ANNUAL AUDIT OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS Output Output

hn MacDonald @JohnMac40905019 · 16h

What about the Ukrainian Nazis in Ottawa, especially in the External Affa
Department!!??



Fallow

Replying to @JohnMac40905019 @RussianEmbassyC and 10 others

Nazis and zionists working in concert all OVER Canada. #truth

7:21 AM - 22 Mar 2019

D to

Then why is

human testing

OKAY? ** Protect

OKAY? ** Palestinian

I USED TO BE NORMAL UNTIL

I GOT INVOLVED WITH A JEWISH

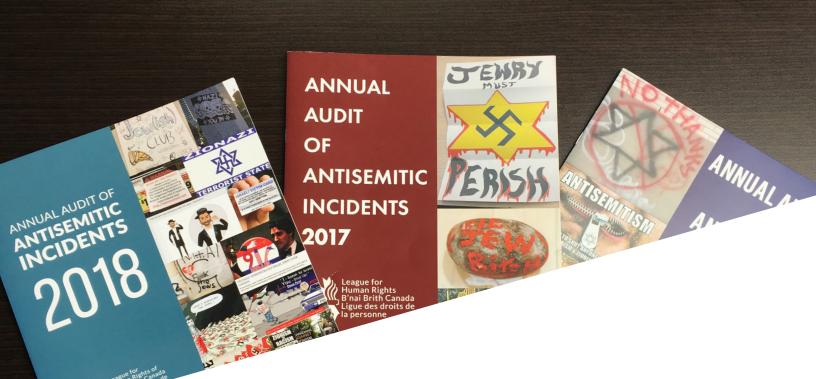
NOMAN...

** + \$ = INSANITY









THE AUDIT

Since 1982, the Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents has served as the authoritative document on antisemitism in Canada.

The data expressed in the *Audit*, produced each year by B'nai Brith Canada's advocacy arm, the League for Human Rights, reflect the level of antisemitic incidents reported to, and monitored by, the League, including through its Anti-Hate Hotline as well as data collected from police and law enforcement agencies.

Cited regularly by Canadian and international mainstream media outlets, public officials, NGOs, and government bodies, the *Audit* focuses on antisemitic incidents that both meet, and fall short of, the Criminal Code definition of a hate crime. This is essential for capturing the climate of antisemitism in Canada, which requires independent tracking and assessment. As such, the *Audit* serves as a barometer for antisemitism as a phenomenon in Canada.

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All cover photos illustrate samples of antisemitic imagery in Canada in 2019.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2,207 INCIDENTS

The second consecutive year in which the 2,000 plateau was exceeded.

MORE THAN 6

Antisemitic incidents occurred every day in 2019.

AN 8% INCREASE

Of recorded antisemitic incidents compared to 2018.

FOURTH STRAIGHT YEAR

2019 was the **fourth consecutive recordsetting year** for antisemitism in Canada.

A NEW BASELINE

This year's data suggests a consistent new baseline for antisemitism nationally.

ONLINE HARASSMENT

There was an increase of more than 11% in anonymous online harassment, much of it advocating genocide and Holocaust denial.



Antisemitic graffiti found in August on a car in River Heights, Winnipeg, MB.



INTRODUCTION

A Letter from the National Director, League for Human Rights

For the past five years, there has been a disturbing upward trend in antisemitism across Canada, with 2019 being the fourth consecutive record-setting year. This represents a significant increase of 8.1% compared with 2018. The 2,207 incidents that transpired in 2019 amounted to over 6 antisemitic incidents occurring every day.

The most dramatic spikes occurred in Ontario and Quebec, where there were 62.8% and 12.3% more incidents, respectively, than in 2018. While the Prairie and Atlantic regions experienced decreases in incidents, their numbers remained higher than where they were before 2017, suggesting a new baseline trend.

B'nai Brith Canada has been documenting antisemitic incidents for nearly 40 years. In recent years, there has been an increase in antisemitic harassment, vandalism, and violence. While online hatred accounts for most of the antisemitic harassment in Canada, face-to-face harassment almost doubled in 2019 - growing from 8.6% to 16.8%.

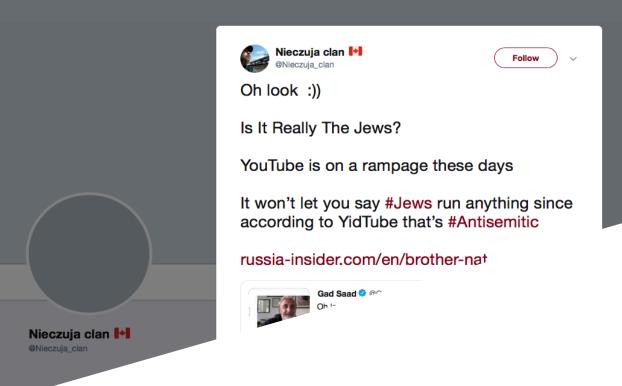
Both forms of harassment skyrocketed at primary and secondary schools. Jewish students have been mocked for their backgrounds and have experienced both denial and distortion of the Holocaust, despite the ostensibly mandatory provision of Holocaust education throughout Canada. This is all the more shocking given a recent study by the Azrieli Foundation, which found that a fifth of Canadians under 34 either have not heard of the Holocaust or were unsure of whether they had. A further one in four Canadians could not name a single Nazi concentration camp. Such circumstances create ripe conditions for Holocaust deniers to spread their venom among Canada's young and impressionable citizens.

We have seen private homes, public spaces, high schools and universities defaced with Nazi imagery and antisemitic conspiracy theories. Individual students and student organizations were harassed, discriminated against, and, in some cases, attacked on university campuses. Jews were beaten on Canadian streets - similar to alarming trends seen in the United States and Europe. Moreover, antisemitic and discriminatory policies were enacted in Canada, such as Quebec's Bill 21, which overtly discriminates against Jews, Muslims, Sikhs and others who wear religious articles by limiting their opportunities in the public sector. Such developments paint a very unpleasant picture, which should alarm all Canadians.

Canadian society must not tolerate prejudice or hatred of any kind. Doing so would be antithetical to the Canadian values that bring us together as a nation. We hear regularly from Canadians of all backgrounds and faiths that antisemitism and discrimination hurt their sensibilities. We know there are more who oppose antisemitism than support its promulgation. The pages that follow are stark in content, but there is reason to be optimistic. Much has been done to combat antisemitism in Canada, and our work will continue unabated. Now more than ever, Canadians must maintain their resolve to combat and eliminate this scourge.

RAN UKASHI NATIONAL DIRECTOR THE LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Ra Ukedi



METHODOLOGY

Antisemitism has long been called the world's "oldest hatred," as it has existed in one form or another since antiquity. Justifications for antisemitism range from malicious accusations against Jews and Judaism, to far-right antisemitism informed by utopian ideologies that label Jews as malicious actors seeking to dominate mankind, to far-left antisemitism that targets Jews under the guise of anti-Israel or anti-Zionist activism.

Over the centuries, antisemitism has consistently transformed to adapt to every time and place, thriving in both religious and secular contexts, in societies controlled by socialist, communist, fascist, or military dictatorships, as well as within hyper-nationalist contexts in Europe, the Middle East, North America, and elsewhere.

To delineate the parameters of antisemitism and identify its root causes, B'nai Brith Canada uses the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism. IHRA was formed in 1998 with the aim of uniting governments and experts to advance and promote Holocaust education.

Incidents recorded in this Audit include those made known to B'nai Brith Canada through our Anti-Hate Hotline, data gathered from law-enforcement agencies and other sources.

Top: An antisemitic post shared on Canadian social media in July.

THE IHRA DEFINITION



Promoting Holocaust Education, Research And Remembrance **Since 1998**

IHRA defines antisemitism as follows:

"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for "why things go wrong." It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could include, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing or stereotypical allegations about Jews such as the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).

- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it a behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the State of Israel.



An antisemitic Twitter thread created in July.

Antisemitic acts are criminal when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of antisemitic materials in some countries).

Criminal acts are antisemitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property – such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries – are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.

Antisemitic discrimination is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal in many countries.

THE IHRA WORKING DEFINITION OF HOLOCAUST DENIAL AND DISTORTION

In addition to this working definition of antisemitism, IHRA also has put forward a Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion, adopted by all 32 member countries, including Canada.

"Holocaust denial is discourse and propaganda that deny the historical reality and the extent of the extermination of the Jews by the Nazis and their accomplices during World War II, known as the Holocaust or the Shoah. Holocaust denial refers specifically to any attempt to claim that the Holocaust/Shoah did not take place."



Holocaust denial in its various forms is an expression of antisemitism. It may include publicly denying or calling into doubt the use of principal mechanisms of destruction (such as gas chambers, mass shooting, starvation and torture) or the intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people.

Forms of denial also include blaming the Jews for either exaggerating or creating it for political or financial gain, as if the Holocaust itself was the result of a conspiracy plotted by the Jews. In this, the goal is to make Jews culpable and antisemitism once again legitimate.

This Twitter thread falls under the IHRA definition.

Distortion of the Holocaust refers to:

- 1. Intentional efforts to excuse the impact of the Holocaust or its principal elements, including collaborators and allies of Nazi Germany;
- 2. Gross minimization of the number of the victims of the Holocaust in contradiction to reliable sources:
- 3. Attempts to blame the Jews for causing their own genocide;
- 4. Statements that cast the Holocaust as a positive historical event; and
- 5. Attempts to blur the responsibility for the establishment of concentration and death camps operated by Nazi Germany by putting blame on other nations or ethnic groups.

DEFINITIONS OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

Harassment: Refers to verbal or written actions that do not include the use of physical force against a person or property. This includes (but is not limited to):

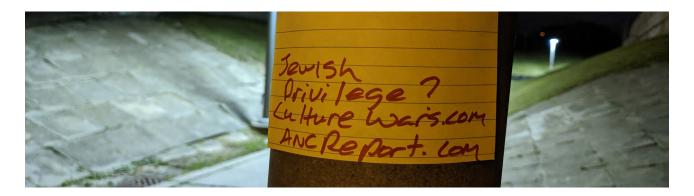
- Promoting hate propaganda and/or hate mail via social media (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, etc.), the Internet, telephone, or printed material.
- Verbal slurs, statements of hate and bias, or harassment.
- Stereotyping members of the Jewish community or commenting on 'Jewish characteristics.'
- Systematic discrimination in the workplace, school, or on campus.
- Verbal threats of violence, where the application of force does not appear imminent, or no weapon or bomb is involved.

Vandalism: Refers to physical damage to property. This includes (but is not limited to):

- Posting of graffiti, swastikas, and similar racist emblems and slogans, at times accompanied by other criminal acts including thefts and break-ins.
- Damage to religious objects such as mezuzot on the door posts of private homes, hospitals, and other facilities.
- Desecration of cemeteries and synagogues.
- Fire-bombing and arson.

Violence: Refers to the physical use of force against a person or group of persons. This includes (but is not limited to):

- Bodily assault.
- Assault with a weapon or accompanied by threat of the imminent use of a weapon.
- Threats of violence directed against a particular person or group where there is reasonable cause to believe that bodily harm is imminent.



One in a series of handwritten antisemitic signs seen near subway stations in Toronto, ON in 2019.



ASSESSING THE DATA

The year 2019 marked the fourth consecutive record-setting year for antisemitism in Canada, with 2,207 total recorded incidents. This represents an 8.1% increase in incidents compared with the previous year. This trend has been observed for more than half a decade as antisemitic incidents have continued to rise in Canada. This is the second successive year in which the total number of incidents has exceeded the 2,000 range.

Such a relative upward trend is consistent with the most recently available national policereported hate-crime data for 2018 - which demonstrates that hate crimes had decreased by 13% from 2,073 incidents to 1,798, yet remained higher than any other year since 2009. While these numbers include hate crimes against all communities, they have arisen in consonance with the expansion of antisemitic incidents in Canada. This trend began in 2014 and includes those incidents that do not meet the criminal threshold.

Police-reported hate-crime data for 2018 indicates that Jews remain the most targeted religious minority in Canada, accounting for 19% of all hate crimes in Canada (down 4% from 2017). This is despite the Jewish community comprising only about 1% of the Canadian population. In total, law enforcement across the country reported 347 hate crimes targeting Jews in 2018, down from 360 in 2017.

Top: Antisemitic graffiti defaces private property in Mont-Tremblant in August.

FIGURE 1: Total Incidents Between 2014 and 2019

INCIDENT TYPE	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
HARASSMENT	1370	1123	1559	1409	1809	2011
VANDALISM	238	136	158	327	221	182
VIOLENCE	19	10	11	16	11	14
TOTAL	1627	1269	1728	1752	2041	2207

Across Canada, the distribution in the growth and reduction of recorded antisemitic incidents changed compared to 2018:

FIGURE 2:

Regional Breakdown Comparison Between 2018 and 2019

REGION	TOTAL INCIDENTS 2018	TOTAL INCIDENTS 2019	DIFFERENCE (%)
QUEBEC	709	796	+12.3
ONTARIO	481	783	+62.8
BRITISH COLUMBIA	374	212	-43.3
ALBERTA	160	131	-18.1
PRAIRIES	131	104	-20.6
ATLANTIC CANADA	78	61	-21.8
CANADA-WIDE	108	120	+11.1

In 2018, we saw increases in antisemitic incidents in all regions of Canada except Ontario and Alberta. However, in 2019, while overall incidents increased across the country, there were significant reductions in all provinces except for Quebec and Ontario. Ontario experienced the greatest increase in incidents between 2018 and 2019. However, Quebec saw the largest total number of incidents for a second year in a row. Ontario and Quebec are home to the largest Jewish communities in Canada, and the resurgence of antisemitism in those provinces over the course of a year is worrying.

There was also an observed increase in "Canada-wide" antisemitism by 11.1%. This refers to online incidents captured through our Anti-Hate Hotline and other resources, but that cannot be linked directly to a particular region.

For instance, this category includes cases where otherwise unidentified social-media users indicated Canada to be their country of origin and engaged in antisemitic harassment, or where harassment has taken place on Canadian forums or platforms. These incidents are recorded but not designated with a specific region. Such "Canada-wide" incidents account for 5.4% of total incidents for 2019. However, with the anonymity provided by many internet platforms, we are seeing incidents of this nature growing with increased frequency as a method of avoiding consequences.

INCIDENTS BY TYPE: HARASSMENT

Harassment by far accounted for the largest number of antisemitic incidents in 2019, representing 91.1% of recorded incidents. Of these incidents, 83.2% of them occurred online. That is, harassment over social-media platforms, threatening emails, text messages, online propaganda outlets and so forth — some of which constituted criminal offences. These are the primary mediums through which antisemitic harassment transpires in the 21st century.



Incidents of harassment included sustained bullying campaigns at primary and secondary schools in Canada, with students being harassed by their peers both in person and through social-media platforms. While the overall increase in antisemitic harassment between 2018 and 2019 was 11.2%, of particular concern was the increase in the rate of "in-person" harassment – which jumped to 16.8% from 8.6% in 2018.

In fact, there were 238 incidents recorded at primary and secondary schools across Canada, with harassment (both online and in-person) accounting for 11.8%. There has been a steady increase in antisemitic bullying in schools across Canada and, unfortunately, very little is being done by schools to adequately combat the phenomenon.

A customer at Browns in Town of Mount Royal, QC received a receipt labelling them as a Jew.

INCIDENTS BY TYPE: VANDALISM

Vandalism accounted for 8.3% of total reported incidents in 2019, representing a reduction of 17.7% from the previous year. However, the severity of vandalism was concerning this year, reflected as it was by cases where people's homes were daubed with swastikas and threatening messages. Furthermore, we observed a spate of antisemitic vandalism against political billboards of all stripes across the country.

The vast majority of vandalism transpired in Ontario, with 102 of the 182 recorded incidents taking place in that province alone. This far outpaced the second most affected province, Quebec, which had a total of 31 such incidents.

The spate of vandalism in Ontario is all the more worrying given that, in 2018, the total recorded incidents of antisemitism in the province numbered at a historic low of 481. It has now spiked up to 783 incidents in the span of just one year, representing a 62.8% increase.

In 2019, supporters of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement defaced the displays of Israeli products in grocery stores across the country.



I am re-posting this as I have struck Freshco several times at different locations with the same sticker. Not only does it make people think, it also pisses off those who support the fascist racist Netanyahu and his racist fascist settlers.



INCIDENTS BY TYPE: VIOLENCE

Violent incidents increased by 27.3% compared with 2018. Such numbers are consistent with levels of antisemitism in 2017 (16 incidents) and 2014 (19 incidents) but fortunately remain the rarest form of antisemitism recorded in Canada.

However, the particularly brazen nature of antisemitic assaults in 2019 is indeed concerning, especially as many were carried out in broad daylight with eyewitnesses. This demonstrates a surprising willingness on the part of assailants to perpetrate such attacks even with increased likelihoods of facing consequences for their actions.

EXAMPLES:

- In March 2019, a Hasidic Jew was mugged in Montreal and had his tallit (prayer shawl) and tefillin (phylacteries) stolen.
- In April 2019, a Jewish employee in Montreal was abused by his workplace supervisor. He was verbally accosted and then had a coin thrown at him.
- In June 2019, a Toronto woman was accosted by her neighbour with antisemitic abuse and was then spat on by the assailant.
- Elsewhere in Toronto during June 2019, a Jewish couple was verbally abused and then attacked by four youths in the middle of the street.
- In June 2019, a group of Hasidic children in Outremont, Quebec were sprayed with tar by a construction worker.
- In July 2019, a Montreal taxi driver hurled antisemitic epithets at an observant Jew and violently assaulted him after the individual took a photograph of his license.
- In August 2019, two young observant Jews from the Toronto area were attacked by a single youth. One was punched in the face; the other suffered a broken arm. The same day as this incident, an assailant with a similar description was reported to have slapped a child of an observant family while the family was walking outside on Shabbat (the Jewish sabbath).
- In August 2019, a Hasidic child in Montreal was slowly rammed with a car while crossing the street. The assailant drove off when approached by the child's father.
- In October 2019, a Jewish student at York University in Toronto was spat on by someone hurling antisemitic epithets.

Unfortunately, in many of the assault cases, the assailants could not be identified or apprehended, allowing them to evade justice.

However, the July 2019 incident involving the Montreal-area taxi driver led to charges against the driver following B'nai Brith Canada liaising with the victim of the assault and reporting the incident to police and the taxi company. The driver was immediately fired and was arrested in August 2019.



CityNews footage of the antisemitic taxi incident in Montreal.

INCIDENT BREAKDOWN BY MONTH

JANUARY (145 INCIDENTS)

- Moments before the Jewish sabbath, a man walking to a Montreal synagogue with his children was the victim of a random attack when a stranger removed his hat and ran off with it.
- A Manitoba woman was threatened with violence for being Israeli and Jewish.

FEBRUARY (147 INCIDENTS)

- A Toronto woman found a swastika drawn in snow on her car (see right).
- A woman in Saskatoon was harassed by a work colleague and repeatedly called "Jewy."
- British Columbia-based white supremacist Brian Ruhe posted a video to YouTube denying the Holocaust, and defending Adolf Hitler, claiming he was unfairly demonized.



MARCH (186 INCIDENTS)

- Two male youths gave a Nazi salute outside a Winnipeg Jewish school in full view of students
- An elderly woman in Toronto reported harassment by a young man living in her building. She said the man called her "a crazy Jew," kicked her dog and spat in her face.

APRIL (154 INCIDENTS)

- A Toronto-area home was vandalized with swastikas and other antisemitic graffiti.
- A threatening email was sent to a Jewish man that stated, "The goyim know and it's only a matter of time you ride the choo choo. This time for real."

MAY (215 INCIDENTS)

- A Toronto-area synagogue was vandalized with writing on one of its concrete columns with the phrase, "Oy vey the govim know."
- A man was videotaped at a rally in Toronto shouting, "Hitler please come back and kill all the Jews. Not 100%, 90% of them."

JUNE (261 INCIDENTS)

- A picnic table at a park in Saint-Lazare, Que., was vandalized with antisemitic graffiti that said, "Kill the juifs (Jews)," accompanied by a swastika (see right).
- A Jewish student at Toronto's York University was spat on and called a "Nazi" by hostile students.



Travis Patron, the Saskatchewan-based leader of the antisemitic and white nationalist "Canadian Nationalist Party" referred online to Jews as "the Parasitic Tribe" (a historic antisemitic reference to the Jews).

JULY (181 INCIDENTS)

- A community football field in Manitoba was vandalized with swastikas.
- A Toronto-area Jewish organization received an email claiming that "the terrorists" of this world all seem to be Jewish, like Adolf Hitler and Stalin. It is amazing how the Jewish bankers have always funded the killers of Christians."

AUGUST (177 INCIDENTS)

- In Bagotville, Que., a student was harassed by her classroom peers who gave a Nazi salute several times, sent her threatening messages and mocked her with antisemitic slurs.
- Two observant Toronto-area Jewish boys were verbally accosted by another youth, who also punched one of the Jewish boys in the face.
- An individual reported online harassment whereby a social media user posted multiple links of "proof" that the Holocaust never happened and referred to Jews as "a race of liars where chutzpah is virtue."

SEPTEMBER (140 INCIDENTS)

 Several signs in Montreal for Liberal candidate Soraya Martinez Ferrada, a former city councillor, were vandalized with swastikas.

OCTOBER (168 INCIDENTS)

- A Dawson College bathroom in Montreal was vandalized with antisemitic graffiti stating "Juden Raus" (Jews Out) (See right).
- Leslie Bory, an independent candidate who ran in the Brantford-Brant electoral district, referred to "Jewish organizations" as "the lampshade mafia."

NOVEMBER (252 INCIDENTS)

- In St. John's, Newfoundland, spray-painted swastikas appeared on several road signs and fences.
- A Montreal-area Hasidic man was mugged and had his religious articles stolen, among other valuables.
- A Toronto-area dental clinic using an online booking service received antisemitic messages, including images and references to Adolf Hitler.



DECEMBER (181 INCIDENTS)

- Antisemitic graffiti appeared at a Winnipeg school, urging the killing of Jews.
- A man from Mirabel, Que., posted on Twitter that "Hitler was right, the Jews are the evil on the planet," and made laudatory references to recent physical assaults against Hasidic Jews in New York.
- In Gabriola Island, British Columbia, antisemitic graffiti was spray-painted on the main building at Camp Miriam, a Jewish summer camp, which included crude images and swastikas.

ANTISEMITISM IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

It is a sober reality, but one that must be acknowledged, that antisemitism continues to be a pervasive and growing problem around the world. As demonstrated by a recent Anti-Defamation League (ADL) survey, one in four individuals held very antisemitic views in the 14 European countries surveyed. The most commonly held antisemitic beliefs were ones about pernicious Jewish influence over financial and business affairs, as well as the idea of Jews being disloyal to their countries. Thus, we can see that Canada does not exist in a vacuum and is impacted by global trends as well, albeit to a lesser degree than many other countries.

UNITED KINGDOM

The Community Security Trust (CST) experienced its fourth straight record-breaking year for antisemitic incidents, with a total of 1,805 in 2019 - a 7% increase compared with 2018 figures. Importantly, some 82% of these incidents transpired over online platforms.

FRANCE

According to the latest 2019 police statistics in France, antisemitic offences rose by 74% between 2017 and 2018 – with 311 police-reported incidents occurring in 2017 compared with 541 in 2018. France's interior minister, Christophe Castaner, has stated that "Antisemitism is spreading like poison" in France.



Antisemitic graffiti found in Paris, France in February 2019.

GERMANY

In Germany, 1,646 antisemitic incidents were reported to police in 2018, representing the highest level of reported incidents in a decade. Physical attacks rose to 62 in that same year, up from 37 in 2017. The situation prompted Felix Klein, Germany's first-ever special envoy to the Jewish community, to say that he could not "recommend to Jews that they wear the skullcap at all times everywhere in Germany." Germany's Justice Minister, Katarina Barley, characterized the rise in antisemitic crimes in Germany as "shameful for our country." In 2019, deadly antisemitism reared its head in Halle, Germany when a far-right gunman attempted to enter a synagogue on the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur and livestreamed the incident online. He failed to enter the synagogue, but murdered two people and injured two others elsewhere before being arrested and charged with several counts of murder and attempted murder.

UNITED STATES

According to the **ADL's most recent available data**, 2018 was the third-highest year for recorded incidents in the United States, but included the highest level of antisemitic incidents "with known connections to extremist individuals or groups since 2004."

Throughout 2019, the United States has seen a spate of stabbing attacks and assaults, particularly targeting the Orthodox community. The year also included the deadly shooting at California's Chabad of Poway synagogue – an attack that killed one woman and injured several others. On December 10, 2019, an attack on a New Jersey kosher grocery store (see below) led to the murders of three people. A police officer was murdered by one of the two assailants prior to the grocery store attack, and both assailants were killed in a shootout with police.

Several weeks later, a man invaded the home of a Hasidic rabbi in Monsey, New York during the Jewish holiday of Chanukah and stabbed five people, two of whom required hospitalization and one of whom succumbed to his injuries and died after a lingering coma. The Monsey attack led Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to state on social media that antisemitism and hate "have no place anywhere in our world and we must continue to stand together against them." These sentiments were echoed by Foreign Minister François-Philippe Champagne.





News & Radio Programs > Newscasts, Radio, and Videos

B'nai B'rith calls on Canada to designate Iran's IRGC as terrorist organization

ANTISEMITISM ABROAD

B'nai Brith Canada has long recognized that antisemitism abroad is intertwined with antisemitism at home, and vice versa. With that understanding in mind, we have taken measures to address the internationalization of antisemitism in several ways:

- 1. We penned an open letter to then-Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland asking Canada to restate its opposition to antisemitism and racism at the Ministerial on International Religious Freedom. We included the adoption of our Eight-Point Plan to Tackle Antisemitism among our recommendations. Elsewhere, we reiterated our call to have Canada appoint a special envoy to combat antisemitism with ambassadorial privileges.
- 2. We called on G7 leaders to reaffirm their various commitments to combating antisemitism, including the commitment of G7 governments to formally adopt and promote the IHRA Definition both domestically and internationally, and to take active measures to combat the phenomenon in their respective jurisdictions.
- 3. We provided expert comment to Dr. Ahmed Shaheed, the UN's Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, pertaining to antisemitism in Canada and the necessary measures that must be taken to combat it, while urging Canada to bring these concerns forward at the UN.
- 4. We have proposed immediate actions that the government of Canada can take to designate Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist entity, in its entirety. We have suggested that the government condition any renewal of diplomatic ties with Iran on its full recognition of Israel's right to exist, on ending its support for terrorist groups such as Hezbollah, and on ending its use of its diplomatic presence around the world to frustrate the safety and security of Iranian and Jewish diaspora communities.
- 5. We welcomed IHRA's Recommendations for Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust in December 2019 as a necessary step in improving Holocaust awareness and combating Holocaust denial and distortion.



Jeff Epstein
Dan Schneider
Les Wexner
Leon Wieseltier
Harvey Weinstein
Mark Halpren
Woody Allen
Anthony Weiner
Matt Lauer
Al Franken
Bryan Singer
Roman Polanski
Louis CK
Bob Weinstein

James To



THE CANADIAN CONTEXT 2019 TRENDS IN ANTISEMITISM

For the fourth year in a row, Canada has experienced a rise in antisemitic incidents, emanating from a wide variety of sectors in Canadian society. These have included the religious and political spheres, primary and secondary schools, universities and colleges, workplaces, residential settings, and every other social and professional setting imaginable.

As typified by previous years, antisemitic incidents emerged from across the political spectrum, including threats to the physical safety of the Jewish community, incitement to hatred, and the mainstreaming of antisemitic sentiment in public forums.



ANTISEMITISM IN THE POLITICAL SPHERE

The year 2019 demonstrated worrying high-profile cases of antisemitism among highly respected and important sectors of Canadian society, including various levels of government and, increasingly, post-secondary institutions. We saw a series of disturbing encounters with antisemitism across Canada's political landscape.



EXAMPLES:

Maxime Bernier, leader of the People's Party of Canada, refused to distance himself from his senior aide, despite being presented with evidence by B'nai Brith Canada that he had suggested in the past that Zionism was "just another fancy justification of killing" and displacing Palestinians." The aide previously described B'nai Brith and other Jewish groups in Canada as "ethnic barons" and suggested that Israel was a "police state."

Rana Zaman, a former federal candidate for the New Democratic Party (NDP) in the Nova Scotia riding of Dartmouth-Cole Harbour, was ousted as a nominee after a series of tweets comparing Israel to Nazi Germany, stating that "#Gaza is the new #Auschwitz and #Israeli [sic] the gatekeepers!" (see right). This candidate also referred to the people of Israel as "the new #Pharaohs, #Nazis."



- The Quebec National Assembly passed Bill 21, which prevents Quebecers who wear "religious symbols" such as the kippah, hijab, or turban from serving as teachers, police officers, or judges. It also affects the internal promotion of people wearing such religious symbols if they are already working in Quebec's public sector. The bill was widely opposed by many faith groups and civil liberties organizations, including B'nai Brith, and was challenged in Quebec courts.
- In August 2019, Hassan Guillet, a federal Liberal Party candidate was ousted following B'nai Brith Canada's revelation that he had made several antisemitic and anti-Israel comments. These included claims that Jared Kushner, the son-in-law of U.S. President Donald Trump, was manipulating American foreign policy in favour of Israel because of his Jewish background. Other statements of his alleged that "Zionists control American politics." (see below).



Hassan Guillet Peut être. Mais ça prouve jusqu'à quel point les sionistes contrôlent la politique américaine. Un dirigent en poste aux EU n'ose pas dire son opinion si elle est critique de la polotique israélienne.

• Guillet also celebrated the release of Raed Salah – a Hamas-aligned activist who accused Jews of staging the 9/11 terrorist attacks and claimed that Jews use children's blood for baking "holy bread." Salah had been serving a nine-month sentence in an Israeli prison for "incitement to violence and racism." Guillet praised Salah as a "jihad-fighter" and "frontier-fighter" whom "Allah will surely support," and prayed that Salah would some day be successful in the fight to liberate "the whole of Palestine."

- In September 2019, B'nai Brith Canada called on Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson and Ottawa City Councillor Eli El-Chantiry to rescind a certificate presented at a past event honouring the antisemitic Syrian Socialist National Party (SSNP) - a Syria-based political party aligned with the brutal Assad regime. These elected officials refused to rescind the certificate despite being made aware by B'nai Brith Canada of the SSNP's virulent antisemitism and support for violent atrocities in the Middle East.
- In October 2019, Joel Harden, a Member of Provincial Parliament in Ontario, called for the release of Khalida Jarrar, a senior member of the violent and antisemitic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). The PFLP is a listed terrorist entity in Canada, yet Harden referred to Jarrar as his "parliamentary colleague" following her re-arrest by Israel on suspicions of "involvement in terrorist activity." Demands for an apology for the remarks were met with no substantive response.

Across the political spectrum, antisemitic expression, support for members of listed terrorist organizations and associations with blatant antisemites continues to transpire in Canada with an alarming degree of frequency. The very fact that such associations take place with brazen disregard for both the Jewish and broader community is troubling.

However, we have also seen Canadian political leaders of all stripes publicly and forcefully condemn antisemitism in Canada. In 2019, we recommended additional steps to keep Canada on the right track. Based on our own Eight-Point Plan to Tackle Antisemitism (see pp. 33-34), we have stressed the need for a national action plan to combat antisemitism involving all levels of government and Canada's law enforcement agencies. We have urged the appointment of a national coordinator domestically and a special envoy to combat antisemitism globally.

We put forward concrete and realistic proposals on combating online antisemitism to the then-Minister of Democratic Institutions, and provided testimony and a legal submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights, on the same issue. For the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade, we highlighted the need to focus on antisemitism as a threat to liberal democracy in Europe.

We fostered dialogue with provincial and territorial ministers of education, and Canada's universities, on the importance of more concretely addressing antisemitism in our education system, including through more consistent teaching about the Holocaust and its lessons for contemporary times.

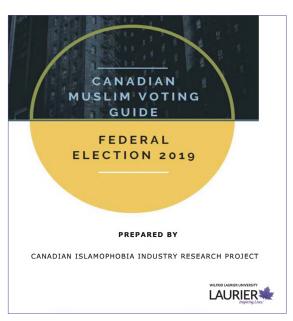
We continue to advocate strongly for improved measures to combat antisemitism at all levels of government, and work with all parties and stakeholders towards achieving these critical goals.

ANTISEMITISM ON CAMPUS

Throughout the year, there was a significant number of reports to B'nai Brith Canada of students facing harassment on campus from their peers and professors for being openly supportive of the State of Israel and/or for being Jewish, or both. Jewish students regularly faced insults, intimidation, and, in some cases, physical violence – including being spat on by their peers. Students have also communicated to B'nai Brith that they fear expressing their perspectives on Israel or related political issues for fear of academic retribution such as poor grades, denial of references and possible career obstacles.

Some more extreme incidents of antisemitism at post-secondary institutions included the following examples:

- On April 5, 2019, antisemitic graffiti reading "The Goyim Know" and "USS Liberty," appeared at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont. These are both references to antisemitic conspiracy theories associated with the far-right, falsely suggesting Jewish control over global politics.
- In October 2019, B'nai Brith Canada learned that a federal grant was used to produce a guide instructing Canadian Muslims on how to vote in the 2019 federal election. The guide, entitled Canadian Muslim Voting Guide: Federal Election 2019 was drafted by Jasmine Zine, and released by the Canadian Islamophobia Industry Research Project at Wilfred Laurier University on October 18 three days before the election. The guide acknowledged support from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), a federal agency that assigns research grants.



The guide identified six "key issues" for Canadian Muslims, including support for the antisemitic Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement, and assigned various grades to Canadian political parties pertaining to their degree of support for the movement. It should be noted that not only did the Parliament of Canada overwhelmingly vote to condemn the BDS movement in 2018, but Prime Minister Trudeau blasted the BDS movement as antisemitic and contrary to "Canadian values" in January 2019 – acknowledging it as a movement that intimidates Jewish students on university campuses.

In November 2019, the University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union (GSU) refused to support a drive to make kosher food accessible on campus because it was backed by the Jewish student group Hillel, which was seen by the GSU as being "pro-Israel." As such, the GSU determined that calling for the availability of kosher food on campus was contrary to the "will of the membership" in an apparent reference to its adoption of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement in 2012. It remains the only student union with a committee dedicated to promoting BDS.

This incident particularly shocked Jewish communities both in Canada and beyond, leading to a campaign by some 80 University of Toronto faculty members to demand immediate action by the university administration. In response to overwhelming public pressure emerging from this campaign, the GSU apologized for "the harm that this response has caused," but avoided any discussion of its support for the BDS movement. In contrast to the GSU's position, the university's undergraduate student union wholeheartedly embraced the kosher food initiative.

In late November 2019, at Toronto's York University, an angry mob unsuccessfully attempted to shut down a speaking engagement by Reservists on Duty, an Israeli organization that tours North American campuses. Estimates of the number of protestors in some cases exceeded 100, some of whom called for violence by chanting "Viva, viva intifada!" This chant refers to the two historical waves of Palestinian terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians, which began in 1987 and 2000, respectively. Police had to intervene and ensure the safety of the speakers and students, and even escorted several people out of the building.



Thus, we have seen a rise in the severity of campus antisemitism, emanating both from the far-right and, in 2019, especially from far-left anti-Israel groups who have engaged in intimidation and discrimination tactics against Jewish students, faculty, and staff at Canadian universities. Importantly, it has become clear that criticism of the State of Israel has often been used as an excuse to engage in antisemitic discrimination, such as the suggestion that kosher food should not be made available to Jewish students because a group involved supports the State of Israel. The holding of all Jews to account for the actions of the State of Israel, both real and imagined, is antisemitic to its core.

More needs to be done by university administrators to meaningfully address this growing problem on campuses.



HOLOCAUST DENIAL AND ANTISEMITISM IN CANADIAN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

A 2019 survey commissioned by the Azrieli Foundation revealed that, among other things, nearly 57% of Canadians care less about the Holocaust than they had in the past, with 15% of Canadian adults, and over one in five Canadians under 34 stating that they had not or were unsure of whether they had heard of the Holocaust.

Moreover, 49% of Canadian respondents were unable to name a single concentration camp. Approximately one in four Canadians believed that substantially less than 6-million Jews were murdered during the Holocaust, with another one in four unsure of how many were murdered.



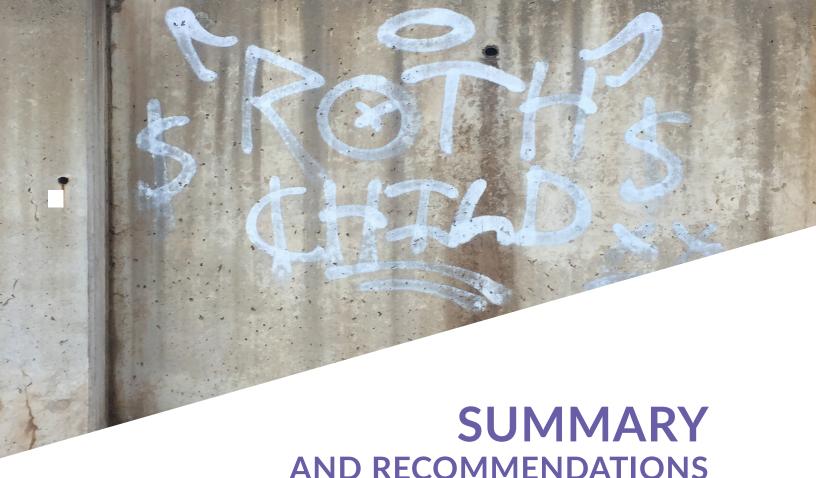
Overall, it is apparent that despite the existence of Holocaust education in Canadian school curricula across the country, the existing regime is woefully inadequate and failing an entire generation of students. Where such education is inadequate, nefarious actors seeking to promulgate Holocaust denial and distortion find fertile ground to warp the minds of the young and impressionable with disastrous consequences especially via online platforms.

In fact, in 2019, there was a significant increase in Holocaust denial and distortion in online forums, but also in in-person expressions among Canadians under 18. There were 352 incidents relating to Holocaust denial and/or incidents that promoted genocide against Jews in online forums, with 66 emanating from in-person encounters. In total, these represent about 25% of all harassment incidents in 2019.

In other words, nearly one in four antisemitic incidents that transpired online involved either Holocaust denial, distortion, or promotion. Importantly, the expression of such sentiments most often emanated from individuals on the far-right, but is increasingly acceptable among the far-left and religious extremists. This demonstrates a growing ideological consonance between far-right and far-left antisemitism, as well as antisemitic expression emanating from all other sectors of society.

One particularly prominent example of this online form of Holocaust denial and distortion was a publication by a Mississauga-based Polish-language newspaper, which also appeared online. It referred to a documentary about the brutal 1941 antisemitic massacre in the Polish town of Jedwabne as false propaganda of the "Holocaust enterprise," and part of a plot to initiate reparations for Jewish property that was lost or stolen during the Second World War.

Thus, we see the promulgation of Holocaust denial and revision, affecting all communities in Canada and becoming increasingly pervasive both at home and abroad.







You can't fight this in court because the Jews dominate the judiciary. You can't even get into law school if the jews don't approve of you.

Vera Van Horne @VeraVanHorne

The existence of antisemitism within and among mainstream institutions and organizations in Canada is concerning and indicative of a growing acceptance of this prejudice in Canada. However, despite the overall rise in antisemitism in Canada, B'nai Brith's advocacy led to positive outcomes in many cases where institutional antisemitism has manifested.

Top: Graffiti found in a TTC garage in Toronto, ON in June 2019. Bottom: An example of a common antisemitic myth, posted to Twitter in February.

ADVOCATING FOR THE COMMUNITY

For instance, following a campaign by B'nai Brith, a Canadian television channel cancelled a program called Muslim Perspectives, which had conveyed antisemitic and anti-Israel conspiracy theories.

It had also promoted the publication Crescent International. a propagandistic publication that ran the writings of Holocaust deniers and promoted genocide by calling for the total destruction of the Israeli nationstate, and stating that "Muslims will deal the deathblow to Yahud [Jews]." (See right).



The Qur'an says: Zionist Israel will be shattered



The prophet of Allah, upon whom be peace, summed it up when he said: 'The final hour shall not commence until the Muslims engage Yahud in warfare. And the Muslims will deal the deathblow to Yahud. These Yahud will hide behind timber and boulder that will call out on Muslims: 'O Muslim there is a Yahudi in disguise, come and annihilate him.'

In June 2019, following years of advocacy efforts by B'nai Brith and others, the federal government adopted the IHRA Definition as part of Canada's Building a Foundation for Change: Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2019-2022.

In July 2019, Trinity-St. Paul's United Church, a major Toronto-based congregation of the United Church of Canada (UCC), was set to provide space for an event entitled the "Ghassan Kanafani Resistance Arts Scholarship Launch," in honour of a former leading PFLP member. This individual helped to organize a 1972 attack on Israel's main airport that killed 26 civilians. Importantly, the church ultimately decided to deny the space for this event after discussions with B'nai Brith Canada.

Also in July, B'nai Brith encouraged the Edmonton Community League to end its rental agreement with Sheikh Shaban Sherif Mady, after revealing that Mady had expressed virulently antisemitic sentiments. He had claimed that "Jews do not like Islam or the Muslims," and that "international Zionism" was behind the ISIS terrorist organization, the terrorist attacks against two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, and "all terrorism." Elsewhere, he had stated that "the Muslims will kill the Jews" on Judgement Day, among other antisemitic comments.

In August, following years of complaints, James Sears and LeRoy St. Germaine, respective editor and publisher of the virulently antisemitic and misogynistic publication Your Ward News, were convicted of two counts each of wilful promotion of hatred against both Jews and women.

Also in August, the Saskatchewan-based antisemitic "Canadian Nationalist Party (CNP)," which had attempted and failed to secure a spot on the federal election ballot, was barred from using a Toronto mailing service following information provided by B'nai Brith about the nature of the CNP and its leader Travis Patron. Patron has been accused of anti-immigrant and anti-LGBTQ sentiment; has claimed that "Canada has a Zionist-occupied government," and has further claimed that the Israeli military intentionally targets and kills Canadian soldiers.

B'nai Brith successfully intervened in a lawsuit against Elections Canada for failing to consider and accommodate Jewish voters by holding federal elections over Sukkot and Shemini Atzeret. While ultimately the 2019 election was not rescheduled, the court victory brought about commitments from Elections Canada to ensure that future federal elections will never be held on dates that conflict with important Jewish holidays.

NATIONAL*POST

Court hears challenge over conflict of fall federal election date and Jewish high holiday

On Shemini Atzeret, orthodox Jews forbidden from doing pretty much anything a busy candidate or engaged voter would want to do on election day

"The stakes are high," said Colin Feasby, representing B'nai Brith Canada, a Jewish advocacy group that was granted intervener status in the case.

"At its heart, this is a case of what it means to count in Canadian society. Holding the federal election on a date where a religious minority cannot vote by reason of their beliefs sends a message to that community that it does not count," Feasby said.

B'NAI BRITH'S EIGHT-POINT PLAN TO TACKLE ANTISEMITISM

Institute Dedicated Hate Crime Units in Every Major City

The lack of investment in hate crime-specific units contributes to both a perceived sense of impunity for the purveyors of hate crimes and generates frustration on the part of affected communities. Dedicated hate crimes units could produce more substantive results in the field, including the laying of more charges, and further enhance the credibility of police services among the broader community.

2. **Provide Enhanced Training for Hate Crimes Officers**

What often appears to be a clear-cut case of a hate crime can be interpreted differently among police services. A standard understanding of what constitutes a hate crime is critical, as well as proper liaison functions between police services and civil society organizations representing affected communities, such as the League for Human Rights.

3. Publish the Attorney-General's Guidelines for Sections 318 and 319

The Attorney-General's decision-making process on hate propaganda prosecutions is not public and therefore open to charges of political bias. B'nai Brith believes revealing the internal guidelines elucidating this process will help the public know when to submit complaints to law enforcement, and clarify what is and is not legal. This would also aid police in better identifying hate crimes as they occur.

Declare a Zero-Tolerance Approach to Government Funding of Antisemitism

Government funding has again found its way to organizations that have promoted antisemitism in the past. Government must be vigilant when dispensing public funds to such organizations, and take swift action when such instances come to its attention, including an immediate withdrawal of all publicly-provided funds.

5. Introduce Anti-SLAPP Legislation in All Provinces and Territories

Only B.C., Ontario and Quebec have enacted legislation opposing Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation, or "anti-SLAPP" legislation, which is meant to prevent frivolous libel lawsuits designed to dissuade groups engaging in issues of public interest by using lawsuits to intimidate and deter critique or inquiry. B'nai Brith encourages all provinces and territories to enact this legislation so this protection can be extended to the benefit of all Canadians.

6. Hold Post-Secondary Institutions Accountable for Campus Antisemitism

Post-secondary institutions recently surfaced as significant breeding grounds for antisemitism in Canada, including through an increase in far-left activism against Israel. This has a caustic effect on Jewish students, who are increasingly reporting incidents of vandalism and threats of violence. Post-secondary institutions must do more to combat antisemitism, as do provincial ministries of education, including enforcing existing anti-discrimination policies and ensuring that appropriate disciplinary measures are employed.

7. Adopt a National Action Plan for Antisemitism

Canada must adopt a National Action Plan to Combat Antisemitism, as have France and Norway, in recognition that adequate resources must be offered to strategically combat anti-Jewish rhetoric. Such a plan would involve all levels of government, which could help law enforcement, communities, and schools prevent and respond to antisemitism by implementing anti-bias education and hate crimes prevention programs.

Holocaust and anti-bias education must be standardized across Canada.

Canada must continue to utilize its influence at various international forums to combat antisemitism and encourage the improvement of data collection of antisemitic hate crimes. All three levels of governments should adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism to better inform public policy, standardize the understanding of antisemitism, and incorporate the definition into police training and cross-country educational systems.

8. Develop an Action Plan to Counter Online Hate

In the absence of the prior section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Code, a fresh federal strategy is needed to deal with the gap in Canada's hate laws. B'nai Brith believes that the federal government, along with social media platforms and other stakeholders, can work in tandem to establish a viable strategic plan to counter online hate.

Government must examine how to strengthen laws against perpetrators of online hate and improve law enforcement training in how to respond. B'nai Brith recommends that social media platforms and relevant stakeholders enhance transparency and improve accountability, ensure stronger policies against hate, and expand response tools for the targets of hate.

A broad-based plan adapted to today's circumstances, involving all levels of government, industry, and the targets of online hate themselves, is essential to combating the spread of antisemitism in the 21st century.



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B'nai Brith and the League are uniquely positioned to provide a contextual, longitudinal approach to examining antisemitism in Canada, via the Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents.

The Audit has been conducted every year since 1982, and is the result of close cooperation with the public, local police forces and other community organizations across the country.

As the definitive study on antisemitism in Canada, the Audit has been cited by a variety of governmental, academic and advocacy organizations, such as the US State Department, the Kantor Centre for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry, and Statistics Canada, among others. Data from the Audit was also used to inform the findings of the Canadian Parliamentary Coalition to Combat Antisemitism in 2009.

Special appreciation is extended to our law enforcement partners across the country for their hard and dedicated work.



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Sources Citing the Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents:

- Statistics Canada
- Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
- Ontario Human Rights Commission
- Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labour, US State Department
- Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism, US State Department
- Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
- Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry, Tel Aviv University
- United Nations Commission on Human Rights
- The Coordination Forum for Countering Antisemitism
- Human Rights First



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