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POLICE SERVICES BOARD

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Ch. Andrews
CHIEF OF POLICE

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PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD

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REPORT
For Information

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Cross-Reference File Class: 3-03-07-01

DATE: March 14, 2019

SUBJECT: **2018 ANNUAL HATE-MOTIVATED CRIME REPORT**

FROM: Marc Andrews, Deputy Chief, Operations Support Command

RECOMMENDATION

That the Chief's Management Group receive the 2018 Annual Hate-Motivated Crime Report as information.

And further,

That a copy of this report be forwarded to the Police Services Board in accordance with the Annual Reporting requirements.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of Criminal Code offences reported to Peel Regional Police in 2018 was 43,379. Of those, 107 have been identified as hate-motivated crimes.
- Of the 107 reported hate-motivated crimes, 34 (32%) resulted in charges.
- In 2018, the Equity & Inclusion Bureau introduced various resources to benefit both members and the community including a Hate-Motivated Crimes and Incidents Guidebook as well as a Religious and Cultural Guidebook, an educational YouTube video, and two proactive initiatives (Reassurance Protocol and the Safe Place Program).

DISCUSSION

1. Background

The Peel Regional Police (PRP) Equity & Inclusion Bureau (EIB) has a mandate to educate employees and members of the community about hate-motivated crimes, incidents and propaganda. The efforts to maintain open and direct dialogue with all members of our diverse

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community include various initiatives completed in recent years, some of which are discussed in this report.

One of the EIB's primary responsibilities is to monitor and analyze hate-motivated incidents and crimes and to address the related trends within the Region of Peel. That information is also included in this report.

Directive 1-B-130(F) "Hate-Motivated Crime"; provides guidelines to PRP employees on how to accurately identify, record and investigate hate crimes.

A hate-motivated crime is defined as:

- (a) *"hate-motivated crime" – means a criminal offence committed against a person or property, which is motivated solely or in part, by the offender's hate, bias or prejudice based on race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or similar factor.*

A hate-motivated incident is defined as:

- (b) *"hate-motivated incident" – means incidents which involve behaviours that, though motivated by hate or bias against a victim's race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability or sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or similar factor, are not criminal acts. (For example, disrespectful/discriminatory or hostile speech).*

The investigation of all hate-motivated incidents and crimes are the responsibility of the respective divisional Criminal Investigation Bureau or other investigative unit (i.e. Homicide, Robbery etc).

In order to ensure communication flow and effective support, each of the five divisions has a hate-motivated crime divisional coordinator to act as a resource to their division in such investigations. EIB meets with the Divisional Coordinators on a quarterly basis to discuss investigations and ensure proper reporting practices.

All reports are then forwarded to the EIB Regional Hate-Motivated Crime Coordinator for review and to ensure that support and specialized knowledge are provided to the investigating unit. The Regional Coordinator is also responsible for liaising with the local Assistant Crown Attorneys assigned to the hate-motivated crime portfolio.

Divisional investigators are also supported by PRP Intelligence Services who provide context based information shared amongst police services and governmental agencies on hate-motivated crime and extremism.

There are two types of hate-motivated crimes, as described in sections 318 and 319 of the Criminal Code.

- The first includes the offences of advocating genocide, public incitement of hatred, and willful promotion of hatred against an identifiable group; these are characterized as hate propaganda offences under the Criminal Code. The Attorney General's consent is required to initiate a prosecution for the offence of willful promotion of hatred and the offence of advocating genocide.

- The second refers to all other criminal offences where evidence establishes that bias, prejudice or hate was a motivating factor in the commission of the offence.

Upon conviction of a crime where hate, bias or prejudice is established as a motivating factor, the Crown is entitled to argue that such factor(s) are aggravating element(s) in consideration of penalty.

2. Findings

Reporting of Hate-Motivated Incidents

The information contained in this report is based on reported occurrences with an acknowledgement that some incidents are not reported to police. As such, the EIB undertakes proactive outreach programs on behalf of the organization. EIB educates and encourages community members to be more aware of what constitutes a hate-motivated crime in the hopes that this reduces victim reluctance to report incidents to police.

Promoting the timely reporting of hate-motivated incidents to police remains a priority. To that end, the EIB has created additional resources for PRP members and the community, including:

- Hate-Motivated Information Fact Cards available on the PRP website, police divisions, community stations, and officers. The fact cards outline the various elements of hate-motivated crimes and incidents along with instructions on how to report such matters to police;
- Hate-Motivated Crimes Guidebook that serves as a resource tool for officers and provides investigative tips and guidelines when dealing with such matters;
- Religious and Cultural Awareness Guidebook provides guidance and information related to specific nuances associated with the most prominent cultural and religious communities within our region. It also identifies important information related to: significant days, dates and times, gender specific considerations, search/detention/arrest considerations, and death and funeral related matters. This resource helps ensure that members further their understanding and awareness related to differing beliefs; and,
- A Hate-Motivated Crimes Educational Video was made available via YouTube. This video provides information related to hate-motivated crimes, while encouraging victims of such incidents to report their matters to police in a timely manner (hyperlink refers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZEEifrN5nI>).

Initiative – Reassurance Protocol

Hate-motivated crimes and incidents impact our community members in a number of negative ways. The residual impact of such crimes and incidents often result in feelings of fear, marginalization and alienation. PRP's 'Reassurance Protocol' was implemented by EIB to ensure community members who are victimized by hate-motivated crimes/incidents receive the necessary support from PRP, and to mitigate the above-noted concerns.

In response to any hate-motivated crime or incident, the following steps are taken by EIB officers:

- The Regional Hate-Motivated Crime Coordinator or designate will ensure that they follow up with the victim / complainant of all hate-motivated crime and hate incidents.
- Follow ups with the victims / complainants will be done in a timely manner. Timely follow ups are imperative in these matters where re-assurance and public / personal safety is part of our service delivery. During the follow up process, Victim Services, and any other relevant social support service, will be offered.
- The Equity & Inclusion Bureau officer that conducts the follow up will ensure that a supplementary narrative is added to the original occurrence report.

This protocol has been well received by the members of the community that have been impacted by hate-motivated crimes and incidents. The empathetic and supportive nature of this practice has resulted in victims feeling an additional layer of safety and support. This protocol has been shared with other law enforcement agencies that are interested in creating a similar program.

Initiative – Safe Place Program

Peel Regional Police launched the Safe Place Program in July 2018, during PRIDE Month.

Any local business or public location can volunteer to display the Peel Regional Police Safe Place sticker on their front entrance, window or door. Doing so signals to members of the LGBTQ+ community that the premise will provide a safe place to call and wait for police if they are victimized in a hate incident.

Businesses that register and subscribe to the program also commit to educating their staff members on a host of issues related to equity, inclusion, empathy and understanding.

EIB, in collaboration with The Mississauga and Brampton Boards of Trade, has registered 34 businesses with over 180 associated locations for this program and affixed Safe Place stickers at each premise. EIB continues to work with community partners including local Business Improvement Associations (BIA) to help promote and expand the Safe Place Program.

The Safe Place Sticker (image) is outlined below:



OPC Advanced Hate Crime Course

The EIB assisted with the development of the 'Advanced Hate-Motivated Crime and Extremism Course' that is taught at the Ontario Police College (OPC) and endorsed by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS). All of the Divisional Coordinators attended one of the two sessions of this course in 2018.

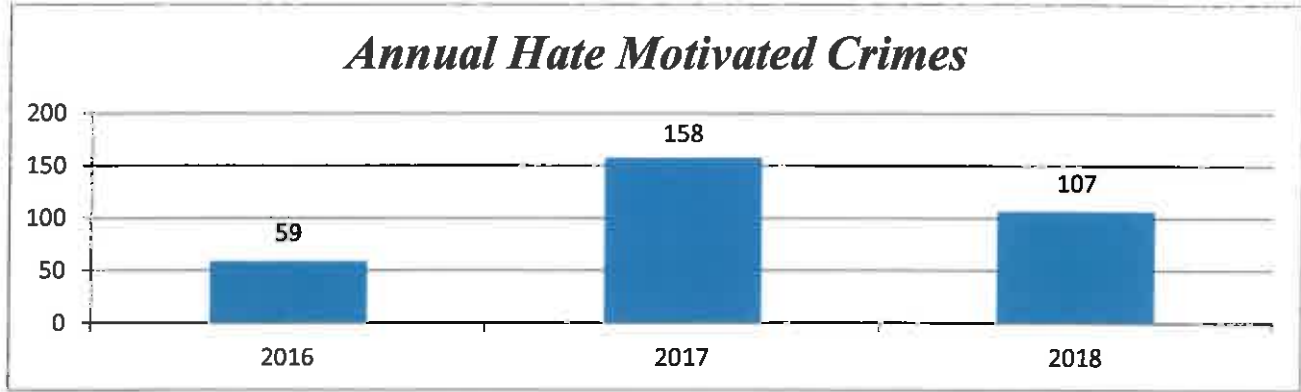
3. 2018 Statistics

Annual Hate-Motivated Crimes

In 2018, Peel Regional Police recorded 43,379 Criminal Code offences. Of those, 107 (0.25%) have been designated as hate/bias motivated crimes, 34 of which resulted in Criminal Code charges.

As noted in the chart below, the number of reported hate-motivated crime offences have fluctuated over the past four years, with a decrease between 2017 and 2018. The marked increase in 2017 was due to numerous anti-Muslim graffiti incidents, most of which are believed to be the responsibility of two suspects. In 2018, one of the suspects was identified, arrested, and charged with 45 counts of mischief (graffiti related). Additionally, the reduction in hate-motivated crimes could be attributed to the pro-active and educational efforts that Peel Regional Police has undertaken to bring attention to, and minimize the number of such crimes.

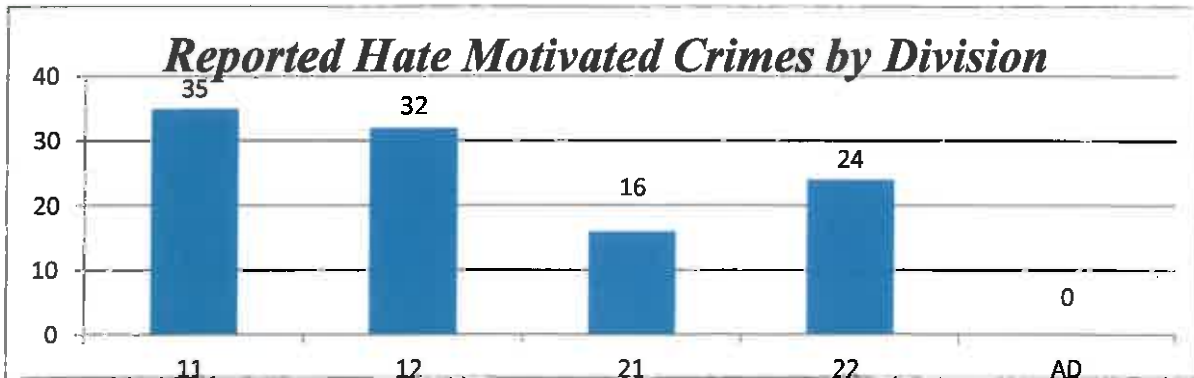
Chart 1: Police-reported hate-motivated crimes total - 2016 to 2018



Reported Hate-Motivated Crimes by Division

There were 107 hate-motivated crimes reported to Peel Regional Police in 2018. The chart below outlines the location of these reports by division:

Chart 2: Police-reported hate-motivated crimes by Division - 2018



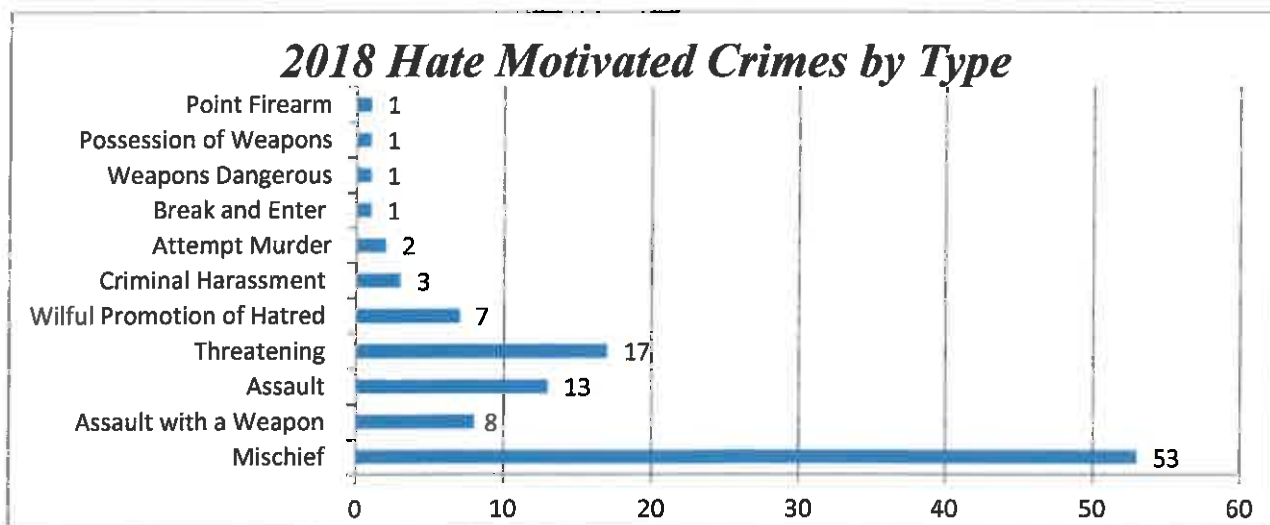
Hate-Motivated Crimes by Type

There were various motives behind the 107 reported hate-motivated crimes in 2018. Among these, there were:

- 53 mischief offences (49.5%),
- 7 wilful promotion of hatred (6.5%),
- 17 threatening (16%),
- 13 assaults (12%),
- 8 assault with a weapon (7.5%),
- 1 point firearm (0.9%),
- 1 possession of weapons (0.9%),
- 1 weapons dangerous (0.9%),
- 1 break & enter (0.9%),
- 3 criminal harassment (3%) and
- 2 attempt murder (1.9%).

Illustrated in Chart 3 is the breakdown of hate occurrence types. (Note: in instances where multiple offences occur, for statistical purposes only the most severe is recorded)

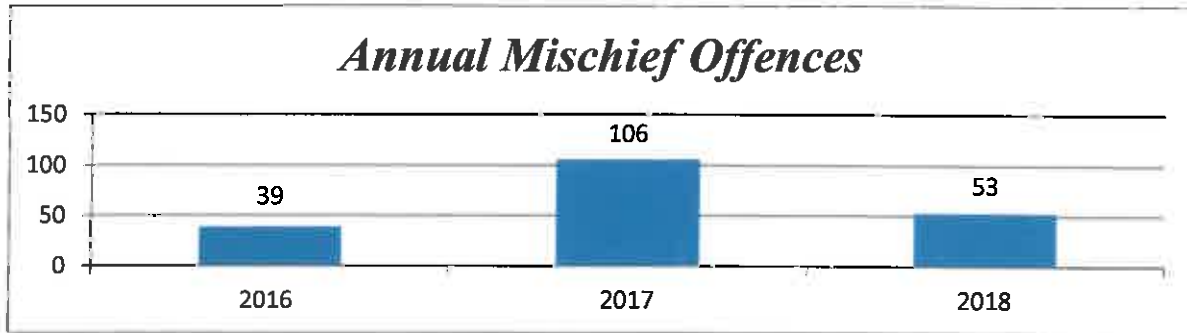
Chart 3: Police-reported hate-motivated crimes by type of offence - 2018



Mischief Remains the Highest Reported Incident Type

A year-to-year comparison shows that the number of hate-motivated crimes involving mischief decreased slightly from 60% of total crimes in 2017 to 49.5% of total crimes in 2018.

Chart 4: Police-reported hate-motivated crimes, mischief 2016 to 2018

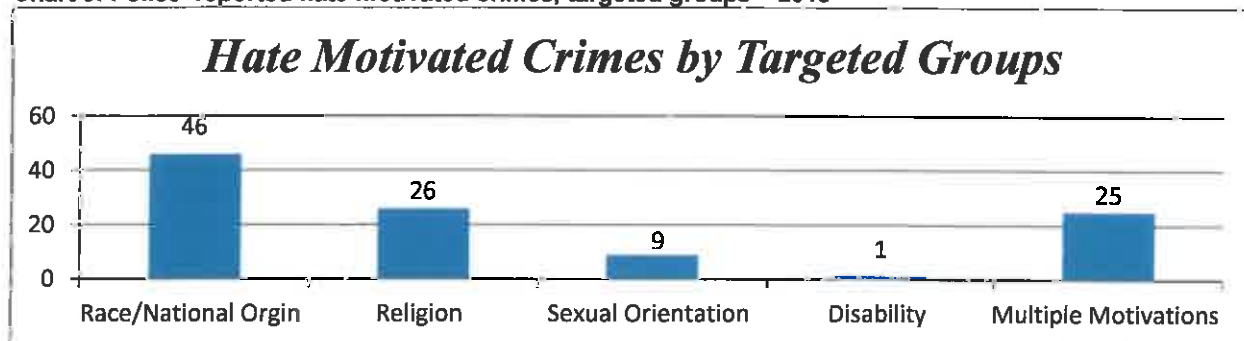


Targeted Groups

Among the 107 hate-motivated crimes reported to Peel Regional Police in 2018:

- 46 (43%) targeted race/national origin,
- 26 (24.3%) targeted religion (sole motivator),
- 9 (8.4%) targeted sexual orientation or sex,
- 1 (0.9%) targeted disability, and
- 25 (23.4%) included multiple motivating factors.

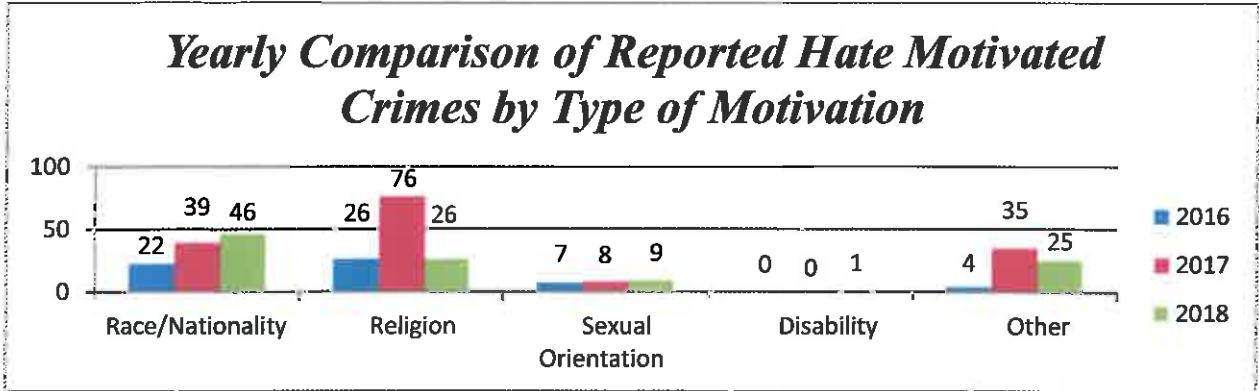
Chart 5: Police-reported hate-motivated crimes, targeted groups – 2018



Race/National Origin is the Most Common Motivation for Hate Crimes

During 2018, there was a noticeable decrease of hate-motivated crimes targeting religion.

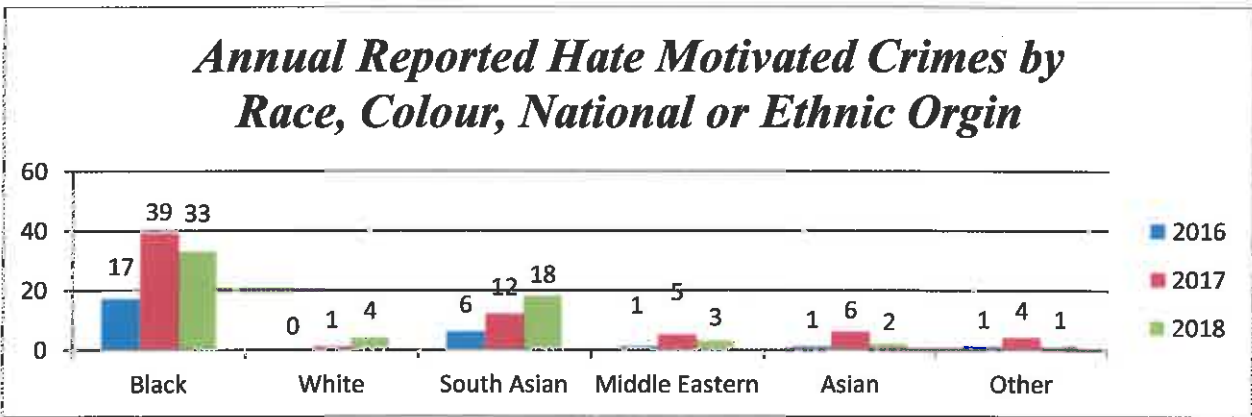
Chart 6: Police–Yearly Comparison of reported hate-motivated crimes, by type of motivation - 2016 to 2018



Type of Race/Colour/National or Ethnic Origin as Motivation for Hate Crimes

Statistical review of victimization based on ethnic and/or racial background is provided in Chart 7.

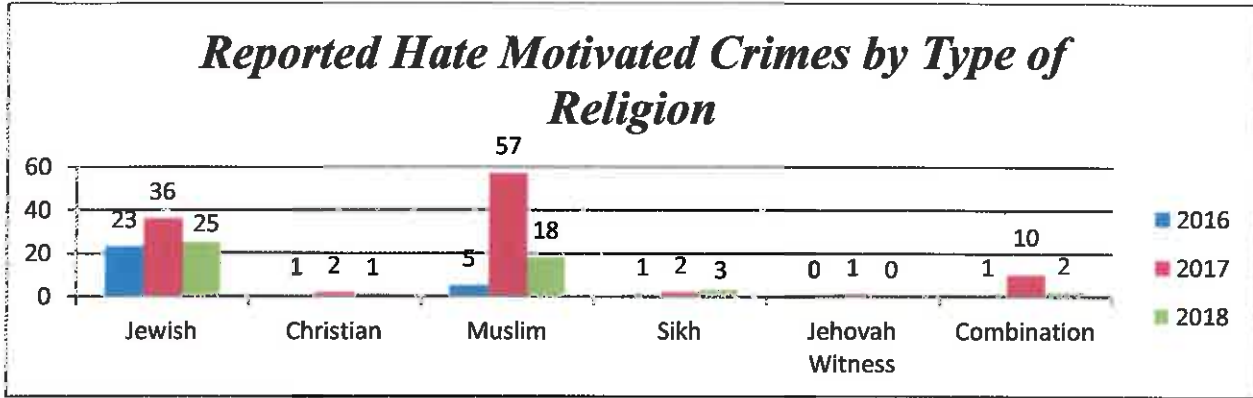
Chart 7: Police – Number of reported hate-motivated crimes, by type of race - 2016 to 2018



Type of Religion as Motivation for Hate Crimes

In 2018, 49 (45.8%) of the 107 hate-motivated crimes reported to Peel Regional Police targeted religion as either the sole motivator or in combination with another motivator.

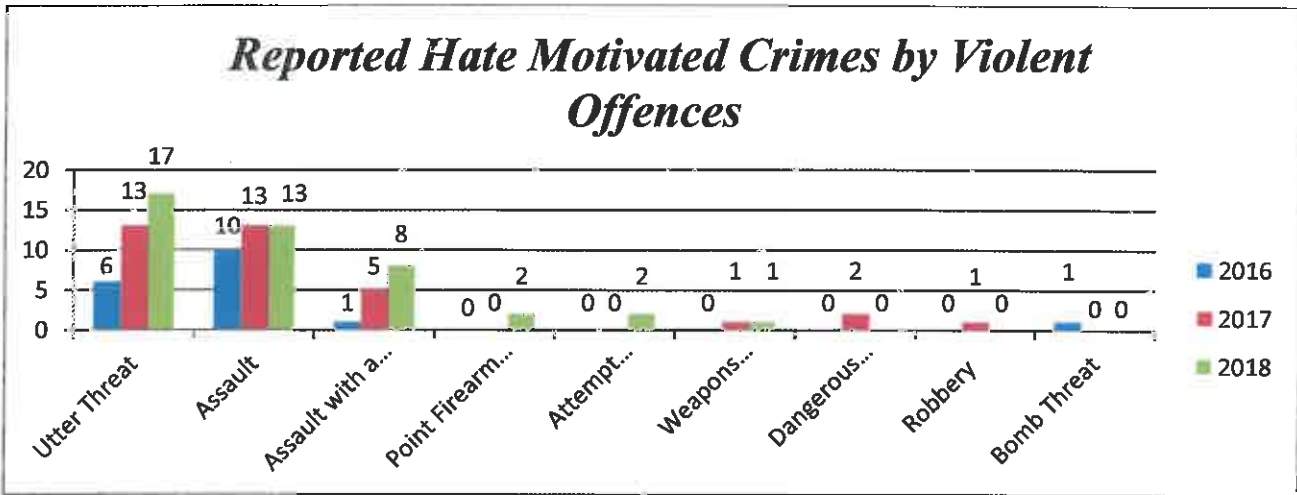
Chart 8: Police – reported hate-motivated crimes, by type of religion – 2016 to 2018



Violent Hate-Motivated Crimes

In 2018, 43 of the 107 hate-motivated crimes reported to Peel Regional Police involved acts of violence.

Chart 9: Police – reported hate-motivated crimes, by violent offences – 2016 to 2018



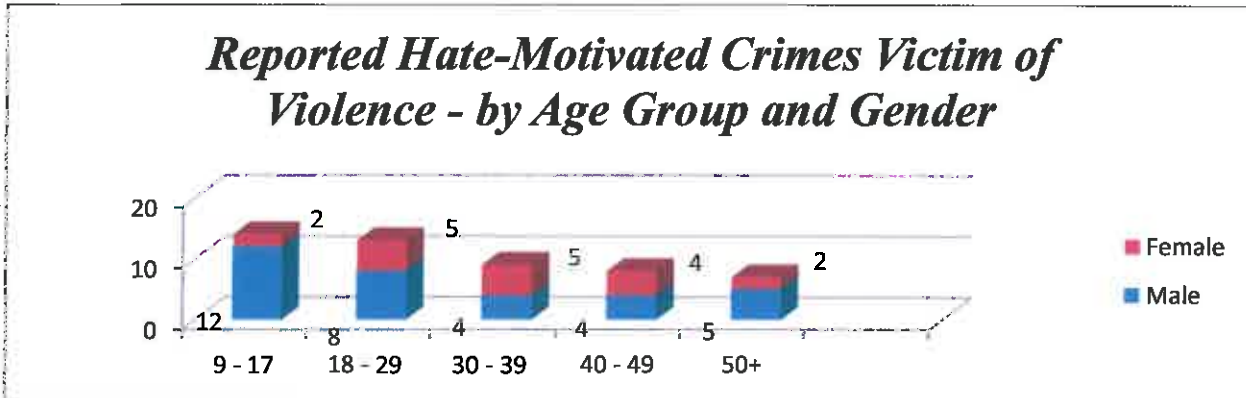
Age and Gender of Victim

Fifty-one persons were victims of reported hate-motivated violent crimes; 33 were male and 18 were female.

Broken down further, four of the male victims were White, seven of the victims were Black, thirteen were South Asian, five were of Middle Eastern descent, two were of Asian descent and two were of unknown race.

Of the victimized females, eight were Black, two were South Asian, two were White, two were Middle Eastern, one was multi-racial, one Latin American and two were of unknown race. No trend has been identified in relation to the age of the victims over the past four years.

Chart 10: Police – reported hate-motivated crimes, victims of violence by age group and gender



CONCLUSION

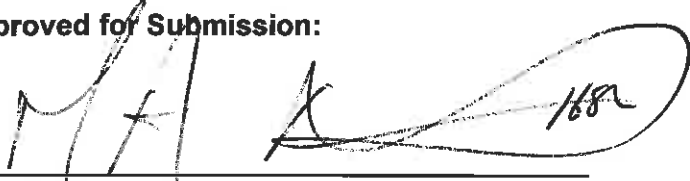
In 2018, Peel Regional Police reported 107 hate crimes. The Region of Peel (2018) population forecast indicates the combined population of Brampton and Mississauga is 1,360,000. Visible diverse persons make up over half of the total population. The 2016 census data indicates the top five ethno-cultural groups in Peel Region to be South Asian, Black, Asian (Chinese), Filipino and Arab. Irrespective of the fact that the Regional community is increasingly more diverse, hate-motivated crimes reported to police continues to be low when considering the fact that they represent only 0.25% of the total crimes reported to police.

As noted in this report, the number of reported hate-motivated crime offences have fluctuated over the past four years, with a decrease between 2017 (158) and 2018 (107). It is believed that several factors have contributed to this decrease, one of which was a significant arrest of an individual who is believed to be responsible for a large number of mischief related crimes in 2017 and 2018.

A second contributing factor is directly related to the proactive efforts of Peel Regional Police to address the rise in such crimes over the previous years. The EIB has implemented various initiatives aimed at decreasing the number of hate-motivated crimes in our region. They provide an additional layer of support to our community members who have been victimized by these incidents. The EIB continue to deliver various educational components, both internally and externally, that serve to inform individuals on the root causes of hate, while emphasizing the importance of being vigilant in our collective efforts to stop the spread of hate within our communities.

Proactive efforts by PRP to identify and investigate hate-motivated incidents while providing community outreach to increase awareness supports the 2017-2019 Strategic Plan to provide assistance to victims of crime and strengthen community engagement.

Approved for Submission:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MA' followed by a large, stylized flourish that ends in a loop. The number '168' is written in smaller script within the loop.

Marc Andrews, Deputy Chief, Operations Support Command

For further information regarding this report, please contact Inspector Taufic Saliba at extension 3609 or via e-mail at 1796@peelpolice.ca

Authored By: P.C. K. McNeilly #1781 & Det. F. Ismail #2403