.gc.ca/>





# CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Critical Infrastructure is increasingly at risk from cyber threat activity

- Cyber criminals exploit critical infrastructure because downtime can be harmful to their industrial processes and the customers they serve
- State-sponsored actors target critical infrastructure to collect information, pre-position in case of hostilities, and as a form of power projection and intimidation
- Increasing exposure of critical infrastructure's operational technology to the internet increases its threat surface

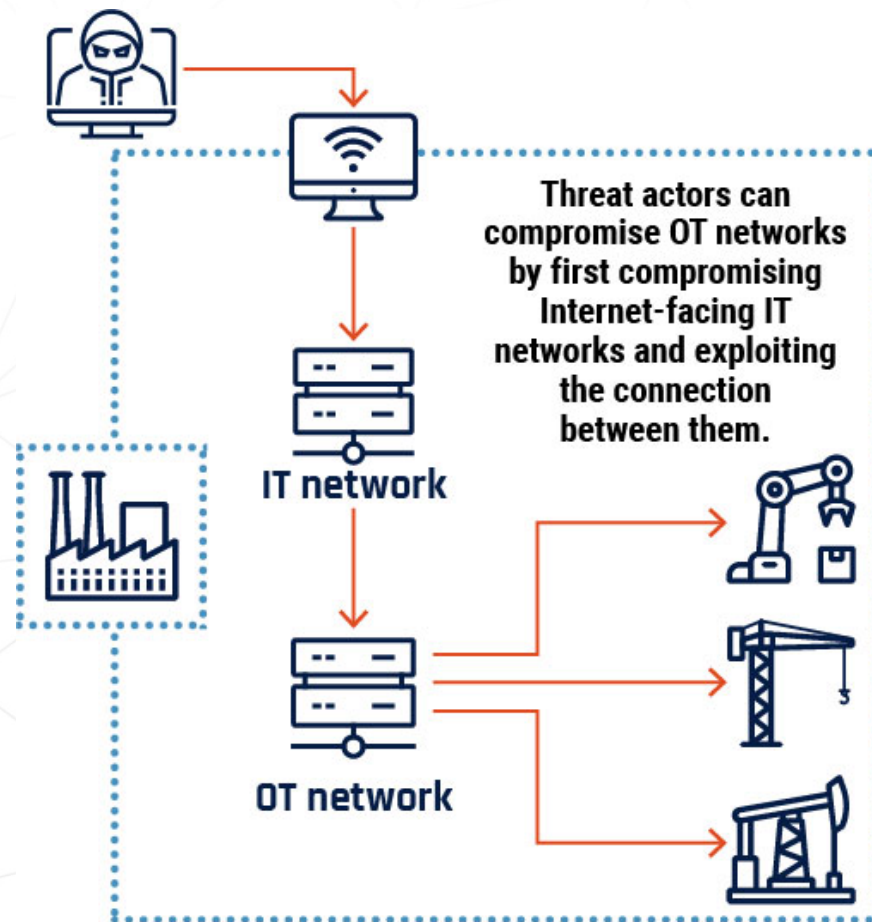




# CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

## THREATS POSED BY IT AND OT CONVERGENCE

- Vulnerabilities in OT systems that were previously not accessible given the air gap traditionally in place can now be actively exploited
- Threat actors can now reach OT systems through increased exposure



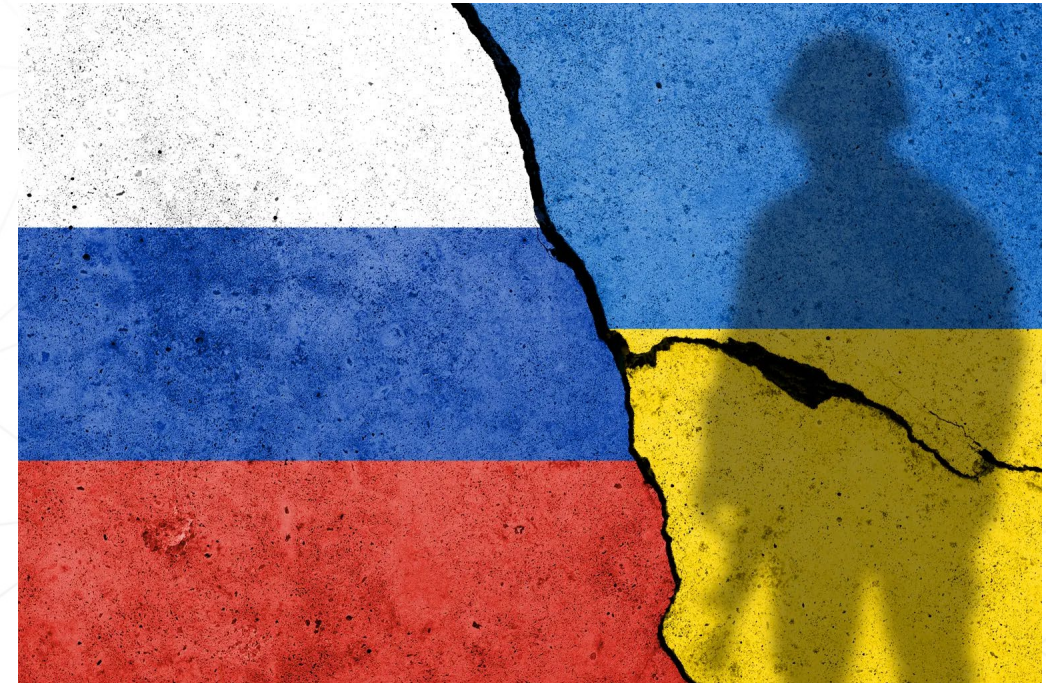




# CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

## RUSSIAN-BACKED CYBER THREAT ACTIVITY

- Given the Ukraine crisis, Russia will very likely attack the CI of perceived adversaries
- Be prepared to isolate CI components and services from the Internet
- Increase monitoring of your networks
- Enhance security posture (patch systems, enable logging, etc.)

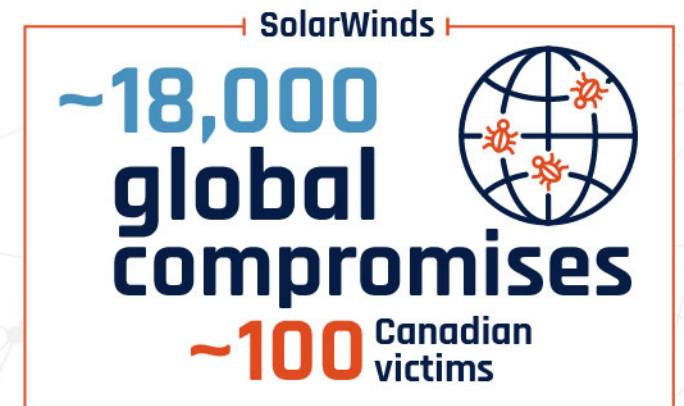




# STATE-SPONSORED THREAT ACTORS

State-sponsored threat activity is impacting Canadians

- We assess that the state-sponsored cyber programs of China, Russia, Iran and North Korea pose the greatest strategic cyber threats to Canada
- State-sponsored cyber threat activity against Canada is a constant ongoing threat





# MIS, DIS AND MAL INFORMATION [LINK](#)

Cyber threat actors are attempting to influence Canadians, degrading trust in online spaces

- Cyber threat actors' use of misinformation, disinformation and malinformation (MDM) has evolved over the past two years
- Machine-learning enabled technologies are making fake content easier to manufacture and harder to detect.
- Nation states are increasingly willing to use MDM to advance their geopolitical interests.



**Misinformation**  
False information not intended to cause harm



**Disinformation**  
False information intended to manipulate cause damage, or guide people, organizations and countries in the wrong direction



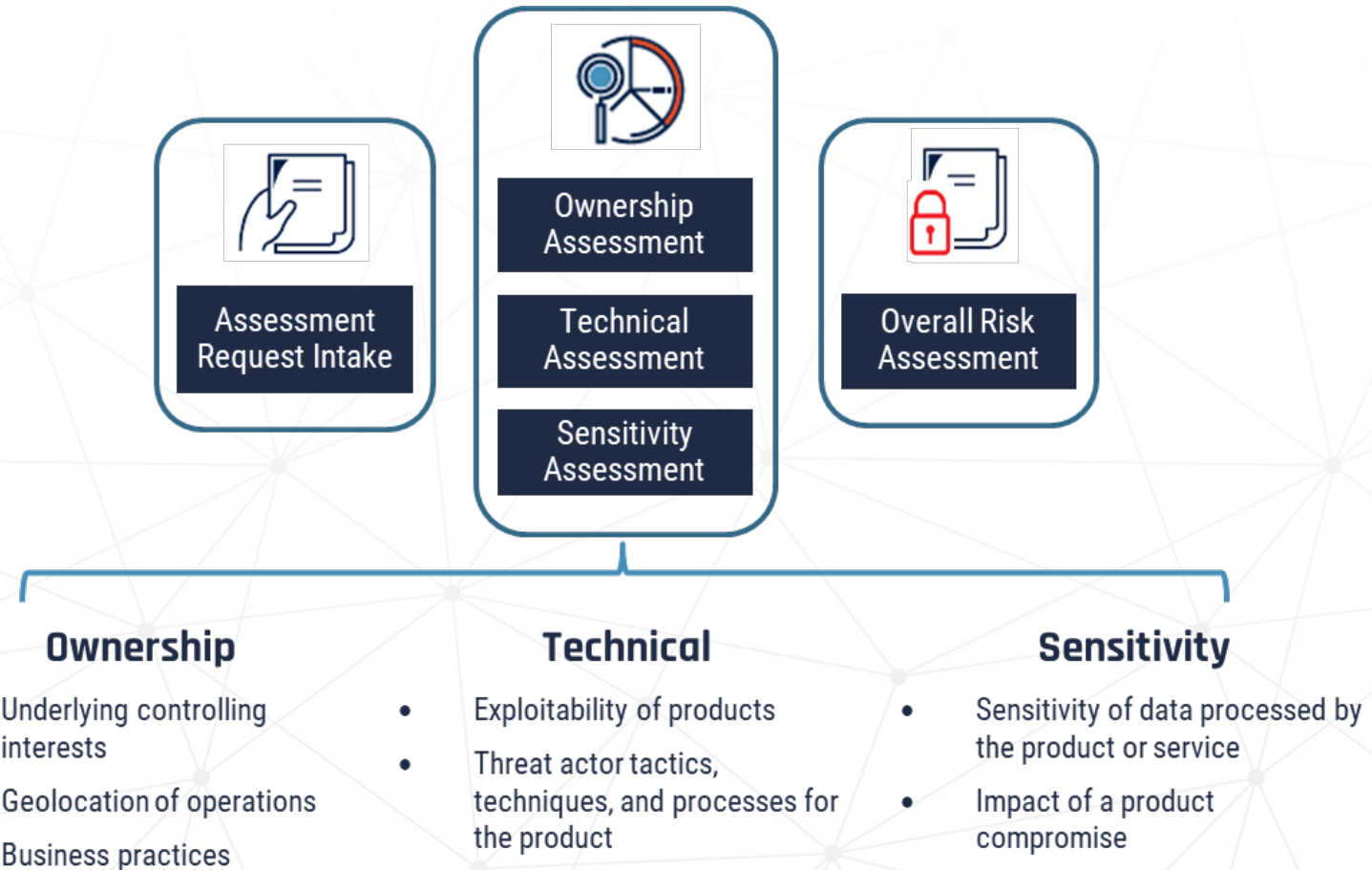
**Malinformation**  
Information that stems from the truth but is often exaggerated in a way that misleads and causes potential harm





# SUPPLY CHAIN CYBER SECURITY

- Know your supply chain inside and out
- Maintain strong relationships with vendors and suppliers
- Communicate and uphold security requirements
- Foster resiliency and improvement



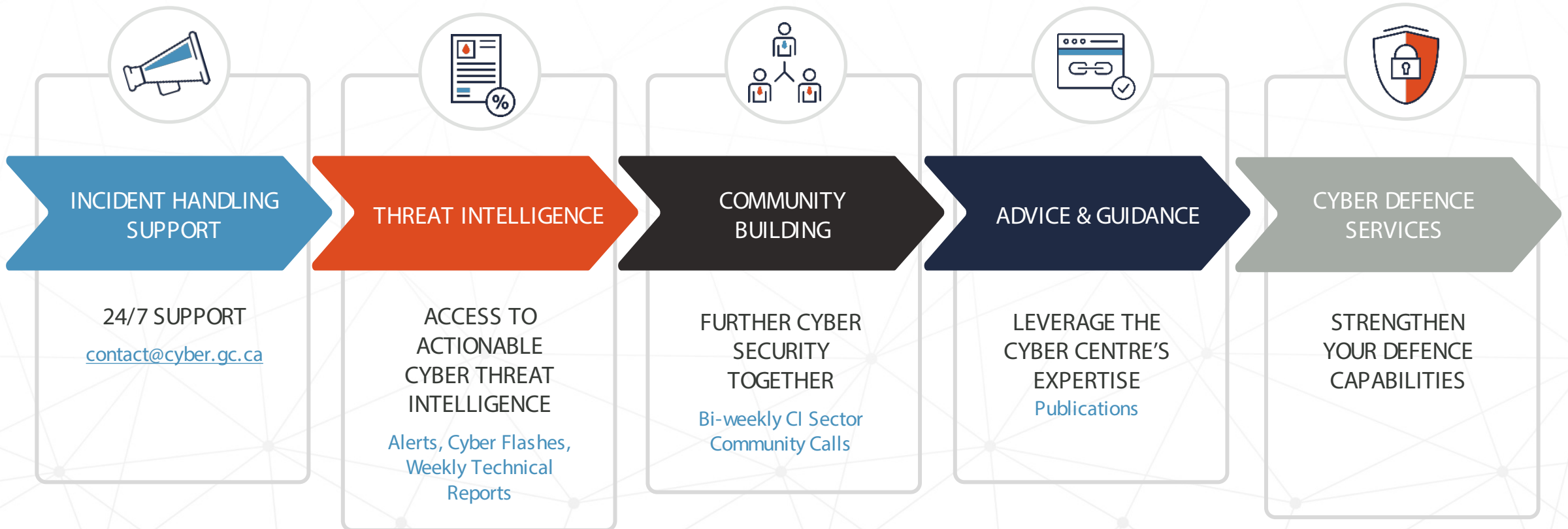


# CONSEQUENCES OF CYBER ATTACKS

- Safety: Malfunctioning IoT/OT devices
- Ethical: Privacy breaches
- Legal: Civil action, lawsuits, regulatory investigations
- Operational: Service interruptions
- Financial: Expenses for investigation, remediation, settlement costs
- Reputational: Loss of public trust due to mis-information
- Loss of IP: Stolen research data or tampering



# PRIMARY LINES OF SERVICE



For Free Cyber Center Services: [contact@cyber.gc.ca](mailto:contact@cyber.gc.ca)

# Incident Handling Support

## Support for Cyber Centre Partners



# Cyber Incident Reporting

Report cyber incidents to the Cyber Centre

Cyber Centre receives cyber incidents from the community and share back without attribution.

- 24/7 monitoring
- Provide Advice and Guidance on resolving the cyber incident issue.
- Emails to be UNCLASSIFIED (NO PB or CLASSIFIED data)
- Portal: <https://portal-portail.cyber.gc.ca/>
- Email: [contact@cyber.gc.ca](mailto:contact@cyber.gc.ca)

## Requirements

- ✓ Accept the Terms of Use or sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement



### Cyber Incident Reporting

The Canadian Centre for Cyber Security works to help build Canada's cyber resilience and security through our advice, guidance, expertise and partnerships.



### Malware sample submission

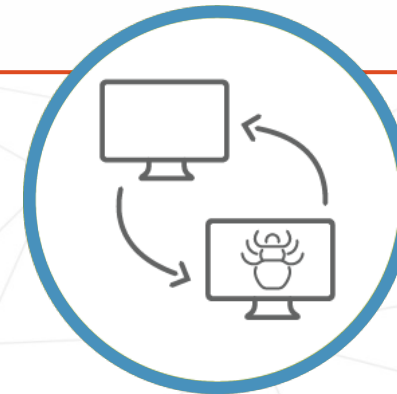
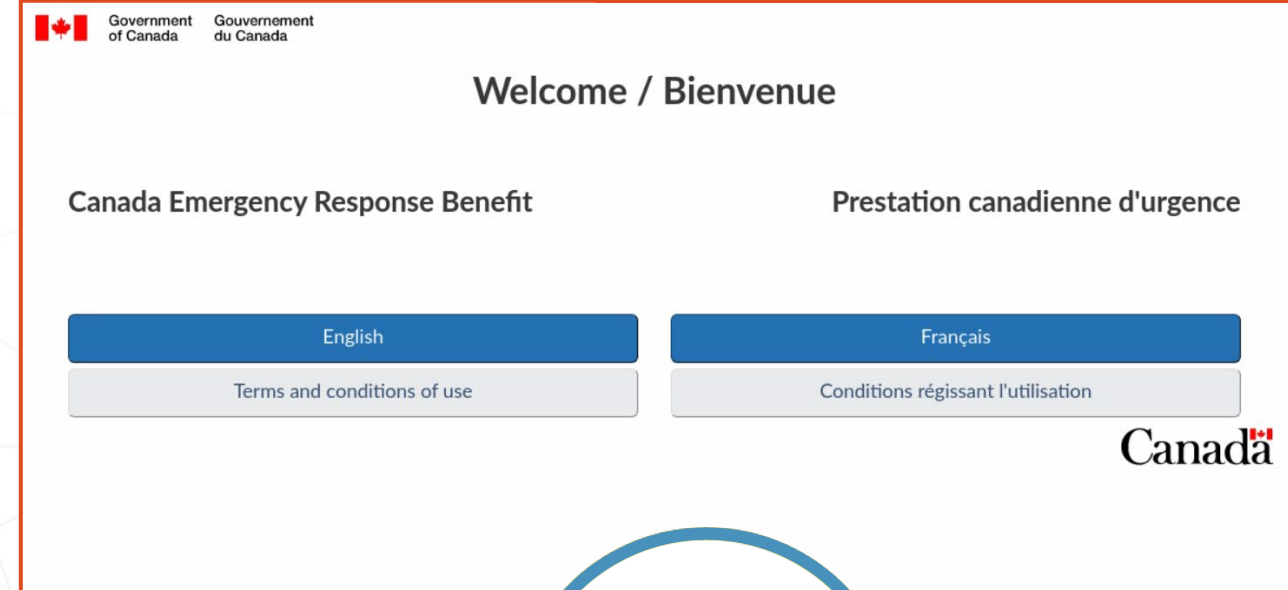
Submit a file suspected of malware or other malicious content for analysis.



# Takedown Service

- Increase in phishing websites with a COVID-19 lure such as Canada Emergency Response Benefit Phishing URL or Government of Canada (i.e. CRA) lure
- The Cyber Centre will takedown these fake websites to protect Canadians from phishing

<http://visionchb.com/ref/covid-19>



# Malware.cyber.gc.ca

Cyber Centre-operated platform to perform deep file analysis, extract indicators of compromise (IP, domain, virus name) and provide a verdict

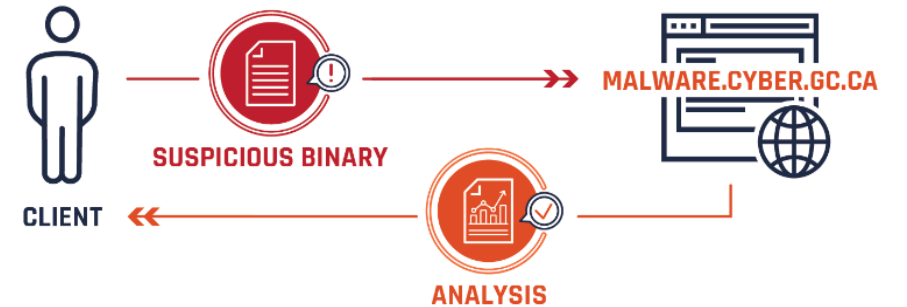
- Leverages Cyber Centre detection capabilities to analyze new threats

- Access to 20+ Cyber Centre services, 1000s of signatures, and cyber knowledge bases
- Can analyze Office documents, PDF, zip files, Windows binaries, and many other file types
- Updated constantly



## Requirements

- ✓ Fill out Organization Profile and Essential Services form
- ✓ Register in portal
- ✓ Confirm Terms of Use on portal



Powered by **ASSEMBLYLINE**

# Threat Intelligence

## Actionable Cyber Threat Intelligence



# Alerts

## Pro-active Notifications on New Cyber Threats

Distributing information, bringing attention and providing detection and mitigation advice on active cyber threats and campaigns that are expected to target Canadian assets and pose an elevated risk to the Government of Canada and its organizations.



Email Alerts

For Government of Canada and Critical Infrastructure partners



Cyber Centre Website

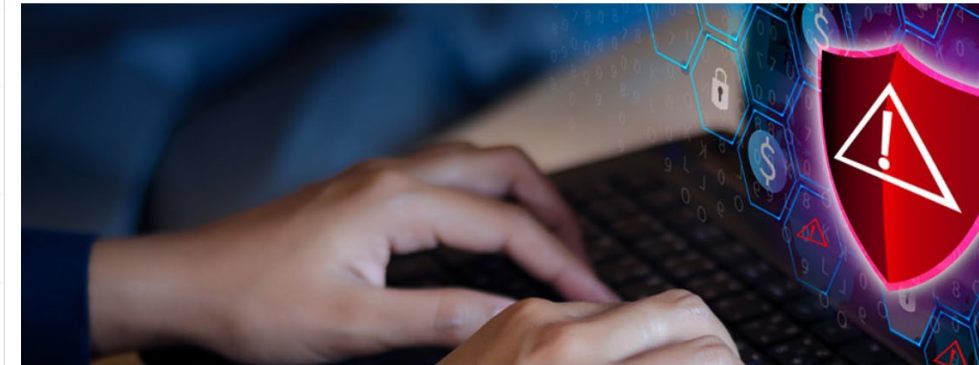
<https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/alerts-advisories>

### Requirements

- ✓ Fill out Organization Profile and Essential Services form

### ALERTS

### Disruptive activity against Ukrainian - Update 1



Number: AL22-002

Date: 24 February 2022

Updated: 25 February 2022

### Audience

This Alert is intended for IT professionals and managers of notified organizations.

### Purpose

An Alert is used to raise awareness of a recently identified cyber threat that may impact cyber information assets, and to provide mitigation advice to recipients. The Canadian Centre for Cyber Security ("Cyber Centre") is also available to provide additional information of this Alert to recipients as requested.

### Overview

On 23 February 2022 the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security (Cyber Centre) became aware of a new disruptive malware, named [1].

This Alert is being released to raise awareness and share open-source indicators associated with this activity.





# Cyber Flash

## Urgent Notifications on Active Security Issues

Actionable information sent to describe an immediate or an active security issue that is believed to be targeting the Government of Canada or Systems of Importance to the Government of Canada. The Cyber Flash notifications are TLP:Amber.



Email

Emitted as quickly as possible

### Requirements

- ✓ Fill out Organization Profile and Essential Services form

\*\*\*\*\*  
TLP:AMBER

This TLP:AMBER report may not be shared beyond the recipient organization without the express permission of the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security.

For additional information about the Traffic Light Protocol please review the following <https://www.first.org/tlp/>  
\*\*\*\*\*

TITLE

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Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet

AUDIENCE

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This Cyber Flash is intended for IT professionals and managers within the federal government and industry.

PURPOSE

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Cyber Flashes are time-sensitive and describe an immediate or active security issue. Examples of situations that warrant a Cyber Flash include: public release of an exploit which is related to a previous advisory or alert, rapidly spreading malicious code, an imminent threat against GC, critical infrastructure and other related industry networks, multiple denial of service activity, etc.

SUMMARY

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# Publications for Situational Awareness

In addition to the more tactical Cyber Flashes, the Cyber Centre publishes relevant information to keep our CI partners (and Canadians in general) informed. Examples include:

- [How to Identify Disinformation, Misinformation and Malinformation](#)
- [Cyber Threat Bulletin to take mitigations against known Russian-backed cyber threat activity](#)
- [Cyber Threat Bulletin on the cyber threat to Canada's electricity sector](#)
- [National Cyber Threat Assessment \(2022 edition coming this fall\)](#)



## Update on Russia-backed disinformation

April 25, 2022

- Kremlin officials are deflecting blame for atrocities committed by Russian forces and falsely claiming Ukraine has breached the Geneva convention.
- Russia is blaming Ukrainian forces for:
  - the shelling of Mariupol's drama theatre and maternity hospital
  - the brutal execution of hundreds of civilians in Bucha
- Russia-backed disinformation is falsely claiming that this contravention of the convention is leading to dissent in the Ukrainian military.

ALT

Communications  
Security Establishment

Centre de la sécurité  
des télécommunications

Canada



# National Cyber Threat Notification Service (NCTNS)

## Cyber Threats Seen on Your IP Space

Sent to you when a sign of compromise or a vulnerable service is seen on your IP space to notice cyber threats faster and better protect your organization.

- ✓ Vetted data to ensure quality and a low percentage of false positive



Email Notifications



API

### Requirements

- ✓ Fill out Organization Profile and Essential Services form
- ✓ Provide contact information for the person who will be receiving and using the notifications within the forms
- ✓ Share the IP range specific to your organization within the forms

NCTNS

Data Feeds

- Vulnerable Services
- Compromised Devices
- Malware
- ...



# Scorecards

## Actionable Cyber-Event Information

Report on potential infections, vulnerable services notifications, situational awareness data, and a peer-based comparison to other organizations within your sector.



PDF reports emailed monthly  
(raw CSV data available on request)

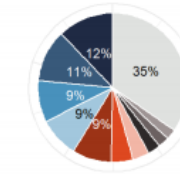
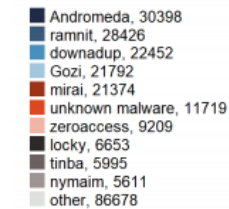
### Requirements

- ✓ Fill out Organization Profile and Essential Services form
- ✓ Provide contact information for the person who will be receiving and using the Scorecards
- ✓ Share the IP range specific to your organization

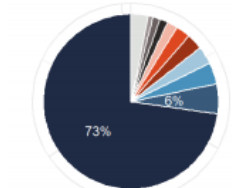
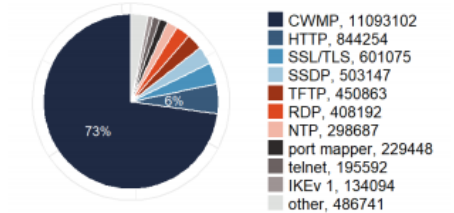
## Score Card

Telco .Inc

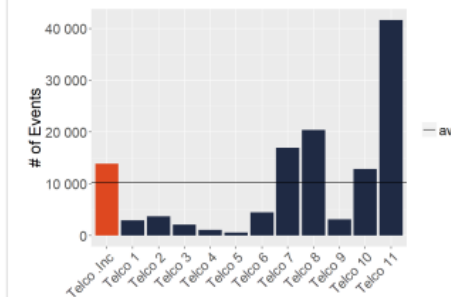
### Top Malware All Sectors



### Top Vulnerable Services All Sectors

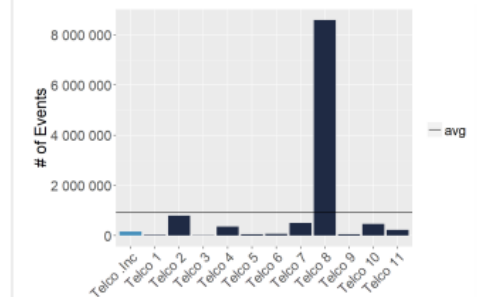


### Malware ICT



\*No malware to report in this period  
Orange indicates above average and light blue indicates below average.

### Vulnerable Services ICT



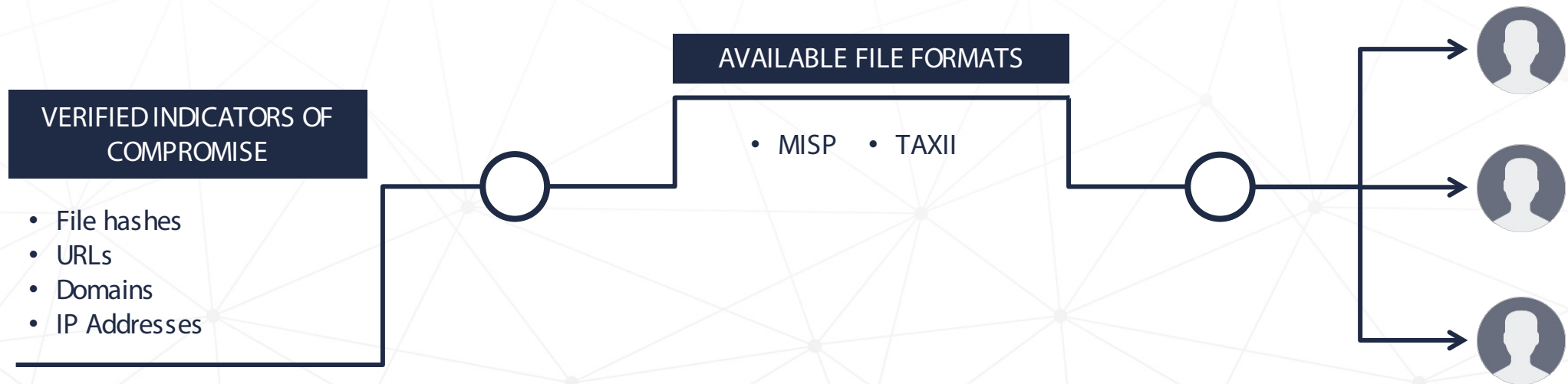
\*No vulnerable services to report in this period  
Orange indicates above average and light blue indicates below average.



# AVENTAIL

## Real-time IOC sharing

Sharing relevant and verified information on Indicators of Compromises (IoCs) at machine speed



### Requirements

- ✓ Sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement and Letter of Assistance
- ✓ Provide contact information for the person setting up the feed
- ✓ Share the IP address(es) of the system(s) to connect

# AVENTAIL-web **COMING SOON**

Access the reports via online portal

The same information available via our automated feeds can now also be viewed over the web:

- IOCs can be exported as CSVs to feed directly to firewalls which can only ingest flat files
- Organizations can see which IOCs they have ingested via TAXII/MISP
- Graph visualizer shows enrichment for IOCs where available
- Self-serve options include signing up for email reports, updating IP address range, etc.

## Requirements

- ✓ Sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement and Letter of Assistance
- ✓ Provide an “admin” user to manage the organization’s info
- ✓ Users will require valid MyCyber portal logins



# Community Building

## Furthering Cyber Security Together



# Community Calls

To Share Sector Relevant Cyber Expertise

Bi-weekly on  
Wednesday

- Community of Trust
- Situational Awareness
- Regular cadence (monthly, bi-weekly)

[contact@cyber.gc.ca](mailto:contact@cyber.gc.ca)





# Walk-the-Talk Information Series

Short, Actionable Calls for Partners

- Roughly bi-weekly cadence
- Short (~45 min) calls on one topic which provide actionable steps or information
- Variety of topics, e.g.
  - Considerations when using an MSP/MSSP
  - Top 10 security controls for small-medium businesses
  - How to do a Supply Chain Risk assessment



# GeekWeek

## Gathering the Whole Cyber Community

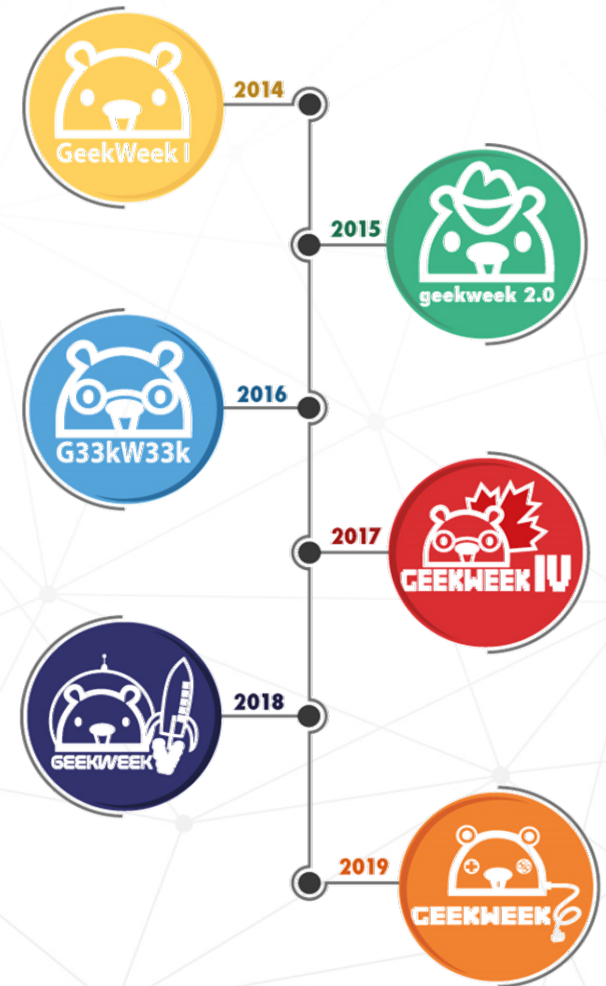


An annual cyber security workshop during which professionals work collaboratively to address cyber security problems through innovative solutions.

- This event is by invitation only. We invite individuals from cyber-related sectors, including private sector security firms and critical infrastructure organizations.
- Participants from cyber-related sectors, including critical infrastructure organizations (e.g., all levels of Government, Finance, Health, Academia) and private sector security firms, work in teams to develop practical, hands-on solutions. We match participants based on their preferred project or topic of interest.

### Requirements

- ✓ Submit your application to the GeekWeek team.
- ✓ Sign a non-disclosure agreement.
- ✓ Attend at least four (4) days of the event and cover all associated travel costs.
- ✓ Bring your own laptop and any other tools needed.



# Cyber Centre Speakers for Events

The Cyber Centre makes executives and staff available for speaking engagements

These include activities such as:

- Keynote speeches
- Panel appearances
- Addresses to company boards
- Cyber security awareness briefings for general staff
- Technical talks

**CANADIAN CENTRE FOR  
CYBER SECURITY**

**Speaker Request Form**

<b>Contact information</b>	<b>Given name(s)</b>	<b>Surname (last name)</b>	<b>Job title</b>
	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Location</b>	<b>Venue name</b>	<b>Street address</b>	
	<b>City</b>	<b>Province/Territory/State</b>	<b>Country</b>
<b>Event Details</b>	<b>Event name</b>	<b>Organization name</b>	<b>Date</b>
	<b>Description of event</b>		
<b>Audience</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Sector</b>	
	<b>Type</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input type="checkbox"/> Technical/working level <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy and Utilities <input type="checkbox"/> Finance <input type="checkbox"/> Food <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Information and Communication Technology	<input type="checkbox"/> Health <input type="checkbox"/> Water <input type="checkbox"/> Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing <input type="checkbox"/> Academia <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)

# Advice & Guidance

## Leverage the Cyber Centre's Expertise





# Publications

## ○ Visit [cyber.gc.ca](https://cyber.gc.ca) and check out all our recent publications



- [Security considerations for industrial control systems \(ITSAP.00.050\)](#)
- [Security considerations for critical infrastructure \(ITSAP.10.100\)](#)
- [Protecting your organization against denial of service attacks \(ITSAP.80.100\)](#)
- [Protect your organization from malware \(ITSAP.00.057\)](#)
- [Managing and controlling administrative privileges \(ITSM.10.094\)](#)
- [Secure your accounts and devices with multi-factor authentication \(ITSAP.30.030\)](#)
- [Baseline security requirements for network security zoning \(version 2.0\) \(ITSP.80.022\)](#)
- [Preventative security tools \(ITSAP.00.058\)](#)

# Canadian Cyber Security Tool (CCST)

## Virtual Self-Assessment Tool

An easy-to-use questionnaire for organizations to assess their operational resilience and cyber security posture

- Developed in collaboration with Public Safety
- Questions assessing:
  - ✓ Organizational information
  - ✓ Cyber incidents
  - ✓ Incident reporting
  - ✓ Technical resilience
  - ✓ Program resilience
- Approximately 1-2 hours to complete
- Participants will receive a report with advice and guidance related to each cybersecurity theme and an entity specific score based on comparative results with other organisations

CCST v1.0	CCST v2.0
38 questions	140 questions
Released Jan 2021	Released Oct 2022
High level assessment	Medium level assessment
Program and technical resilience scores	Includes additional scores for each NIST pillar

# Program, Technical Resilience and NIST Results

### Technical Resilience

In the center of the tool, address your organization's technical cyber security posture of all present systems. These questions align with many of the controls described in the [Cyber Security Controls, In-Scope and Out-of-Scope](#), and are accompanied with advice on how to control for the respective domains.

**Technical Resilience Score:**  
**73.1%**

Your organization scored 73.1% in the fully average score for the Other sector is 69.8%. The average score for the least secure business Program 2000's equivalent score average score is 58.4% based on 207 responses.

This score is a **NET/SC** technical approach to cyber security within your organization's cybersecurity. See [ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1](#) for a further description of your technical resilience score.

The following table represents your program results compared to sector, industry and organization averages. The blue bar, with the associated comparison, specific responses can be viewed referenced with the full scores list as provided in [ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1](#).

Technical Resilience Question Set Results

Presented: Critical Infrastructure / Emergency Management Information Provided in Confidence to Public Safety Canada

### Cyber Resilience Report

The following is a snapshot that provides you with an overview of how your organization is performing in the CSF 2.0 strategy.

**Your Overall Cyber Resilience Score**  
**71**

**Section Results:**  
78 Technical Resilience

**Mapping to NIST Functions:**  
58

Presented: Critical Infrastructure / Emergency Management Information Provided in Confidence to Public Safety Canada

### Program Resilience: Domain Overview

**Program Resilience Overall Score**  
**68.2%**

This is a cumulative score based on the following domains:

- Asset and Controls Management
- Configuration and Change Management
- Availability and Incident Management
- Service Continuity and Risk Management
- External Dependencies Management, and
- Training and Simulation Awareness

Within the Program Resilience Domain, the CSF 2.0 groups into 10 domain areas, each with its own score and provides a summary score regarding the control performance. The following table illustrates the breakdown of scores for each domain. The information presented in these charts is not a comprehensive and detailed breakdown of your organization, but it can be used to holistically identify gaps within your organization's approach to these cyber security domains. Organizations should use this portion of the results to identify understanding domains to focus their efforts in improving their highest risk areas.

Score by CSF 2.0 Program Domains

Presented: Critical Infrastructure / Emergency Management Information Provided in Confidence to Public Safety Canada

### Cumulative NIST Ranking

Results of your organization's CSF 2.0 program related to the NIST Cyber Security Framework (CSF) are presented in the CSF 2.0 to the relevant NIST function (Identify, Protect, Detect, Respond, and Recover) average scores in bar charts. The percentages below indicate the overall score for each function.

- Identify: **73%**
- Protect: **87%**
- Detect: **69%**
- Respond: **56%**
- Recover: **47%**

Overall Score: **5%**

Presented: Critical Infrastructure / Emergency Management Information Provided in Confidence to Public Safety Canada



### IDENTIFY

The Identify function establishes an organizational foundation in managing cyber security risk to protect, detect, contain, and respond, understanding the business context, the resources that support critical business, and the related cyber security risks across an organization to focus and prioritize its efforts, in a manner that is consistent with its risk management strategy and business requirements.

**IDENTIFY 73%**

Overall Score: **73%**

**NIST Comparison - Identify**

Identify your security posture evaluation within the organization's cyber risk governance program and identify organizational requirements regarding the other security capabilities of the organization. Identify your organization's risk framework, and the related organizational resources, and risk response activities as a basis for the organization's risk framework. Identify a Risk Management Strategy for the organization which includes the established risk tolerance. Organizational advice and guidance regarding improving your organization's compliance to NIST. Please see [ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1](#).

Presented: Critical Infrastructure / Emergency Management Information Provided in Confidence to Public Safety Canada

# Cyber Security Plan Template

## For Canadian Cyber Security Tool (CCST) Users

- Template to help critical infrastructure organizations develop their cyber security plans based on their CCST self-assessment results.

### • Breakdown of Initiatives

Describe each initiative in more detail. You can use the example table provided below.

#### [Initiative]

<b>Estimated internal effort</b> (High/Medium/Low)	Choose an item.	<b>Initiative description</b> [Describe the initiative here. Which gaps will it address? Are there any dependencies?] <b>Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• [Objective 1]</li><li>• [Objective 2]</li><li>• [Objective 3]</li><li>• [Etc.]</li></ul> <b>Scope</b> [Describe what is in scope for this initiative.] <b>Risk/assumptions</b> [List any risks and assumptions.]
<b>Operating cost</b> (High/Medium/Low)	Choose an item.	
<b>Risk impact</b> (High/Medium/Low)	Choose an item.	
<b>Managed service</b>	[Yes/No]	
<b>Duration</b>	[timeframe]	
<b>Approximate start date</b>	[Quarter#, Year #]	
[List the business goals and the Level 1 baseline controls that will be met and the gaps (identified in your assessment results) that will be addressed.]		



# HOW CAN I PROTECT MY ORGANIZATION?

Regularly back up your data and store off-line. [LINK](#)

Use strong and unique passwords, implement MFA. [LINK](#)

Update and patch systems. [LINK](#)

Have an Incident Response Plan (and test it!) [LINK](#)

Use security tools. [LINK](#)

Cyber Center's [Baseline Cyber Security Controls for SMO](#)  
ISED's [CyberSecure Canada](#) eLearning  
National Standard [CAN/CIOC 104:2021](#)  
Cyber Centre's [Top 10 To Protect Internet Connected Networks](#)

# Cyber Security Study of the Canadian Water Sector



The Canadian water sector is one of the 10 national Critical Infrastructure sectors that directly contribute to the safety, well-being and prosperity of Canadian citizens. In recent years, OT and IT environments have become more converged to enable efficiencies and automation, which has exposed the water sector to a myriad of new cyber threats. The Cyber Centre has engaged Deloitte to deepen its understanding of 4 critical infrastructure sectors including the Canadian Water sector, and maximize its support to these sectors.

## 2.33 Sector Maturity

Overall Maturity

Strategy Capabilities: **2.2** Secure Capabilities: **2.5**  
Vigilant Capabilities: **2.0** Resilient Capabilities: **2.4**

Small Operator Average: **2.31**  
Large Operator Average: **2.29**

*The self-assessment for this study used the Deloitte Cyber Strategy Framework, which leverages inputs from industry-standard frameworks including NIST, ISO and SANS and is organized into 34 sub-capabilities in 12 capability groups across 4 core pillars: Strategy, Secure, Vigilant and Resilient*

**Least Mature Capabilities:**

- Threat Intelligence
- Vulnerability Identification

**Most Mature Capabilities:**

- People and Workplace
- Infrastructure Security
- Identity & Access Management



## Key Observations

Key findings and observations were gleaned from the self-assessment and further explored with water utility operators in deep-dive interviews. These informed 14 recommendations that the cyber centre could leverage to support the Canadian Water Sector

**Ransomware is top-of-mind**  
By a wide margin, organizations listed ransomware most frequently as a severe threat that "kept them up at night". This is not just driven through sensationalism, as the ability to monetize malware is a real and prevalent threat that water sector should be concerned about.

**IT and OT lack coordination**  
Municipalities often have distinct structures responsible for cyber security in their OT environment and their Corporate IT environment.  
  
OT environments rely on imperfect air-gapping, and operators lack resources specific to OT to improve maturity

**Suspected self-assessed overconfidence**  
Some questionnaire respondents likely scored their organization higher than warranted. Contributing factors include a level of unfamiliarity with IT/cyber frameworks and a perception that they can be satisfied with basic safeguards because they don't perceive themselves as a target.

## Recommendations

Shaded items are High-Impact Recommendations

- 1 Leverage Leadership Opportunities
- 2 Create Tailored Instructional Resources
- 3 Provide Specific Threat Intelligence
- 4 Support Incident Response Capabilities

<p><b>1.1 Establish a community network and 'Centre of Excellence'</b> There is little communication amongst utility providers, and they do not have a clear champion for cyber security. The Cyber Centre could provide significant value by organizing regular communications, events, and a platform for secure ad-hoc chat. FTE: 🐼 Time: 🕒 Initial Cost: \$\$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>	<p><b>1.2 Publish briefings for executives and municipal leaders</b> FTE: &lt;🐼 Time: 🕒 Initial Cost: \$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>	<p><b>1.3 Host a steady series of online and in-person conferences</b> FTE: &lt;🐼 / 🐼+ Time: 🕒🕒 Initial Cost: \$\$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>
<p><b>2.1 Step by step guides and 'top action' guides</b> OT environment-specific guides to establish best practices across the industry. Respondents expressed interest in guides outlining top actions that an organization could take to improve their cyber security posture, and documentation for implementing 'low-hanging fruit'. FTE: &lt;🐼 Time: 🕒🕒 Initial Cost: \$\$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>	<p><b>2.2 Self-Assessment Tools</b> FTE: 🐼 Time: 🕒🕒 Initial Cost: \$\$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>	<p><b>3.3 Assist risk analysis &amp; remediation strategies</b> Aid in cost/benefit analyses on potential actions suggested in threat intelligence reports based on the risk appetite of the organization. FTE: 🐼 Time: 🕒 Initial Cost: \$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>
<p><b>3.1 Develop Targeted Threat Reports</b> FTE: 🐼+ Time: 🕒🕒 Initial Cost: \$\$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>	<p><b>3.2 Host briefing sessions on threat intelligence interpretation</b> FTE: &lt;🐼 Time: 🕒 Initial Cost: \$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>	<p><b>3.4 Alert system for Zero Day vulnerabilities</b> FTE: &lt;🐼 Time: 🕒🕒 Initial Cost: \$\$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>
<p><b>4.1 Help organizations develop IR plans and procedures</b> FTE: 🐼 Time: 🕒 Initial Cost: \$\$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>	<p><b>4.2 Help Organizations develop IR playbooks for specific threats</b> FTE: 🐼 Time: 🕒 Initial Cost: \$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>	<p><b>4.4 Design a simulation environment</b> Design a virtual water treatment OT environment for full-scale incident response exercises. FTE: 🐼+ Time: 🕒🕒🕒 Initial Cost: \$\$ Ongoing Cost: \$\$</p>
<p><b>4.3 Test IR plans and procedures</b> Water utility systems do not have sufficient redundancy to be safely take offline for testing. Hosting tabletop exercises, penetration testing, etc. would enable operators to test their incident response plans in a safe, controlled environment. FTE: 🐼+ Time: 🕒🕒 Initial Cost: \$ Ongoing Cost: \$</p>	<p><b>4.5 Build capacity to directly assist incident response efforts.</b> Provide 'Hands on Keyboards' support to utility providers during cyber incidents. FTE: 🐼+ Time: 🕒🕒 Initial Cost: \$\$ Ongoing Cost: \$\$</p>	

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# Cybersecurity Study of the Canadian Water Sector



## Top Threats and Requested Supports

Most Concerning Threats		Most Requested Support	
Score	Threat	Score	Support
138	Ransomware	87	Cyber Threat Intelligence
77	Data Loss	74	Employee Awareness Training
64	Malware and Spyware	69	Cyber self-assessment tools
58	Phishing Attacks	56	Step-by-step cyber guides
57	Security Convergence (OT/IT/IoT)	51	Technology & cyber tool guides



# Cybersecurity Study of the Canadian Water Sector

	High Effort	Medium Effort	Low Effort
Significant Impact	4.4	4.3 1.1	
Moderate Impact		4.5 3.1 1.3	4.1 4.2 3.4 2.1 3.2
Minor Impact			2.2 3.3 1.2

**1: Leverage Leadership Opportunities**

1.1: Establish a community network and 'centre of excellence'

1.2: Publish briefings for executives and municipal leaders

1.3: Host and participate in steady series of online and in person conferences

**2: Create Tailored Instructional Resources**

2.1: Step-by-step guides and 'top action' guides

2.2: Self-assessment tools

**3: Provide specific Threat Intelligence**

3.1: Develop targeted threat reports

3.2 Host briefing sessions on threat intel interpretation

3.3 Assist with risk analysis and remediation strategies

3.4 Establish alert system for zero day vulnerabilities

**4: Support Incident Response Capabilities**

4.1: Help organizations develop IR plans and procedures

4.2: Help organizations develop IR playbooks for specific threats

4.3: Test IR plans and procedures

4.4: Design a simulation environment

4.5: Build capacity to direct assist incident response efforts.



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<https://cyber.gc.ca/en/publications>

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To report fraud:

**Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre**

1-888-495-8501

[www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca](http://www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca)

To report a cybercrime:

**Local police or**

**Royal Canadian Mounted Police**

[www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca](http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca)

To report a cyber incident

**Canadian Center for Cyber Security**

 [cyberincident@cyber.gc.ca](mailto:cyberincident@cyber.gc.ca)