



2014

Annual Audit

Of

Antisemitic Incidents

B'nai Brith and the League for Human Rights would like to thank the following people for their contribution to this year's Audit of Antisemitic Incidents

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Executive Summary

The year 2014 saw the highest number of antisemitic incidents ever recorded by B'nai Brith and the League for Human Rights. At 1627 incidents, this year saw a 28% increase over 2013. This is consistent with data gathered by other human rights organizations around the world, such as the Anti-Defamation League, who also reported a 21% increase over the previous year.

Table 1.0 Three Year Comparative Statistics

	2012	2013	2014
Vandalism	319	388	238
Violence	13	14	19
Harassment	1013	872	1370
TOTAL	1345	1274	1627

When examining reports for 2014, a clear trend begins to emerge. With the re-escalation this year of the conflict between Israel and Hamas, has come a landscape which has helped legitimize antisemitism, via anti-Zionism as a legitimate form of political protest. Criticism of Israeli policy has become a condemnation of the Jewish people as a whole, legitimized by movements such as BDS (Boycott, Divest, Sanction). In many cases, virulent antisemitic attacks were justified as being part of the anti-Israel or Palestinian support activities, despite the fact that 'Jews' and not the Israeli government were the target.



Examples of Incidents

Incidents are classified into one of three categories: Vandalism, Violence or Harassment. Incidents tracked by B'nai Brith and the League for Human Rights can vary from slurs, name calling and graffiti, to assault, arson and bomb threats. Some examples which were reported for 2014 are outlined below.

January (Toronto) - Caller to hotline upset by Nazi-themed Lego set being sold on Ebay.

February (Montreal) - Employee at a pharmacy is harassed by a customer for wearing a kippah at work.

March (Kingston) - White Man's March, a white supremacist rally, takes place in Kingston.

April (Laurentians) - Several Chassidic homes are vandalized, and one is completely destroyed by arson.

May (Penticton) - Mattress is set on fire, with the words 'burnt Jew' written across the top.

June (Montreal) - Arson attack.

July (Calgary & Toronto) - Multiple people attacked and injured (some requiring hospitalization) at Palestinian and Israel support rallies. Chants of 'kill the Jews' and 'Hitler was right' are also heard.

August (Montreal) - Chassidic woman waiting on a park bench is slapped in the face by a man on a bicycle as he rides past.

September (Toronto) - Dog feces is rubbed on the door of a synagogue.

October (Winnipeg) - Woman in a doctor's waiting room is told by another patient that 'Hitler was right' and that 'the Jews got what they deserved'.

November (Montreal) - Two men have their cars vandalized and spray painted with swastikas.

December (Toronto) - White nationalist site posts an article about 'The Jewish Lie', claiming the Holocaust is a Jewish invention.

Conclusions

It would be easy to allow the events of 2014 and the rising prevalence of occurrences to convince Canadians that antisemitism has become an inevitable and insurmountable problem in this country, and to allow fear and anger to take hold. However, the events unfolding in other parts of the world should serve to illustrate the need for increased ties between the Jewish community and the larger Canadian society. It is not by building barriers that we will eliminate antisemitism, but rather by building relationships, and encouraging inter-community education and dialogue.

About the Audit

The Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents is in its 33rd year of publication. Conducted by B'nai Brith and the League for Human Rights, it monitors and analyzes incidents of hate directed at the Canadian Jewish community. Although the Audit is quoted by multiple international organizations (the US State Department, The Ontario Human Rights Commission, and Statistics Canada, among others), the report is compiled as a community service as much as an academic exercise.

About the League

The League for Human Rights, an agency of B'nai Brith Canada, is a national volunteer driven organization dedicated to combating antisemitism and racism. The objectives of the League include advocating for human rights for all Canadians, building inter-community relations, and the elimination of racial discrimination and bigotry. The League accomplishes these goals through educational programs, community action and legal/legislative interventions.

The mandate of the League for Human Rights is the combat of antisemitism, racism, and bigotry. It maintains a twenty-four hour a day, seven day a week, Anti-Hate Hotline (1-800-892-BNAI [2624]), offering assistance to victims of antisemitism and hate-motivated crimes. League members interact on an ongoing basis with the community, the police, synagogues, and schools, legal and legislative experts, and government agencies that deal with racism.

For more than three decades the League has published the annual *Audit of Antisemitic Incidents in Canada*. This documentation of antisemitic incidents by region, and analysis of patterns of antisemitic occurrence, is cited world-wide by government agencies, social policy planners and law enforcement bodies, and is considered the premier study by internationally recognized authorities on antisemitism. According to Statistics Canada, the Audit is likely “*the best data available on the incidence of hate crimes, providing a unique historical record of a particular form of hate activity in Canada.*”

About the Audit

B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights monitors antisemitism in Canada and analyzes the precipitators of hatred against the Jewish community in an annual *Audit of Antisemitic Incidents*.

The Audit has been described as a "unique historical record of a particular form of hate activity in Canada" according to Statistics Canada. Yet the League's work in this area has been undertaken not simply as an academic study of the global and domestic trends that precipitate prejudice but rather as a much-needed community service that is responsible to the fall-out from a disturbing rise in antisemitism in this country.

Through the provision of a 24/7 Anti-Hate Hotline (1-800-892-2624), the League provides a central reporting mechanism to which victims of discrimination can turn for culturally sensitive assistance and, if necessary, referral to police, legal services or human rights fora.

The League, which liaises closely with hate crime officers across the country, is often the first point of contact for victims of antisemitism, whatever its provenance. Unfortunately there is still a general resistance to acknowledging that antisemitism is a problem in Canada, that there are indeed cracks in the fabric of Canadian multiculturalism that have allowed underlying prejudice, whether caused by global or domestic resentments, to manifest itself in ways which are not only subtle and insidious but, increasingly, public and aggressive.

Consistent with the challenges of protecting and enhancing multiculturalism, the mandate of the League for human Rights is not just to counter antisemitism, but to fight all forms of hatred and discrimination against minority communities in Canada and to encourage inter-group respect and tolerance. To this end, the League offers anti-racism education and advocacy training to other targeted groups and intervenes in landmark cases on their behalf when their rights or security are threatened.

In this context, the annual *Audit of Antisemitic Incidents* is more than just a snapshot of the intensity of incidents against the Jewish community. It serves as the barometer of the level of racism in Canada as a whole.

Data Collection Methods

For the purposes of this report, there are two types of incidents which have been included:

1) Self-reported incidents: Those incidents which were reported to B'nai Brith and the League for Human Rights via the anti-hate hotline.

2) Police-reported incidents: Incidents which were reported to local law enforcement agencies and were then shared with B'nai Brith by municipal police forces for the purposes of the creation of this audit.

It should be noted that not all police forces have a policy in place which facilitates this kind of transfer of information, so the data for some areas may be incomplete.

About Antisemitism: Defining Antisemitism

What is antisemitism? As noted in the commentary of this report, it is becoming increasingly common to see blatant antisemitism labelled as anti-Zionism or 'legitimate' criticism of the state of Israel, thus making the identification and condemnation of antisemitism increasingly problematic.

For the purposes of this audit, the League has again chosen to use the working definition of antisemitism from the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia, as outlined below.



Working Definition of Antisemitism

The purpose of this document is to provide a practical guide for identifying incidents, collecting data, and supporting the implementation and enforcement of legislation dealing with antisemitism.

Working definition: *"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."*

In addition, such manifestations could also target the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. 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, taking into account the overall context, 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 as such or the power of Jews as collective – such as, especially but not exclusively, 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.

Examples of the ways in which antisemitism manifests itself with regard to the state of Israel, taking into account the overall context would include:

- 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 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.

However, criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic.

Overview of the Issues

The year 2014 saw the highest number of antisemitic incidents ever recorded by B'nai Brith and the League for Human Rights. A total of 1627 incidents were recorded, which is a 28% increase over 2013, and a 21% increase over the previous record set in 2012 (1345 incidents). This mirrors the numbers reported in the United States by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), who saw a 21% increase over the previous year.

Not long ago, the Toronto Police Service published the results of their annual Hate Crime Report. For the year 2014, Toronto's Jewish community was the most victimized group, on the receiving end of nearly one in every three reported hate crime incidents. Similar results were seen in other municipalities around Canada, and this disturbing trend is indicative of a larger, global rise in antisemitism, with 2014 seeing multiple high-profile antisemitic incidents across Europe and around the world.

With the re-escalation this year of the conflict between Israel and Hamas, has come a landscape which has helped legitimize antisemitism, via anti-Zionism as a legitimate form of political protest. On college and university campuses across Canada, on the streets in protests and in the media, one drum-beat is being pounded again and again: Jews, via the state of Israel, are responsible for some of the worst types of human rights violations and the genocide of the Palestinian people. Criticism of Israeli policy has become a condemnation of the Jewish people as a whole, legitimized by movements such as BDS (Boycott, Divest, Sanction), which has gained traction particularly on campuses around the country. It has become too easy to deny antisemitism, as long as it is reframed under the legitimizing veil of anti-Zionism. All one needs to do is look to the comment section of any major news site, on a story examining the Israel-Hamas conflict. Almost without exception, legitimate debate and dialogue devolves to accusations of the murder of children, Zionist plots and the use of antisemitic language.

For the purposes of this report, we have included only those examples of anti-Israel rhetoric which have clear and undeniable antisemitic tones or justifications, and which are consistent with the definition of antisemitism as presented by the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (see above).

On that theme, you see placed throughout this year's audit brief statements by some of Canada's most prominent thinkers, cultural observers and members of the law enforcement community. We asked them to share their thoughts on antisemitism in 2014, and what it means for Canada's Jewish community and Canadian multiculturalism going forward. Many of them gave voice to the rising global tide of antisemitism, and the increasingly complex relationship that anti-Zionism plays in the language of antisemitism. You will see their statements throughout the document, offering context and diverse voices to the discussion.

Incidents

Incidents recorded by the League for Human Rights are classified into one of three categories: Violence, Harassment, and Vandalism. The definitions of which are as follows:

Violence: Refers to physical use of force against a person or group of persons. It includes, but is not limited to:

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

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

- verbal slurs, statements of hate and bias, or harassment
- stereotyping of Jews, such as the airing on radio talk shows of comments on 'Jewish characteristics'
- systemic discrimination in the workplace, schools or campuses
- hate propaganda and hate mail via the internet, telephone, or printed material
- verbal threats of violence where application of force does not appear imminent, or no weapon or bomb is involved

Vandalism: Refers to physical damage to property. It 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 *mezuzahs* on the door posts of private homes, hospitals and other facilities
- desecration of cemeteries and synagogues
- fire bombing, arson

It should also be noted that most law enforcement experts and researchers estimate that only 10% of the victims of hate crime ever report what happened to them. Since many acts of antisemitism are not considered hate crimes under current legislation, many victims may feel that it is pointless to go to the trouble of reporting. Because of that, the actual numbers of incidents in Canada may be much higher than captured within this report.

Vandalism

Vandalism is a common, anonymous way of expressing antisemitism, bringing the message of hate to a large audience with relative simplicity. The most common form of antisemitic vandalism is the creation of swastikas, and nearly all incidents of vandalism reported in 2014 contained some form of Nazi imagery. Often, this was combined with anti-Israel messages, as was the case this past July in Thornhill, home to Canada's largest Jewish population, with the defacement of a bus shelter painted with a swastika and the words 'F*ck Israel'.



In 2014, there were 238 reported incidents, a sharp decline from 2013, which saw a total of 388 incidents of vandalism. However, as discussed in the Harassment section, 2014 saw a dramatic increase in online and cyber harassment, and it is possible that committing online acts of antisemitism provide an even safer, more anonymous forum for engaging in antisemitism, and that those who would previously have spray painted their messages of hate on a public building, now post message of hate on Facebook, Twitter and anonymous blogs.

Examples of Vandalism Incidents

January: 16 incidents

Stouffville - Sign defaced with swastika

Montreal - fire at the backdoor of a synagogue

Laurentians - Skver Camp vandalised, mikva damaged and books destroyed

Windsor - rock thrown through window of Jewish owned store



February: 17 incidents

Toronto - storefront displaying nazi images, swastikas

Windsor - 'Support our Troops' flag defaced with star of David, and the words 'Zionist'

Laurentians - Swastika found spray painted on side of building

Victoria - Student's car found with star of David drawn in the snow on the hood

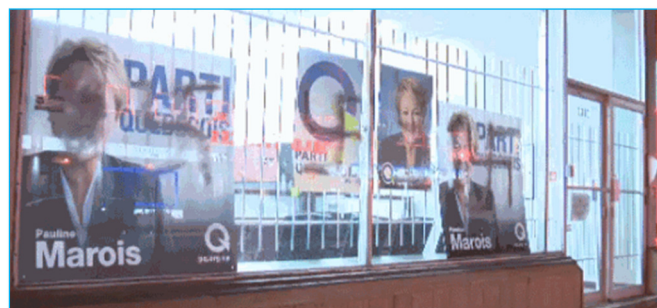


March: 13 incidents

Toronto - car vandalized

Longueuil - riding office of a PQ candidate had office and signage defaced with swastikas & nazi images

Vancouver - antisemitic graffiti drawn on chalkboard in student lounge at UBC residence



April: 30 incidents

Ottawa - multiple people reported antisemitic graffiti along major pedestrian routes during Passover

Ste-Agath Des Monts - swastika spray painted on the door of the city water filtration plant

Thornhill - green mailbox spraypainted with 'Jews'

Edmonton - burning swastika found

Laurentians - Chassidic homes were destroyed & vandalised, one burnt to the ground



May: 28 incidents

Winnipeg - swastika found in the parking lot of Jewish Centre

Winnipeg - Jewish cemetery vandalized

Calgary - swastika painted on the ground next to a Jewish students car at local highschool

Montreal - bench defaced with the words 'Jews are blood sucking Christ-killers'

Penticton - mattress lit on fire, with 'Burnt Jew' spray painted on it

Boisbriand - swastika spray painted at entrance to Chassidic community



June: 30 incidents

Toronto - stickers along the Danforth that say 'The Holocaust is a Jewish invention'

Calgary - swastika painted on an apartment where an Israeli flag was displayed.

Calgary - graffiti on a business 'I hate Jews'

Toronto - swastika on Na'amat Canada

Montreal - three men arrested while drawing graffiti on synagogue



July : 42 incidents

Winnipeg - graffiti spray painted on local bridge

Toronto - swastika on Jewish Tribune box

Thornhill - F*ck Israel spray painted on bus shelter

Calgary - F*ck Israel spray painted on roadway

Montreal - Heil Hitler and 'Hamza is god' written on mailbox

Montreal - man yelling 'death to Jews' driving around smashing car mirrors

Toronto - Public school in Jewish area has swastikas painted on it



August: 22 incidents

Calgary - swastikas drawn with chalk on the ground outside a Jewish person's home

Calgary - four homes defaced with swastikas

Montreal - star of David and swastikas drawn on the side of a department store

Toronto - \$5 bill found defaced with the words 'f*ck Israhell' and a swastika

Montreal - two homes with mezuzahs found vandalized and egged



September: 18 incidents

Winnipeg - graffiti on synagogue that said 'Free Palestine!'

Sackville - graffiti with swastikas and antisemitic words spray painted on school

Montreal - yellow star of David spray painted on metro station

Toronto - dog feces rubbed on door of synagogue

Cotes-des-neiges - 'No Entry' sign vandalized with star of David over figure's head and the words 'To Jews' written underneath

Montreal - three businesses fire bombed on Rosh Hashana , one belonging to a Jew





October: 10 incidents

Cote St-Luc - Swastikas and nazi slogans spray painted on garage door

Boisbriand - Home used as Chassidic school vandalized

Hamilton - Graffiti outside the JCC

November: 9 incidents

Montreal - Swastikas spray painted on public school

Montreal - two men have their cars spray painted with swastikas

Montreal - fire department has swastikas and KKK spray painted on it



December: 3 incidents

St Agathe - home broken into, swastikas spray painted on the walls

Montreal - swastikas painted on building

Table 2.0 Vandalism By Month

January	16	July	42
February	17	August	22
March	13	September	18
April	30	October	10
May	28	November	9
June	30	December	3

TOTAL: 238

Violence

Fortunately, violent incidents remain the rarest form of antisemitism in Canada, although 2014 saw a rise in violent attacks, with an increase of 36% over the previous year.

Examples of Violent Incidents

April: 2 Incidents

Montreal - Eggs thrown at Chassidic Jews

Montreal - Chassidic children hit with paint balls

June: 1 Incident

Montreal - Arson incident

July: 13 Incidents

Winnipeg & Calgary - multiple assaults take place at Pro-Palestinian or Pro-Israel rallies. In some cases, victims are hospitalized.

Montreal - A man visiting from France is punched in the face outside a kosher restaurant

August: 2 Incidents

Montreal - Chassidic woman waiting on a park bench is slapped in the face by an Arab man riding by on a bicycle

September: 1 Incident

Montreal - man walking to his car was ambushed by several men hiding in the bushes. He was beaten unconscious

Table 3.0 Violence By Month

January		July	13
February		August	2
March		September	1
April	2	October	
May		November	
June	1	December	

TOTAL: 19

Harassment

Harassment is the most prevalent form of antisemitism, manifesting in a multitude of ways, from the posting of online images to the shouting of threats and slurs in the streets. In 2014, B'nai Brith and the League for Human Rights recorded 1370 incidents of harassment, an increase of 57% over the previous year, with online harassment incidents nearly tripling in comparison to 2013.

Examples of Harassment Incidents

January: 88 incidents

Toronto - Caller to hotline reports Nazi-themed toys (legos, etc) being sold on ebay

Montreal - Muslim comedian makes Nazi salute on stage during a show

Thornhill - man at convenience store starts talking to the clerk using antisemitic language



February : 46 incidents

Toronto - man at store overhears a customer saying that Canada should get rid of its Jews. Confronts the man in the parking lot and an altercation ensues

Toronto - email to Jewish website proclaiming the Holocaust to be a Jewish invention

Mississauga - editor of a major Muslim publication questions why we have to accept the Holocaust as fact

Montreal - employee of pharmacy harassed for wearing a kippah while at work



March: 44 incidents

Montreal - student and her family repeatedly harassed by neighbour who calls them 'dirty Jews' and makes the Nazi salute when he sees them

Victoria - man enters a store and begins yelling about the 'Jewish products' sold there

Kingston - Walk About Kingston White Man's March, Skin head/white power group rally

April: 54 incidents

Winnipeg - high school students harassing a Jewish classmate with antisemitic slurs

Cote des Neiges - man overhears another diner at a restaurant say that 'the CIA, funded by Zionist bankers, was responsible for 9/11'

Toronto - radio program discussing Shakespeare, the host refers to 'Taming of the Shrew' as 'Taming of the Jews'. When a listener complained, the host denied it, saying he said 'Taming of the Booze'

May: 54 Incidents

Montreal - woman quits her job at a pharmacy after being repeatedly harassed about being Jewish by Muslim coworkers

Cote St Luc - local business refuses to take reservations from Jewish organizations or individuals

Winnipeg - multiple reports of letters being received with antisemitic content, written by a Jew who converted to Christianity

Peterborough - police are called after disabled man makes threats and antisemitic slurs to his caregiver

June: 58 Incidents

Toronto - woman going through Orthodox conversion is accused by coworkers of 'bringing her religion to work' and that because 'she's Jewish now, she thinks she's better than us'

Calgary - person in a car yells 'F*cking Jews!' at an apartment flying an Israeli flag

Toronto - While getting a haircut at a salon, a patron overhears the owner talking about how Jews are hated all over the world because of how they act and that Jews are responsible for antisemitism

July: 190 Incidents

Calgary - a voicemail saying that the Holocaust was a positive event left on a synagogue phone

Montreal - at a Pro-Palestinian rally a protestor holds a sign stating that Jews were responsible for both world wars

Calgary - 'Kill the Jews' being chanted at Pro-Palestinian rally

Toronto - woman at Israel support rally harassed as she was walking home because she was carrying an Israeli flag

Toronto - TTC employee threatens to 'kill all Jews' if Israel doesn't leave Gaza



August: 126 Incidents

Montreal - Quebec Director for Public Affairs at the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) receives antisemitic hate mail

Winnipeg - Woman wearing a Chai symbol on a necklace is harassed by a woman at a bus stop, who yells that all Jews are useless and that they stole Israel from Palestine

Toronto - personal website of well-known international journalist publishes antisemitic material

September: 152 Incidents

Boisbriand - Members of Chassidic community harassed by men driving cars around the neighbourhood, yelling slurs and threats

Montreal - Woman writing school entrance exams refused accommodation for test which fell on Yom Kippur

Montreal - Woman asked to step down from her position on the board of a non-profit because of her Jewish background. Was told that she 'must hate Muslims' because she's a Jew.

Montreal - Newspaper columnist receives a letter that says 'soon you will become a soap' and 'there is nowhere to run anymore'



October: 159 Incidents

Winnipeg - Woman in a doctor's waiting room is told by another patient that 'Hitler was right' and that 'the Jews got what they deserve'

Montreal - man sitting in car outside of Jewish day school, singing song about Hitler as students exited for the day. A parent confronts him, and he screams obscenities before driving off.

Online - multiple blogs and news sites run stories titled 'The Jewish Takeover of Canada?' in response to the court case of Arthur Topham

November: 90 Incidents

Cote St-Luc - After moving into a new apartment and putting up a mezuzah, a young man receives multiple antisemitic notes left on his door

Montreal - A man carrying a metal object threatens and harasses Chassidic children playing in a school yard

Online- twitter user tweets an image of Canada with a swastika over it, accompanied by the words 'maybe in my lifetime. #HitlerWasRight'

December: 309 Incidents

Winnipeg - Lawyer receives a letter that says that Jews are hated everywhere in the world, and always have been, because of the way they act

Montreal - After a workout, two men were talking to each other in the locker room loudly in Arabic. When asked to keep it down by an attendant, one of the men replied 'You f*cking Jew! I'll bash your head in!'

Toronto - White Nationalist website out of Toronto posts an article about 'The Jewish Lie', claiming the Holocaust is a Jewish invention

Table 4.0 Harassment By Month

January	88	July	190
February	46	August	126
March	44	September	152
April	54	October	159
May	54	November	90
June	58	December	309

TOTAL: 1370

Overview

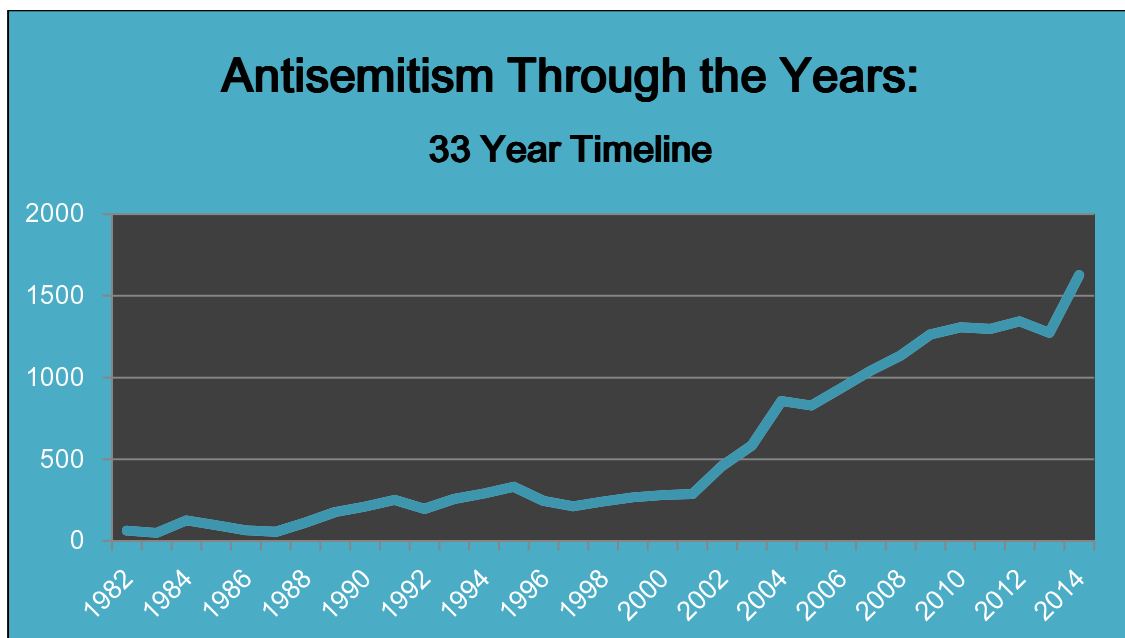
Statistical Overview

To better put the information contained in this year's *Audit* into perspective, 2014 is compared against a three year trend, as well as in the context of *Audit* data since its inception, in 1982.

i) Chronological Comparisons

Table 5.0 Three Year Comparative Statistics

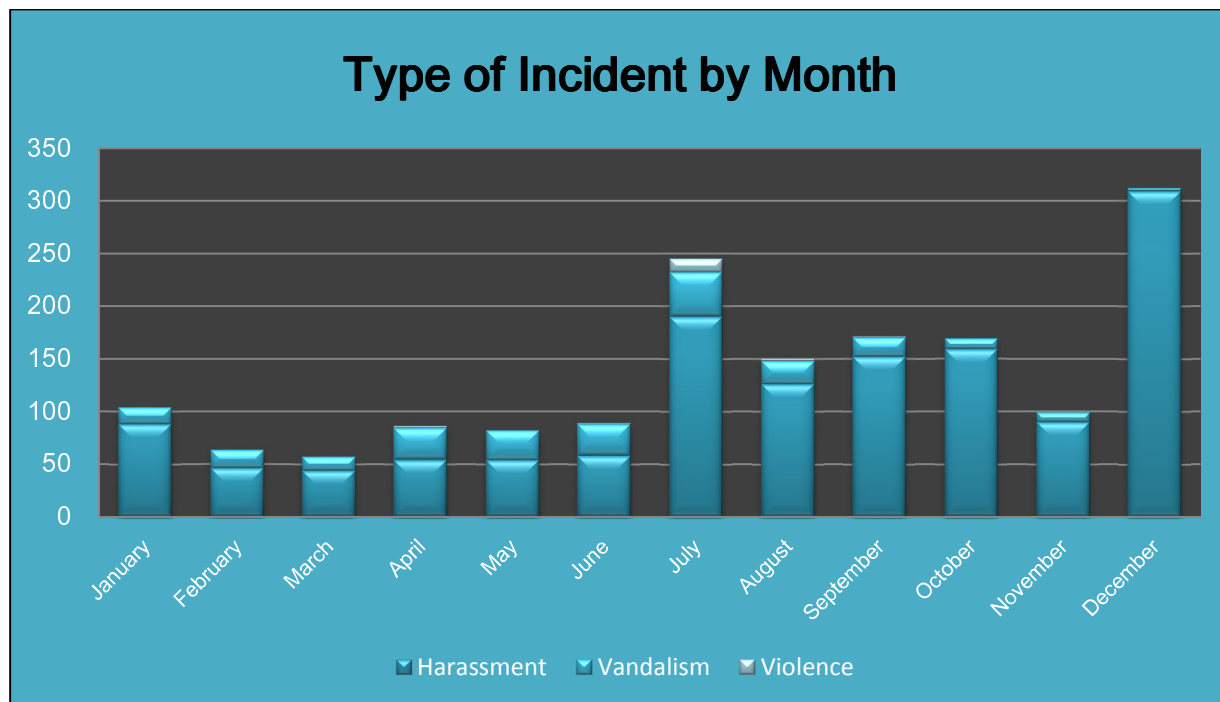
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Vandalism	319	388	238
Violence	13	14	19
Harassment	1013	872	1370
TOTAL	1345	1274	1627



It is clear from this illustration, just how dramatically the level of antisemitism in Canada has risen over the past three decades. However, it is important to consider the increased access to information and

communication available to the average Canadian, with the advent of the internet and mobile technology. The landscape for spreading antisemitic messages has grown exponentially, so it is only reasonable to expect the actual number of incidents to have increased along with it.

ii) Incidents by Month - 2014



Canada saw dramatic spikes in antisemitic activity during the months of July and December. The conflict between Israel and Hamas flared in June with the kidnapping of three Israeli teenagers, and in July Israel began a ground offensive to combat Palestinian militants. The fact that incidents increased during this time mirrors what has occurred in previous years when Israel is in a state of conflict.

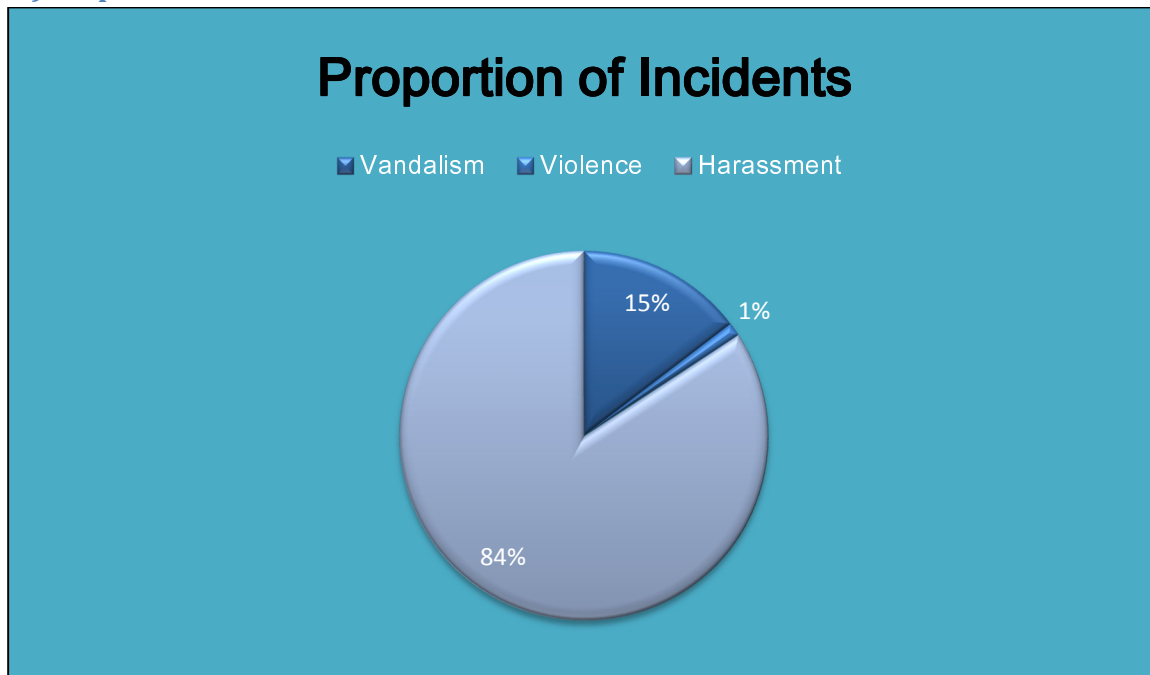
We can see a dramatic increase in violent activity in July, corresponding with the onset of Israel's Operation Protective Edge. Many of the reported violent incidents took place at Palestinian or Israel support rallies, at the hands of Palestinian supporters.

The spike in December is also to be expected, as white nationalist groups begin their annual campaign accusing Jews of mounting an attack on Christmas. Much of the activity which took place during the month of December was online in nature, and focused on this supposed Jewish agenda.

Table 6.0 Type of Incident By Month

	Harassment	Vandalism	Violence
January	88	16	0
February	46	17	0
March	44	13	0
April	54	30	2
May	54	28	0
June	58	30	1
July	190	42	13
August	126	22	2
September	152	18	1
October	159	10	0
November	90	9	0
December	309	3	0
TOTAL	1370	238	19

iii) Proportional Breakdown of Incidents



iv) Regional Breakdown

Table 7.0 Type of Incident by Region

	Quebec & Atlantic Canada	Ontario	Prairies & Nunavut	Alberta & Northwest Terr.	BC & Yukon	Other/ Online	Total
Vandalism	55	141	11	19	12	0	238
Violence	9	4	1	5	0	0	19
Harassment	195	816	22	13	3	321	1370
Total	259	961	34	37	15	321	1627

Again, as in years past, Ontario leads the number of incidents reported at 961, or 59% of the total. Quebec and Atlantic Canada are next, at 259 incidents, or 16% of the incidents.

Regional Overview

Major Cities

Some areas of Canada had a greater concentration of incidents than others. Although incidents were recorded even in small communities across the country, large urban centres with substantial Jewish populations were the source of most incidents of antisemitism.

Toronto (109 incidents) - 51 vandalism, 54 Harassment, 4 Violence

Ottawa (39 incidents) - 36 vandalism, 3 Harassment

Montreal (88 incidents) - 41 vandalism, 42 harassment, 5 violence

Calgary (33 incidents) - 20 vandalism, 8 harassment, 5 violence

Winnipeg (25 incidents) - 11 vandalism, 13 harassment, 1 violence

Victoria (8 incidents) - 6 vandalism, 2 harassment

Vancouver (4 incidents) - 3 vandalism, 1 harassment

Edmonton (3 incidents) - 3 vandalism

Sackville (1 incidents) - 1 vandalism

Quebec & Atlantic Canada

259 Incidents

55 Vandalism

195 Harassment

9 Violence



Examples of Incidents

January - Fire at the back door of a synagogue

February - Swastikas painted on buildings

November - A Jewish owned shoe store is targeted for protests for BDS supporters and is forced to close

One cannot think about antisemitism in 2014 without considering the deteriorating quality of life for Jews in Europe.

The numerous violent and blatantly antisemitic events in Belgium, France and Germany coupled with what appears to be the mainstreaming of slogans such as “Death to the Jews” and “Gas the Jews” is absolutely chilling. Some have described “no go” zones in some Muslim districts of European cities where Jews dare not travel.

The rampant and often government sponsored antisemitism of some Middle Eastern countries is being exported to Europe through the internet and immigration and is finding an outlet in efforts to delegitimize Israel.

On a positive note, the clear message of European leaders such as François Hollande and Angela Merkel condemning antisemitism is a hopeful and welcome sign that is crucial; what we must expect and require from leadership; and a necessary ingredient to push back the antisemites into the shadows that they occupied before.

Allan Adel, Lawyer
Montreal Quebec

Ontario

961 Incidents

141 Vandalism

816 Harassment

4 Violence



Examples of Incidents:

July - Free Palestine rally in Toronto, multiple antisemitic signs, chants of 'death to the Jews'

May - Swastikas spray painted on buildings in Hamilton

June - Local bargaining unit in Toronto with heavy Jewish representation holds ratification vote on Jewish holiday

September - Employee denied accommodation for Jewish holidays because they were a convert, and 'not a real Jew' according to their employer

Anti-Semitism in Canada is under-researched and an under-estimated societal issue. I think one of the most worrying aspects of this anti-Semitism is the fact that it is deeply internalized in the Canadians' habitus. In other words, Canadians share many common anti-Semitic stereotypes, discourses and behaviours without being aware of it. Surveys of quantitative nature on public attitudes will not necessarily show high rates of anti-Semitism; nevertheless, it is well present. Consequently, if one tries to alarm the society on these biases, the accusation is quickly dismissed and thus the attitudes are difficult to change.

Anti-Semitism is very commonly expressed in discourses, colloquialisms, and "associations" (between Jews and money; Jews and medical and legal occupations for instance). If such centuries-old stereotypes have persisted in Canada, it is mainly due to the fundamental lack of education, firstly about the history of Jews in Canada; secondly, about the history of anti-Semitism in Canada; and finally, about the Holocaust, this non-identified object "that happened a long time ago over there in Europe but we have nothing to do with it". There is no national memory work about the Shoah in Canada; there are very few memorials compared to many other countries; it is as if the Shoah were unproblematic, symptomatically Canada welcomed many Nazi criminals and collaborators, along with many survivors indeed; but it is not integrated to the national memory.

Aurélie Lacassagne, Professor of Political Science, Laurentian University
Sudbury Ontario

York Regional Police recognizes the community-wide impact of hate crimes and vigorously investigates all occurrences of hate crime and hate-bias incidents.

Hate crime is a criminal occurrence against a person or property which is motivated by hate, bias or prejudice based on race, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, language, colour, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or mental or physical disability.

Hate crimes can include: Assault, threats with verbal slurs, vandalism of religious property, damage to personal property and hate propaganda.

Individuals and groups feel the impact of hate and experience fear and pain caused by hate. Members of York Regional Police can address both these acts and provide support for the victim and the community.

We have a dedicated investigative Hate Crime Unit and specially-trained hate crime investigators at each district to assist officers in investigations where hate may have played a part. Team members are also called upon as subject matter experts and provide training to partner agencies, community and school groups on effectively combating hate.

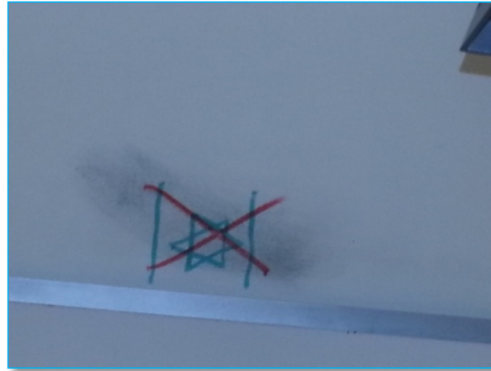
Fighting hate and bias crime effectively relies on partnerships. The response to this problem cannot be made by law enforcement alone. Government, police, community organizations and individuals must be committed to working together to stem hatred in society.

The purpose of the York Regional Police Hate Crime Unit is to build communities which work together with police to make everyone in York Region feel included. There is no place for hate and contempt amongst us.

Det. Mark Topping, York Regional Police
Aurora Ontario

Prairies & Nunavut

34 Incidents
11 Vandalism
22 Harassment
1 Violence



Examples of Incidents:

April - Students at a Winnipeg school taunt, and harass a fellow student for being Jewish, say 'Heil Hitler!' and make the Nazi salute in her presence

August - A Jewish man is harassed by coworkers for being Jewish

July - A Jewish man was assaulted during the pro-Palestinian rally on the grounds of the legislative building. The victim was pulled off his bicycle and thrown to the ground. He consequently had to undergo eye surgery for a partially torn retina

In Manitoba, the most contentious issue during the year was the holding of Israel Apartheid Week the week of March 17th at the University of Manitoba. The University of Manitoba Student Union (UMSU) had denied to Students Against Israel Apartheid week (SAIA) the use of any Student Union space. They were also denied student group status and funding. The decisions were made under a 2009 UMSU policy which prohibits discrimination and harassment. The University administration nonetheless allocated non-student space in the University to SAIA and Israel Apartheid Week went ahead.

This University administration behaviour generated a good deal of criticism. As result of the administration end run around the UMSU decision, the synagogue Shaarey Zedek withdrew an invitation previously given to the University President David Barnard to address an interfaith service on Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, April 27th. The president of the Student Union, Al Turnbull, replaced David Barnard at the service. The invitation withdrawal became a national news story.

David Matas, Human Rights Lawyer and Senior Counsel for B'nai Brith
Winnipeg Manitoba

Alberta & Northwest Territories

36 Incidents
19 Vandalism
13 Harassment
5 Violence



Examples of Incidents:

April - Burning swastika found

July - Multiple reports of injuries, violence and harassment at a pro-Palestinian rally in Calgary. After multiple Jews and non-Jews supporting Israel were injured, one of the organizers took to Facebook to gloat, saying 'Bahaha....after today they would be foolish to show up again at another protest in Calgary as long as they live.'

August - Four homes defaced with swastikas

"There were several anti-Semitic incidents in Calgary in 2014 that appeared to have been inspired by international events, such as the rise of ISIS and the Palestinian – Israeli conflict."

Sgt. Eric Levesque, Calgary Police Hate Crimes Division
Calgary Alberta

BC & Yukon

15 Incidents
12 Vandalism
3 Harassment
0 Violence



Examples of Incidents:

March: Man walked into a store and started yelling complaints about the 'Jewish products' being sold there; called the store owner a 'Jew lover'

July: Canada post mailboxes spray painted with antisemitic graffiti

July: Swastika painted on road sign

Summary & Conclusions

The year 2014 saw the highest number of antisemitic incidents ever recorded by B'nai Brith and the League for Human Rights. At 1627 incidents, this year surpassed the previous record by 21% (set in 2012 with 1345 incidents). This is consistent with data gathered by other human rights organizations around the world, with those in Europe seeing a particularly alarming increase (some countries reporting a more than 100% increase).

In addition to a quantitative difference in incidents (an overall increase of 28% over the previous year), 2014 also saw a qualitative difference in the types of incidents reported. For example, there were seven incidents involving fire or arson attacks in 2014, compared to only three in 2013. In one case, a private home was completely destroyed in an arson attack. In another, a large swastika was lit on fire in a public space, creating a dramatic and violent scene. Although there were fewer incidents of vandalism and property destruction overall for 2014, the nature of incidents reported in that category was different from previous years.

It would be easy to allow the events of 2014 to convince Canadians that antisemitism has become an inevitable and insurmountable problem in this country, and to allow fear and anger to take hold. However, the events unfolding in France and across Europe should be enough to demonstrate the need for increased ties between the Jewish community and the larger Canadian society. It is not by building barriers that we will eliminate antisemitism, but rather by building relationships, and encouraging education and dialogue.

As a way of focusing attention where it is most useful - in outlining a concrete way forward - the League for Human Rights has developed a Victim's Bill of Rights. This is a useful tool to help orient the discussion in productive and meaningful ways, while focusing support on the victims of antisemitism and other hate activity.

The Victim's Bill of Rights

For Those Who Have Suffered Antisemitism and Other Hate Activity

When one person is singled out for hate, the entire community this person represents is also targeted. For every one of the 1627 incidents of antisemitism in Canada this year, there were family, friends and colleagues impacted as well. Victims of hate-motivated acts deserve support, compassion and dignity, so that they feel empowered to come forward. Victims of hate activity deserve the following protections in their pursuit of justice:

- Prompt, dedicated service from local police and other law enforcement agencies, that have specialized training and expertise in the area of hate crimes;
- Hate crime legislation designed specifically with the victim in mind, recognizing that modern day manifestations of hate take on many forms;
- A Criminal Code that counters the activities of those who deny the murder of six million Jews in the Holocaust and denigrate its victims, with measures to combat the Jihadist, neo-Nazi and radical Muslim propaganda that targets many different minority communities;
- A speedy and efficient trial that brings the perpetrators to justice, and offers closure to the victims, ensuring their voices are heard;
- Consistent sentencing guidelines of perpetrators that reflect the impact of their hate-filled crimes, and will serve as a meaningful deterrent;
- Harassment-free, zero-tolerance environments for hate-based activity, whether at school or in the workplace, where individuals can practice their sincerely-held religious beliefs without fear of compromising their academic or professional standing;
- A concerted, dedicated effort by community, legal, law enforcement, educational, and corporate sectors to jointly advance programs aimed at countering the explosion of hate motivated activity, including hate on the internet;
- A government that fully implements international agreements against hatred and demands the same from its global partners;
- A demonstrated resolve by all levels of government to implement policies that advance multiculturalism in a way that actively promotes core Canadian ideals of tolerance and respect.