



Halton Regional Police Service Partnering Against Hate



Canada is known as a cultural mosaic, a country where people are encouraged to honour their cultural, language and faith differences.

As a recognized leader in diversity and policing, we know that our strength lies, in part, in our differences. By reaching out to the diverse communities we serve, we strengthen the social fabric of our region and ensure that Halton remains as safe tomorrow as it is today.

Whether it's mischief or vandalism, the Halton Regional Police Service takes any act of hate, racism or intolerance very seriously. Every single reported hate crime or suspected hate crime is brought from the investigating officer up through the chain of command to the Chief's immediate attention, and appropriate resources are dedicated to ensure investigations are conducted in a timely and thorough manner.

Hate-Motivated Crime:

A hate-motivated crime is a criminal offence committed against a person and/or property which is motivated by hate/bias or prejudice based on race,

national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation or other factors.

A criminal offence is an offence committed contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada. Examples of criminal offences include assault, mischief, property damage, and threatening.

Examples of Hate-Motivated Crimes:

- Physical assault or verbal threats motivated by hate
- Seeing or receiving hate mail in the form of e-mails, flyers, letters and/or websites
- Being threatened or harassed because of one's identity
- Graffiti or vandalism motivated by hate, such as spray-painting racial slurs on a place of worship



The Law and Hate Propaganda:

There are specific laws in Canada that deal with hate propaganda. These laws refer to persons that advocate or promote genocide and/or public incitement of hatred.

If you see hate propaganda, posters and/or graffiti that promote hate, report it to the police.

What You Can Do:

When an incident of hate crime occurs, document the details as soon as possible. Be sure of the facts and that you can answer the who, what, when, where, why and how of the incident.

Supporting documents such as written statements, photographs, videotapes and/or witnesses will help strengthen a case.

Why Report Hate-Motivated Crime:

If you are the victim of a hate-motivated crime, it is important that you report it to the police as soon as possible so it can be properly documented and investigated. Reporting crime also helps break the cycle of violence and has the potential to prevent others from being victimized.

Understanding the nature of crime in Halton Region is very important to the safety of you and your family. Reporting these incidents enables the Halton Regional Police Service and organizations such as the Halton Multicultural Council (HMC) to take proactive and preventative measures to combat hate.

When The Police Are Called:

When you call the police, you will need to provide:

- Your name
- Address
- Telephone number
- A brief description of the crime you are reporting

A Halton Regional Police Service officer will be sent to your location to obtain more information.

If you do not speak English: Tell the police what language you speak. The HRPS will contact a translator to assist you with your call. Remember to stay calm. The police are here to help you.

After The Report Has Been Taken:

An investigation will be conducted by the Halton Regional Police Service that may result in the arrest of an offender(s). The investigative process may include taking photographs of evidence and providing an official statement to the police.

If an offender(s) is arrested and charged with an offence(s), you may be required to attend court. The police and/or Crown Attorney's office will inform you and prepare you for court proceedings.

For more information, contact:
Halton Regional Police Service

905-825-4727

www.haltonpolice.ca

Progress Through Participation