

Diagolon Profile (January/February 2022)

*All information was obtained through open sources with the caveat that sources are extremely limited and that triangulation has been almost impossible — almost all open sources reference the Canadian Anti-Hate Network as their main source of authority on Diagolon. This has made cross-referencing and verification of information extremely difficult.

Overview

Founded by Jeremy Mackenzie, “Diagolon” is a fictional country which encompasses like-minded areas from Alaska in the north-west to Florida in the south-east. In practice, Diagolon, and by extension the Plaid Army, is a network of individuals which appear to express a wide-range of issues with the government. The initial impetus for the movement was Mackenzie’s vlogs on both his YouTube account and on Telegram.

According to the Canadian Anti-Hate Network, proponents of the movement call themselves Diagolonians or Diags or Dags; this differentiates them from the rest of North America which is referred to as Circulon and the inhabitants therein called Circulonians.¹

That said, the use of satire is paramount within the movement, as an example, proponents of Diagolon often glibly refer to themselves as “bigots”.²

Ideology & Motivation

As evinced in the open sources, there is no strict consensus about the ideology and motivation of Diagolon and its proponents. This divide is largely due to a lack of substantive sources. The Canadian Anti-Hate Network (CAHN) is consistently cited as an authority by the mainstream media and CAHN’s interpretation of the group’s ideology and motivation is vehemently denied by the group itself.

The Canadian Anti-Hate Network (CAHN) has labelled Diagolon as a loose network of people with neo-fascist, militant views.³ CAHN asserts that the movement platforms and espouses rampant racism and anti-Semitic content in their streams.⁴ Furthermore, CAHN argues that Diagolon perceives the media, the mainstream government and politicians, and those they perceived as communists as their enemies.⁵ Elizabeth Simons, deputy director of CAHN, acknowledges that, within the group’s lexicon, the term “communist” has become synonymous

¹ From <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagolon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

² From https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

³ Direct from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagolon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

⁴ Direct from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagolon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

⁵ Direct from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagolon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

with “anyone that they don’t like.”⁶ Most alarmingly, the CAHN has labelled Diagonon as “an accelerationist movement that believes a revolution is inevitable and necessary to collapse the current government system. It wants to build its ideal nation-state, which runs diagonally from Alaska through the western provinces down to Florida.”⁷ Finally, CAHN claims that “The community is extremely conspiratorial, regurgitating and spreading not only the theories of its own content creators but also a variety of new and well-worn fantasies about globalist plots, COVID and vaccine misinformation, and Jewish-controlled media and government.”⁸

CBC has quoted University of New Brunswick professor David Hofmann, a specialist in far right movements, who claims that Diagonon is “an American-style militia movement... [with] the goal to establish a diagonal white nationalist state”.⁹ Based on Hofmann’s assessment, CBC writes, “Those who believe in the Diagonon movement feel a civil war is needed to create a new state that would run diagonally from Alaska, through western Canada's provinces, all the way south to Florida...And they want to accomplish this through violence.”¹⁰

In stark contrast, the official Raging Dissident website (named after Diagonon founder Jeremy Mackenzie’s alter ego) maintains that Diagonon is a “LEADERLESS, FUN-LOVING, ORGANIZATION.”¹¹ The website also directly disavows violence and asserts that “THE ISOLATED ACTIONS OF A COUPLE INDIVIDUALS DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE INTERESTS” of the organization as a whole.¹²

History & Structure

The so-called Plaid Army and Diagonon were founded by Jeremy Mackenzie (ostensibly) sometime in 2020 (the exact start date is unclear based on open sources); Mackenzie used his YouTube channel and Telegram to disseminate his message through vlogs.

The official “Raging Dissident” webpage describes the foundation of the movement thus:

WHILE CONDUCTING A LIVESTREAM FOR HIS FANS ONE EVENING, A CANADIAN CONTENT CREATOR BY THE NAME OF RAGING HUMANIST, NOW RAGING DISSIDENT, WANTED TO DO A FUNNY STREAM FOR HIS AUDIENCE. HE CONSUMED SEVERAL LEGALLY PURCHASED MARIJUANA EDIBLES AND BEGAN SHARING HIS STREAM OF CONSCIOUSNESS. EVENTUALLY HE DEDUCED THAT THERE WAS A

⁶ Direct from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagonon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

⁷ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8621125/canadian-anti-hate-network-concerned-diagonon-coutts-border-protest-diagonon/>

⁸ Direct from <https://www.vice.com/en/article/k7wpgy/freedom-convoy-murder-conspiracy-diagonon>

⁹ From <https://ici.radio-canada.ca/rci/en/news/1862953/the-coutts-13-new-details-on-the-men-and-women-arrested-at-border-blockade>

¹⁰ From <https://ici.radio-canada.ca/rci/en/news/1862953/the-coutts-13-new-details-on-the-men-and-women-arrested-at-border-blockade>

¹¹ Direct from <https://www.diagonon.org/>

¹² Direct from <https://www.diagonon.org/>

DIVIDE OCCURRING BETWEEN LOCATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA. SPECIFICALLY HE POINTED OUT THAT THE COMMON VALUES WERE NO LONGER SHARED ALONG COUNTRY LINES, BUT MORESO SPECIFIC STATES AND PROVINCES. THE EASTERN SEA BOARD, AND THE WESTERN COAST, ALL SHARED SIMILAR VALUES, WHERE THE SOUTHERN STATES, MIDWEST, WESTERN CANADA, AND UP TO ALASKA TENDED TO SHARE SIMILAR VALUES AS WELL. HE, ON HIS PHONE, TOOK A BASIC FINGER-PAINT APP AND DREW A LINE TO SIGNIFY THIS. THUS, THE FLAG OF DIAGOLON WAS BORN.¹³

The Canadian Anti-Hate Network (CAHN) claims that Diagonon quickly attracted a network of like-minded anti-authority individuals, which they estimate are potentially now in the thousands, with members in Canada, the U.S. and Australia – judging from their Telegram channels.¹⁴

Elizabeth Simons, deputy director of CAHN, has asserted that the major concern is that the Diagonon network is branching out and going offline.¹⁵ Simons further claimed that while Jeremy Mackenzie is the de facto leader, cells and Diagonon member networks are autonomous.¹⁶

Simons stated that many members, “claim to be ex-military members and a lot of them claim to have some kind of military training. There’s very much a militia kind of vibe within the network and there have been lots of talks of weapons”.¹⁷

In the wake of Mackenzie’s arrest in February 2022 and the increased publicity of the group, stemming from the trucker convoy and subsequent arrest in Coutts, Alberta, Diagonon created a webpage. The webpage includes dozens of testimonials from members which emphasize the role Diagonon has played in ameliorating their social life, physical health, and sense of belonging. The website officially disavows violence and proclaims that humour and friendship are the underpinnings of the group:

DIAGONON, AND THE FLAG OF DIAGONON, REPRESENT PEACEFUL FUN-LOVING PERSONS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE. THE COMMUNITY EXTENDS ALL OVER EUROPE, ASIA, THE PACIFIC, SOUTH AMERICA, AND NORTH AMERICA. DIAGONONIANS, OR "DAGS", ARE REPRESENTED BY ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE ALL OVER THE GLOBE. LET US REMIND YOU THAT THE ISOLATED ACTIONS OF A COUPLE INDIVIDUALS DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THIS ENTIRE, LEADERLESS, FUN-LOVING, ORGANIZATION.¹⁸

¹³ Direct from <https://www.diagonon.org/>

¹⁴ Direct from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagonon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

¹⁵ Paraphrased from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagonon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

¹⁶ From <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagonon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

¹⁷ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8621125/canadian-anti-hate-network-concerned-diagonon-coutts-border-protest-diagonon/>

¹⁸ Direct from <https://www.diagonon.org/>

Founder

Jeremy Mackenzie is the de-facto leader of the Diagonon movement, as well as the leader of the so-called Plaid Army.

Known online as “Raging Dissident”, Mackenzie posts videos and livestreams of himself on Telegram and on his YouTube channel. These videos are couched in humour and Mackenzie largely frames his dialogue as satire.

MacKenzie is a Canadian military veteran who served in Afghanistan.¹⁹ The RCMP alleged in a search warrant application that he had post-traumatic stress disorder.²⁰

He made headlines on February 10, 2020 when he protested in Halifax against a joint-speaking engagement of Romeo Dallaire and Omar Khadr about child soldiers.²¹

On February 2, 2022, Mackenzie was arrested in Nova Scotia on firearms charges (please see Annex, Item 1 for full RCMP statement).²² The police investigation began on January 10, after a video posted on social media showed MacKenzie briefly pointing a gun at the head of another man, the RCMP alleged in the warrant.²³

During the February 2022 trucker convoy protests Mackenzie livestreamed from Ottawa and encouraged the blockades.²⁴

On March 23, 2022, Mackenzie was charged with criminal harassment, mischief, harassing phone calls and intimidation of a health professional after anti-mask protesters gathered outside the home of Nova Scotia’s chief medical officer of health three nights this week.²⁵

¹⁹ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

²⁰ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

²¹ From <https://toronto.citynews.ca/2020/02/10/former-guantanamo-bay-detainee-omar-khadr-speaks-in-at-child-soldiers-panel/>

²² From <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/news/2022/rcmp-arrest-man-firearms-offences>

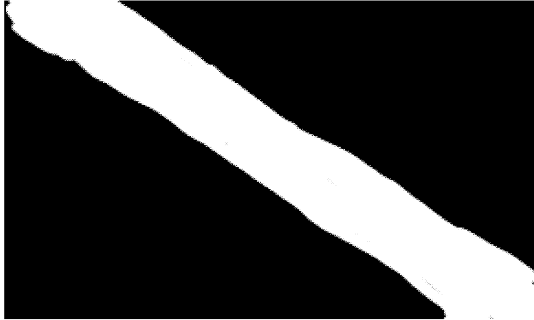
²³ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

²⁴ From <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagonon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

²⁵ From <https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/leader-of-far-right-group-woman-charged-in-anti-mask-protests-outside-n-s-top-doctor-s-home-1.5830948>

Symbols

Flag



A black ensign with a white diagonal line (top right corner to bottom left corner), meant to represent the fictional country of Diagonlon stretching from Alaska in the north to Florida in the south (please see Annex, Item 2 for reference).

The ensign has been produced as a flag, a patch, and as a “business” card which states “World Getting crazier out there? It's not just you. Find the others” (photo unavailable in copy and paste, please see Toronto Star article for reference).²⁶

Open source images show Ontario MPP Randy Hillier posing with the flag (please see Annex, Item 3).

Another open source image, dating from November 8, 2021, shows supposed Diagonlon members (with their faces obscured) posing with the flag and displaying firearms (please see Annex, Item 4).²⁷

PPC Leader Maxime Bernier has also been photographed with the flag (please see Annex, Item 5).²⁸

The flag sometimes referred to as “ol’ slashy” by members.²⁹

The official Raging Dissident website asserts, “DIAGONLON, AND THE FLAG OF DIAGONLON, REPRESENT PEACEFUL FUN-LOVING PERSONS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE.”³⁰

²⁶ From https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRH-o8sf16hAQBowNvvxr88F3Qwx6ADoTx_RSaa41zHQsN7nuktWdaEEPWFwPwIDgEvmw&usqp=CAU

²⁷ From <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagonlon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

²⁸ From <https://twitter.com/antihateca/status/1495107846366580738>

²⁹ From https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

³⁰ Direct from <https://www.diagonlon.org/>

Song

The group has utilized Pine Tree Riot’s song, “We’ll Have Our Home Again” in their propaganda material, and labelled the song the “Diagolon National Anthem”.³¹ Pine Tree Riot’s lyrics are set to the tune of Stan Roger’s “Rolling Down to Old Maui”. The new lyrics reference that “by blood or sweat” the singers will reclaim their home, and if “there is no fire” to light their way they will start their own (please see Annex, Item 6 for full lyrics).³²

The version used by Diagolon is allegedly sung by Männerbund, which has been identified by open sources as a U.S.-based white supremacist men’s group.

Motto/ Catch Phrase

An oft used expression by Jeremy MacKenzie in his chats and streams is “by gun or rope”, CTV asserts that this describes how “his enemies can choose to die”.³³

Activities

In Summer 2020, according to the Canadian Anti-Hate Network (CAHN), Alex Vriend began travelling and networking within the neo-fascist Diagolon movement under the name “The Ferryman’s Toll.”³⁴ The CAHN asserts that the Plaid Army streamers, and their Diagolon community, regularly push far-right and conspiracy content and detail their fantasies of an inevitable and bloody revolution.³⁵

The CAHN framed Vriend’s travels by contending that Diagolon is increasingly becoming a militia network.³⁶ The CAHN ultimately concluded that, “Their goals are ultimately fascist: to use violence to take power and strip rights away from people who do not meet their purity tests based on ideology, race, and gender. With power or permission, they would execute their perceived enemies.”³⁷

On December 15, 2021, the Canadian Anti-Hate Network (CAHN) published an article about a planned rally organized by the unofficial Ryerson Campus Conservatives club to protest the

³¹ From <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagolon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

³² Direct from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagolon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

³³ From <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagolon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

³⁴ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/holocaust_denier_travelling_canada_building_up_far_right_militia_diagolon_alex_vriend

³⁵ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/holocaust_denier_travelling_canada_building_up_far_right_militia_diagolon_alex_vriend

³⁶ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/holocaust_denier_travelling_canada_building_up_far_right_militia_diagolon_alex_vriend

³⁷ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/holocaust_denier_travelling_canada_building_up_far_right_militia_diagolon_alex_vriend

renaming of the university, which is being done as a result of advocacy that highlighted Egerton Ryerson's role in designing the residential school system and genocide of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples.³⁸

The student group claimed that the rally was due to be the "single largest conservative event ever held at Ryerson University," and was scheduled to feature People's Party of Canada leader Maxime Bernier and Ontario MPP Randy Hillier.³⁹

Tyler Russell, who CAHN has identified as an alumnus of Ryerson and a "Plaid Army streamer", asked his "audience to assault the opposition" [at the rally].⁴⁰ CAHN quotes Russell as saying, "You know those Proud Boys videos we all love to see where they just march down antifa and start cracking them? Don't you want to be one of those guys? It's your chance. If you can go, go. It's a prime propaganda opportunity for us."⁴¹

Russell also encouraged attendees to wear armour, saying, "If you don't have knuckleduster gloves, like the padded gloves, you can get them at the dollar store. If you don't have those, get them because you know what? Punching people in the head hurts your fucking hands."⁴²

CAHN claims that, far from being a solitary voice within this community, that same streamer [Russell] welcomes other "bigots," a satirical nickname adopted by the fans of the Plaid Army, onto his stream.⁴³

According to CAHN, this virtual call-to-arms resulted in the following online responses vis-à-vis counter protesters who planned to attend the Ryerson rally:

- 1) "Put lead in them"⁴⁴
- 2) "We've been saying the same thing this whole time...that these mother fuckers need to die."⁴⁵
- 3) "Bring piss filled water bottles and throw it on them. They can go home or turn to pissicles," one influencer wrote. Later on the same user told his followers, "I have had a similar thought in the past ... What you want is smallish super soakers filled with anti-freeze (way better than water More 'applicable' if it gets real cold ;))."⁴⁶

³⁸ Paraphrased from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

³⁹ From https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁴⁰ From https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁴¹ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁴² Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁴³ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁴⁴ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁴⁵ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁴⁶ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

- 4) “I’m so fucking down for a Diagon Dust Up,” said another.⁴⁷
- 5) “Someone please live stream this. I want to see dags kick circ ass,” one supporter said, using the nickname “dags” to represent supporters and “circ” to represent their opposition.⁴⁸
- 6) On Instagram, a Plaid Army supporter threatened one of the organizers of a counter-demonstration, telling them “your followers would be wise to stay home and save lives that day.”⁴⁹
- 7) Others speculate as to whether another organizer, who they call a “crazy b*****” is Jewish or “Middle Eastern.” The Alberta streamer replies, “Who cares, commies are commies and the only good one is a dead one.”⁵⁰

The Ryerson rally was subsequently cancelled and the unofficial Ryerson Campus Conservatives disavowed violence and the “Plaid Army”.⁵¹

February 3, 2022: A man who was allegedly seen in a video waving a handgun “in a reckless manner” has been arrested and faces four firearms charges, according to the Nova Scotia RCMP.⁵²

Although police did not identify the accused in a news release, a court document identified him as Jeremy MacKenzie, who was in Ottawa for the so-called truckers’ protest against COVID-19 measures.⁵³

The police investigation began on Jan. 10, after a video posted on social media showed MacKenzie briefly pointing a gun at the head of another man, the RCMP alleged in the warrant.⁵⁴

Although MacKenzie had a valid firearms licence, the gun seen in the video appeared to have an over-capacity magazine, police said.⁵⁵

⁴⁷ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁴⁸ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁴⁹ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁵⁰ Direct from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁵¹ Paraphrased from https://www.antihate.ca/far_right_attacking_anti_racists_downtown_toronto

⁵² Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁵³ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁵⁴ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁵⁵ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

During a Jan. 26 search at a home in Pictou, N.S., police seized “five restricted firearms including rifles and handguns, one unrestricted firearm, prohibited magazines, ammunition, body armour, a duty belt with attached holster and magazine pouches and cellular phones.”⁵⁶

In the video, MacKenzie referred to “Diagonola,” the RCMP warrant alleged.⁵⁷

MacKenzie is its creator, the group said. The Diagonol flag allegedly appeared in the video.⁵⁸

“While waving the firearm around, MacKenzie briefly pointed the firearm at [a man’s] head, causing [the man] to flinch, momentarily close his eyes, and move his head away from the muzzle,” the RCMP warrant alleged.⁵⁹

MacKenzie told police he “did not recall any of the events from the video as he was hammered at the time,” the warrant alleged.⁶⁰

He was released on conditions, including that he not possess any firearms, weapons, ammunition or explosive substances.⁶¹

He was scheduled to appear in court on May 30 to face charges of careless use of a firearm, unauthorized possession of a prohibited device, possession of a prohibited device and possession of a firearm at an unauthorized place.⁶²

Videos posted on YouTube show him subsequently in Ottawa at the so-called truckers’ protest near Parliament Hill, and he was interviewed about the event on the conspiracy theory platform InfoWars.⁶³

February 14, 2022, the RCMP charged Chris Carbert, 44, and Christopher Lysak, 48, both of Lethbridge, and Anthony Olienick, 39, of Claresholm with conspiracy to commit murder, mischief over \$5,000 and possession of a firearm for a dangerous purpose.⁶⁴ Lysak is also charged with uttering threats.⁶⁵ According to the Canadian Anti-Hate Network, Jeremy MacKenzie once called Chris Lysak the “head of security for Diagonol”.⁶⁶

⁵⁶ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁵⁷ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁵⁸ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁵⁹ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁶⁰ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁶¹ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁶² Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁶³ From <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>

⁶⁴ Direct from <https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/this-is-a-war-arrested-coutts-protesters-say-they-were-being-provoked-by-rcmp>

⁶⁵ Direct from <https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/this-is-a-war-arrested-coutts-protesters-say-they-were-being-provoked-by-rcmp>

⁶⁶ From <https://www.vice.com/en/article/k7wpgv/freedom-convoy-murder-conspiracy-diagonol>

Police seized a cache of long guns, handguns, oversized magazines, a machete and body armour, and say the suspects intended to kill RCMP if they attempted to break up the blockade.⁶⁷ RCMP called the threat to their officers “real and organized.”⁶⁸

When Alberta RCMP released images of the weapons and tactical gear seized from a group that took part in the Coutts, Alta., border blockade, the pictures showed patches displaying a white diagonal line on a black background -- the calling card of the Diagonon far-right extremist group.⁶⁹

Jeremy Mackenzie has contended on his podcast that the patch found in Coutts was not an official Diagonon patch. As way of evidence he provided a side-by-side photo (please see Annex, Item 7).

On February 16, 2022, without naming any specific group, federal Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino alluded to ties between protesters in Ottawa and the Alberta arrests. "Several of the individuals at Coutts have strong ties to a far-right extreme organization with leaders who are in Ottawa," he said. "We're talking about a group that is organized, agile, knowledgeable and driven by an extremist ideology where might makes right."⁷⁰

Conclusion

Based on available open source information it is exceedingly difficult to ascertain the extent to which Diagonon is a distinct group, with common ideology, a political agenda, and the cohesion necessary to advance such an agenda.

The Canadian Anti-Hate Network (CAHN) is cited as the main authority on the group by all major mainstream media outlets; due to the fact that all information traces back to one source, triangulation and the verification of facts is almost impossible at the current time. Based on the information that is publically available, it is difficult to understand how CAHN can confidently assert that Diagonon is an “accelerationist movement that believes a revolution is inevitable and necessary to collapse the current government system.”⁷¹ Additionally, due to a lack of open sources into the hierarchical structure and organization of the group, it is also difficult to understand how University of New Brunswick professor David Hofmann (as cited by CBC) can assuredly purport that Diagonon is “an American-style militia movement.”⁷²

Mackenzie takes pains to frame his comments as humour and satire, and the official Raging Dissident website does publically disavow violence. Moreover, Mackenzie has used the excuse of

⁶⁷ Direct from <https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/this-is-a-war-arrested-coutts-protesters-say-they-were-being-provoked-by-rcmp>

⁶⁸ Direct from <https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/this-is-a-war-arrested-coutts-protesters-say-they-were-being-provoked-by-rcmp>

⁶⁹ Direct from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/what-is-the-diagonon-extremist-group-and-what-does-it-want-1.5785646>

⁷⁰ Direct from <https://calgary.ctvnews.ca/hearings-for-accused-in-coutts-border-blockade-pushed-to-march-1.5787336>

⁷¹ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8621125/canadian-anti-hate-network-concerned-diagonon-coutts-border-protest-diagonon/>

⁷² Direct from <https://ici.radio-canada.ca/rci/en/news/1862953/the-coutts-13-new-details-on-the-men-and-women-arrested-at-border-blockade>

inebriation to dismiss/ minimize his actions on multiple occasions. One such example is on the official Raging Dissident website wherein the foundation of Diagon is discussed and Mackenzie claims he consumed “SEVERAL LEGALLY PURCHASED MARIJUANA EDIBLES” prior to vlogging.⁷³ In relation to his firearms offence of January 2022, Mackenzie told police that he “did not recall any of the events from the video as he was hammered at the time.”⁷⁴ It is unclear whether this is purposeful obfuscation or a sign of the hodgepodge-nature of the ideology and/or group. Hence, due to a lack of substantive open source material, operational information would be needed to supplement the profile.

⁷³ <https://www.diagon.org/>

⁷⁴ Direct from <https://globalnews.ca/news/8593064/ns-man-ottawa-convoy-protest-firearms-charge/>