

Council of Agencies Serving South Asians (CASSA):

Facilitating Hate Crime Reporting

**Unlocking your Social Justice Potential:
Capacity Building 101**

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Executive Director of CASSA, **Samya Hasan**
Project Coordinator, **Maiura Muralitharan**
Project Associate, **Fahima Jogiat**

Land Acknowledgement

The work of the Council of Agencies Serving South Asians (CASSA) takes place on the traditional Indigenous territories of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee & Mississaugas of the New Credit

- Indigenous communities are particularly vulnerable to discrimination and bias, including hate crimes, overpolicing and disproportionate rates of incarceration

Understanding Hate in Canada



Hate in Canada is deeply rooted in the country's colonial history

The conscious and unconscious biases embedded in Canadian society further harm, victimize, and traumatize, marginalized communities making them more vulnerable to experiencing hate and the associated physical, mental, emotional, and psychosocial impacts

Project Overview

- Provincially funded by the Safer and Vital Communities Grant
- Partnered with Toronto Police Service, York Regional Police, Peel Regional Police, and Ottawa Police Service



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SOUTH ASIANS



Hate Crimes

Introduction

Key Definitions

Hate-Motivated Crime

- **Criminal offence** against a person or their property
 - Ex. Physical assault, destruction of property, vandalism
- Crime is **motivated** by suspect's hate, prejudice or bias against the victim's real or perceived identity*

“Hate” is a sentencing feature added onto the criminal charge



*Identifiable group:

Ancestry, race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, class, sex, age, mental or physical disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, or other similar factor

Key Definitions

Hate Incident

- **Non-criminal action or behaviour** against a person
 - Ex. Use of racial slurs, shouting and verbally abusing a person
- Incident is **motivated** by suspect's hate, prejudice or bias against the victim's real or perceived identity*



***Identifiable group:**

Ancestry, race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, class, sex, age, mental or physical disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, or other similar factor

Key Definitions

Hate Speech

- **3 offences under the Criminal Code of Canada that pertain to Hate and Hate Propaganda**
 - S318: Advocating Genocide**
 - S319(1): Public Incitement of Hatred
 - S319(2): Wilful Promotion of Hatred**



Need consent of Attorney General to lay hate speech charge**

***Identifiable group:**

Ancestry, race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, class, sex, age, mental or physical disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, or other similar factor

CASSA Findings:

Hate Crime Reporting Practices

Hate Crime Reporting Practices

Statistics on regional proportions of reporting to police and experiences.

Region	% reporting to police	% found process to report to police difficult
Toronto	71%	11%
Ottawa	80%	9%
Peel	66%	14%
York	94%	3%

Sampling bias

Qualitative findings display a different story about difficulties with reporting

Barriers to Reporting Hate Crimes

What is the Community Saying?

LOGISTICS

Reporting processes are intimidating and inaccessible



SYSTEMIC FAILURES

Victims feel like the perpetrators when reporting to police, or during investigations



Lack of communication and accountability between police and the victim and affected community

RELATIONSHIPS



Lack of community awareness about available resources to report hate crimes and seek support

INFRASTRUCTURE



“

*It would be nice to have a hate
crime hotline that is linked to
regional police services.*

*I think part of the problem is that
no one knows if these hotlines
exist, which is a problem in itself.*

– Community Member

Hate Crime Reporting Practices

We found that **>25%** across the four regions have experience reporting to **non-police organizations**.

Region	No. Participants	% with experience reporting to non-police organizations
Toronto	1,629	25%
Ottawa	1,146	76%
Peel	205	65%
York	1,816	94%



Hate Crime Reporting

What is crucial information to consider or collect?

Go to

www.menti.com

Enter the code

7919 2502

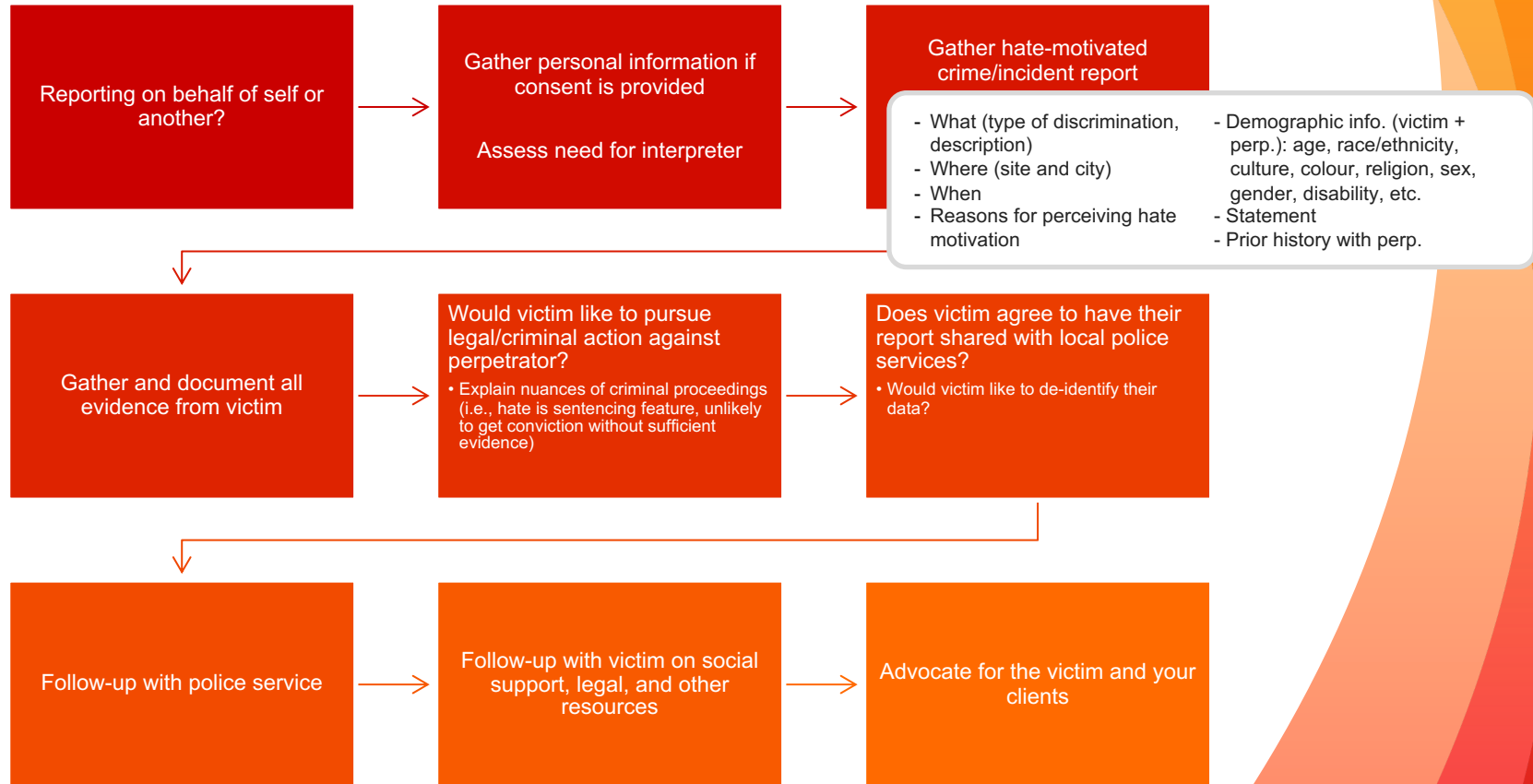


Or use QR code

How to Take Hate-Motivated Crime/Incident Reports: *A Step-by-Step Guide for Organizations*



How to Take Hate-Motivated Crime/Incident Reports: A Step-by-Step Guide for Organizations



Community-based Reporting / Support Services

Examples

- **Project 1907**
 - Online reporting tool for an incident of anti-Asian racism
 - (incl. other demographics as well)
 - <https://www.project1907.org/report>
- **Asilu Collective**
 - Anonymous Reporting for Ottawa Schools: Incidents of Police Involvement and more (online reporting)
 - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5Sg15iTio5a7bL2R1UqUzi53uQ3peDWzm7jfukJG6NQozfw/viewform>
- **Riverdale Immigrant Women's Centre (RIWC): Islamophobia Support Line**
 - Live support for women and non-binary people who experienced a hate crime incident and want to learn more about how to report a hate crime or find out more about resources in the community
 - Phone No: **416-613-8729** (Mon-Thurs, 10 am-4 pm)
 - Email: helpline@riverdalehub.ca

Capacity-building

Resources for Organizations & Victims

Refer your networks and clients to our in-house produced resources

Amplify our campaign and resources

Other key resources

- <http://cassa.on.ca/eradicatehate/>
- <http://cassa.on.ca/eradicatehate-anti-hate-conversation-series/#about-ahclg>
- <http://cassa.on.ca/anti-hate/>

Current Campaign

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12uD4INaXjFTiLTL3U1ZHDvQJlRn6k3w-?usp=sharing>

- Will be updated by end of February on Google Drive and on our website
 - To contain English and translated graphics and videos



what can I do if I experience a hate-motivated crime or incident?

1. Don't escalate the situation. Try and move to a safer area.
2. Call 9-1-1 if you have an immediate threat to your safety and are in danger.
3. Report the incident to the police if and when you are safe and comfortable.
4. Collect evidence (photos, videos, audio recordings).
5. On paper or with another method, note down what happened during the incident with as many details as you can remember.
 - Include information about the offender (physical attributes, identifying information, any vehicles, other information, any previous relationship to the offender), location of the incident, time of day and date of the incident, type of discrimination or harassment (i.e., what happened), and other information you remember.
6. Collect contact information from any witnesses.
7. Report the incident to community organizations or through other tools.

For more information and resources, visit cassa.on.ca

Hate Crime Reporting

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I reported a hate incident and the police did not take my report seriously or act on it. What can I do?

1. When reporting a hate-motivated crime or incident to the police, ask the officer(s) for their name(s) and badge number(s).
2. Ask any investigators on your case for their names and badge numbers and have these available to you.
3. Ask for your file number and note this down.
4. If you feel resistance or no cooperation from any officers, ask to speak with a supervisor and get their name and information.
5. If you still feel that the police are dismissing you or they don't follow up on your initial report, you can file a complaint against the police officer and/or department.

Hate Crime Reporting

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What is a HATE-MOTIVATED CRIME?

a hate crime is a criminal offence (e.g., physical assault) that is perpetrated against someone or their property motivated by bias/prejudice based on their race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability or sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or similar factor

What is a HATE-MOTIVATED INCIDENT?

involve behaviours that, through motivated by hate or bias against a victim's race/ethnicity, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, gender or disability, or similar factors are not criminal acts



The motivation for the hate crime or incident is based on the perception of the perpetrator (i.e., what they perceive to be your race, religion, etc.) even if it is not accurate.

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HOW TO REPORT TO TORONTO POLICE SERVICE

CALL 9-1-1 if there is an immediate threat to life or property

ANONYMOUSLY report to Crime Stoppers by calling 416-222-8477 OR online at 222tips.com

CALL 416-808-2222 to report to Police for a NON-EMERGENCY

REMEMBER to → protect/document potential evidence, report from a safe location & report relevant details

TORONTO POLICE also offers

- options to speak to plain clothed officers
- options to speak to officers in different languages
- options to ask for a translator

Hate Crime Reporting

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Ontario

I was a victim of a hate-motivated crime in OTTAWA, how do I report it?

Hate Crime Reporting

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Ontario

INFO + RESOURCES FOR HATE CRIME VICTIMS
Canada-wide

PROJECT 1907
Online reporting tool for an incident of anti-Asian racism + other demographics

BLACK YOUTH HELPLINE
Call 416-285-9944, Toll Free 1-833-294-8650, or email info@blackyouth.ca, Everyday 9 am - 10 pm

HOPE FOR WELLNESS HELPLINE
Offers 24/7 help to all Indigenous peoples across Canada. Call 1-855-242-3310

ACT 2 END RACISM
Online Covid-19 Racism Incident Reporting Center

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CANADIAN MUSLIMS
Online reporting for those who have experienced anti-Muslim discrimination

ELIMIN8HATE
Online reporting for incidents of anti-Asian racism

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Thanks!

Questions?

Any resources you would like to submit?

<https://forms.gle/im8UAFSDxCPJozM96>