



For Information

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DATE:

March 23, 2015

SUBJECT:

2014 ANNUAL HATE/BIAS MOTIVATED CRIME REPORT

FROM:

Brian Adams, Deputy Chief of Police

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that this report be received as an information item.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of Criminal Code offences reported to Peel Regional Police in 2014 was 35,208. Of these, 52 (0.15%) have been designated as hate motivated incidents.
- Reported 2014 hate incidents have decreased 8.8% from 2013 (57 to 52).
- The majority of hate crime reports continue to be mischief/graffiti with 57.7%.
- Race and ethnicity was the most common motivation for the hate incidents; the Black Community was the most targeted group being victims in 18 (or 35%) of all reported incidents.
- Violent offences were most often committed by persons between the ages of 18 and 29.
- Of the 52 reported hate incidents, 17 (32.7%) were of a violent nature
- 9 (17.3%) of the 52 reported hate crimes resulted in charges. (Appendix A)
- There have been no discernible divisional or geographic trends identified in reported hate crimes.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

The Diversity Relations Unit has been in existence since 1986. One of the unit's primary mandates is the monitoring of hate crime and or racial/bias motivated incidents. Statistical data is analyzed to determine if there are any discernible trends relating to hate crimes within the Region of Peel.

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

The following report is presented in the same format from that of previous years. This format follows that of the Statistics Canada's Juristat articles on Police Reported Hate Crime. This current format allows for easier comparison of the Brampton and Mississauga experience involving hate crimes with that of the Greater Toronto area and other census areas reported in Statistics Canada Juristat articles.

The Statistics Canada Toronto metropolitan census area includes the City of Toronto, the Regions of Peel, Halton, York and parts of Dufferin County.

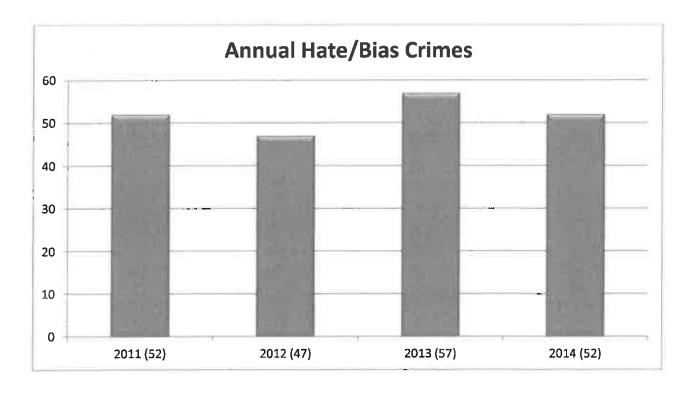
2. Findings

Annual Hate/Bias Crimes

During the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014, Peel Regional Police recorded 35,208 Criminal Code offences. Of those, 52 have been designated as hate/bias motivated crimes. Hate Crime offences accounted for 0.15% of all reported criminal offences that occurred in Brampton and Mississauga.

As noted in the chart below, the number of reported hate/bias crime offences has fluctuated minutely over the past four years.

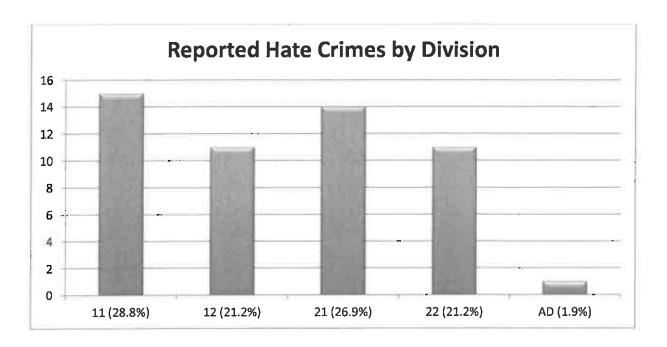
Chart 1
Police - reported hate crimes; total 2011 to 2014



Reported Hate Crimes by Division

Hate/bias motivated incidents reported to Peel Regional Police in 2014 are broken down by Division as indicated in the chart below: 15 (28.8%) of the incidents occurred in 11 Division, 11 (21.2%) in 12 Division, 14 (26.9%) in 21 Division, 11 (21.2%) in 22 Division and 1 (1.9%) occurred at the Airport Division. No trend has been identified over the course of four years.

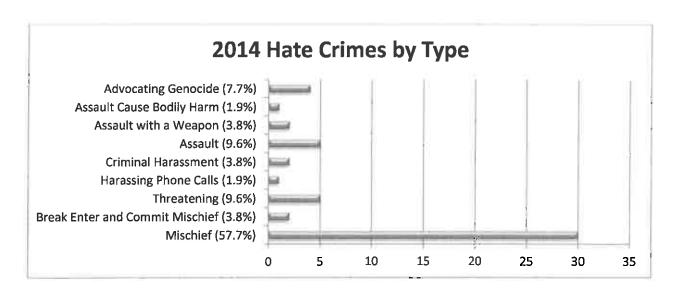
Chart 2
Police – reported hate crimes by division 2014



Hate Crimes by Type

Peel Regional Police recorded 52 occurrences of hate/bias crimes in 2014. Among these, there were 30 Mischief offences (57.7%), 2 Break, Enter and Commit Mischief (3.8%), 5 Threatening (9.6%), 1 Harassing Phone Calls (1.9%), 2 Criminal Harassment (3.8%), 5 Assaults (9.6%), 2 Assaults with a Weapon (3.8%), 1 Assault Cause Bodily Harm (1.9%) and 4 Advocating Genocide (7.7%). Please note that where multiple offences occurred in one report, the most severe in the event was captured for this statistical report. Illustrated in (Chart 3) is the breakdown of hate occurrence types. (Appendix B)

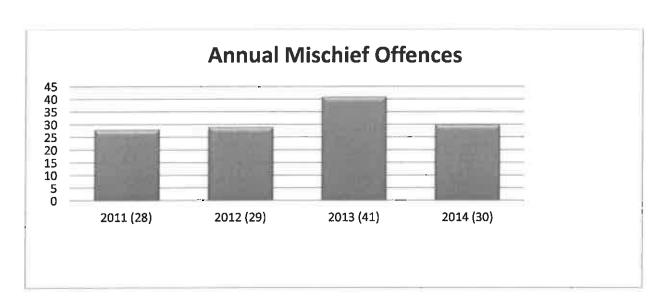
Chart 3
Police – reported hate crimes by type of offence, 2014



Mischief remains the highest reported incident type.

Of the 52 total reported incidents of hate/bias crimes in 2014, mischief accounts for 57.7% with 30 reports. Of the 30 mischief reports, 23 of them were incidents of graffiti. A year to year comparison shows that the number of incidents involving mischief has fluctuated minutely over the last few years and has decreased 22% from last year's 41 reported mischiefs.

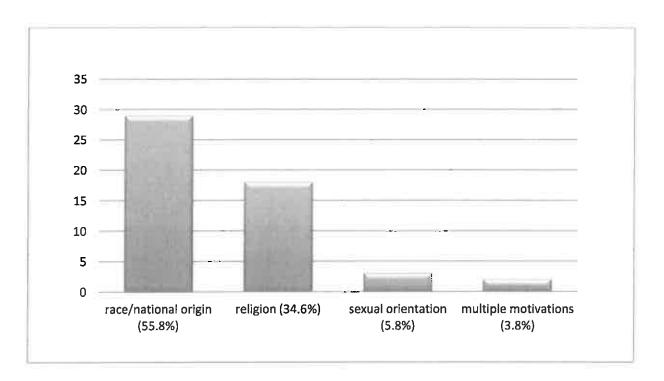
Chart 4
Police – reported hate crimes, mischief 2011 to 2014



Targeted Groups

Among the 52 hate crimes reported to Peel Regional Police in 2014, 29 (55.8%) targeted race/national origin, 18 (34.6%) religion, 3 (5.8%) sexual orientation and 2 (3.8%) had multiple motivations. Since 2011, there have not been any reported hate crimes targeting the areas of disability or gender identity although one of the victims targeted in the sexual orientation category was a transgendered female.

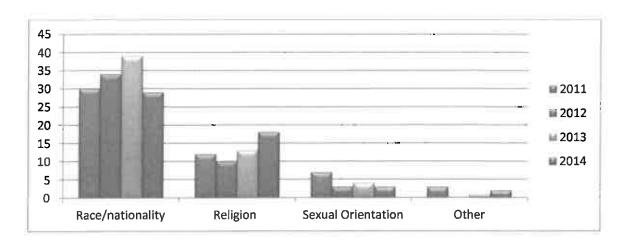
Chart 5
Police – reported hate crimes, targeted groups



Race/ethnicity continues to be the most common motivation for hate crimes.

It can be noted that in 2014 there was a decrease in the total number of race/national origin motivated hate crimes; at its lowest point in a four year period. Conversely, there was an increase of hate crimes motivated by religion and has been increasing steadily since 2012. Included in the "other" category this year are 2 reports of crimes with multiple hate motivations. In both cases, the motivations included race and sexual orientation. Race and ethnicity continues to be the primary motivating factor in hate/bias related offences.

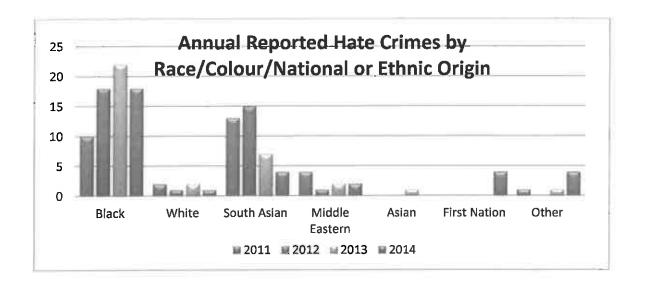
Chart 6
Police –Percentage of reported hate crimes, by type of motivation, 2011 to 2014



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

Victimization in this category has changed this year. The First Nation community was targeted on two occasions, and there has been an increase in reported hate crimes against the National origin of the victim. The Palestinian and Canadian Nationalities have been the targets in these cases. Nationality has been reflected in the "other" category for this year's report.

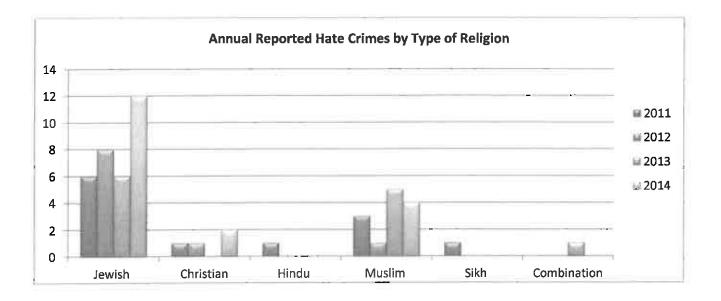
Chart 7
Police – Number of reported hate crimes, by type of race, 2011 to 2014



Type of Religion as Motivation for Hate Crimes

18 of the 52 hate motivated incidents reported to Peel Regional Police in 2014 targeted religion. Of those, 12 of them were against the Jewish Faith doubling the number of hate crimes against the Jewish Faith reported from last year. The other targeted religions were Christian with 2 reports and Muslim with 4. None of the other religions were targeted this year.

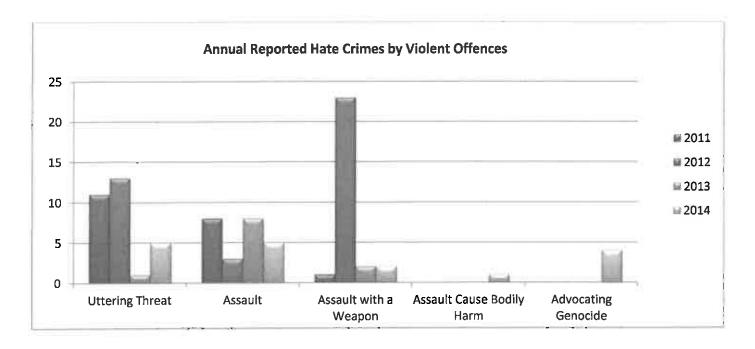
Chart 8 Police - reported hate crimes, by type of religion



Violent hate crimes

In 2014, 17 of the 52 hate crimes reported to Peel Regional Police involved acts of violence. The types of offences involved in this data are uttering threats (5) assault (5), assault with a weapon (2), assault cause bodily harm (1) and advocating genocide (4). Any threats committed during a physically violent act are not captured for the purposes of this graph. In cases where multiple offences have taken place, the most severe is captured for this report. (Appendix B)

Chart 9
Police – reported hate crimes, by violent offences

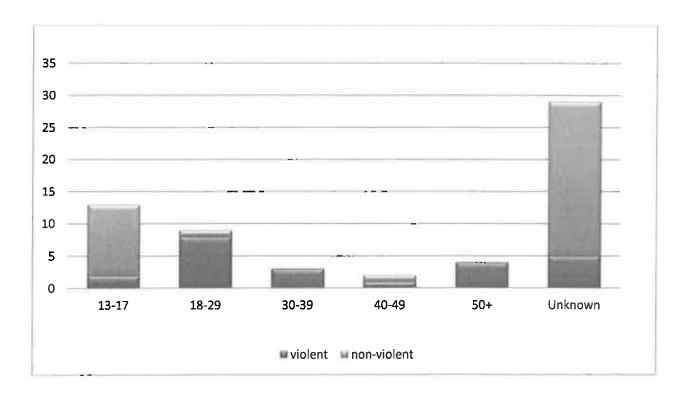


Hate crime rates highest among youth and young adults.

The 2014 hate/bias offence reports were analysed for culprit data. Various data was able to be collected in regards to 31 culprits. The following information was noted.

Violent offences were most often committed by persons between the ages of 18 and 29. Non-violent offences were committed most often by persons between the ages of 13 and 17. Of the culprit data collected, it was learned that 39 of the culprits were male, 2 were female and the rest were unknown. Of the total, 13 were between the ages of 13-17, 9 were between the ages of 18-29, 3 were aged 30-39, 2 were aged 40-49, 4 were aged 50 or older.

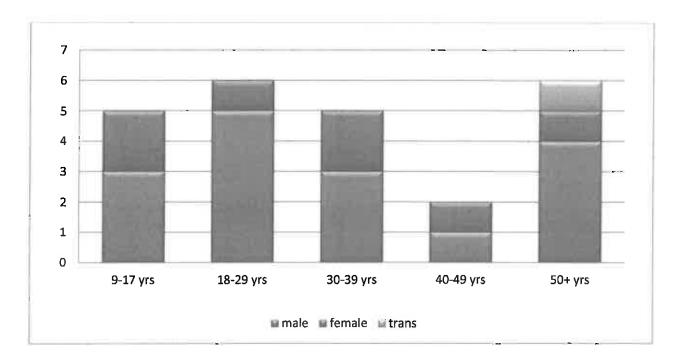
Chart 10
Police – reported hate crimes culprits, by age group



Age and gender of victim

Of the 23 victims involved in the above violent incidents, 16 were male, 7 were female and 1 was trans-female. 7 of the male victims were White, 6 were Black, 2 were Middle Eastern and 1 was of Latin descent. Of the female victims, 4 were Black, 3 were Middle Eastern and the transfemale was White.

Chart 11
Police – reported hate crimes, victims of violence by age group and gender



CONCLUSION

In 2014, Peel Regional Police reported 52 hate crimes; a decrease of 8.7% from 2013. The 2011 census data indicates the combined population of Brampton and Mississauga is 1,237,354. Visible minorities make up over half of this total. The top three ethno-cultural groups in Peel Region according to the census remain to be South Asian, Blacks and Chinese. Based on the increasingly diverse community in Mississauga and Brampton hate/bias motivated crimes reported to police continue to be low.

Approved for Submission:

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Deputy Chief of Police

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Appendix "A" Criminal Charge Synopsis

In 2014, nine occurrences with a hate/bias component resulted in criminal charges being laid.

- (1) Occurrence PR140103504 is a master occurrence incorporating a series of graffiti mischief offences spanning a time between the 24th of February and the 11th of March. The culprits attended the property of several public schools in the Malton area of Mississauga and proceeded to spray paint the walls with graffiti. Several of the tags included hateful statements against the black community such as "fuck you nigga". The culprits in these offences were two fourteen year old white males. Both of the males were charged with Mischief.
- (2) Occurrence PR140169651 outlines an incident of hate motivated bullying at Loyola Catholic Secondary School in Mississauga that resulted in one count of criminal harassment and one count of assault. The accused, a fourteen year old male, started the harassment at the beginning of March by making repeated negative comments to the victim about his athletic ability. The accused escalated his behavior by spitting on the victim and his schoolwork on several occasions while making racially biased comments to him. The victim is of middle-eastern descent and included among these comments were "Do your parents drive taxis or ride camels to work?" Escalation continued with the accused punching the victim in the arm and chasing him to his class. Finally, the accused approached the victim from behind on March 26th and slapped the victim on both ears at the same time causing them to ring. This is when the victim decided to report the harassment to his principal and police became involved.
- (3) Occurrence PR140171662 reveals a hate motivated assault at a Secondary School in Mississauga resulting in a charge laid against a 14 year old white male. The victim in this case is a fourteen year old black male. While in the hallway of the school on March 31, the accused approached the victim from behind and pushed him. As he did this, the accused attempted to instigate a fight by making racial slurs including "Don't let your back face me nigger".
- (4) Occurrence PR140354169 stems from ongoing international conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. Members of the Jewish Defense League led a protest in front of Palestine House on June 28 when three Israeli teens were alleged to have been kidnapped and murdered by Hamas in Palestine. Members of Palestine house led a counter protest on their property. When a JDL member produced an anti-Hamas sign during the course of the protest, the incident escalated with pushing and shoving. Members of JDL on motorcycles arrived on scene as an act of aggression. They were wearing body armor, bandanas covering their faces and had covered their license plates with aluminum foil. A melee erupted with punching, flag and sign swinging occurring from both sides. As a result of the disturbance, three adult males were charged, two with assault with a weapon and one with assault.
- (5) Occurrence PR140451322 describes that the first victim, a Muslim woman, her 14 year old daughter and the second victim, her 11 year old daughter were driving in the area of Terry Fox Way and Eglinton Ave. in Mississauga. The accused, an 18 year old South Asian male who was driving behind her, became enraged at the slow speed the first victim was driving. He began tailgating and then caused a rear end collision with her

vehicle. Next, he pulled up beside her while shouting "Fuck you Muslims!" and threw a water bottle through the rear driver's side window striking the second victim. The accused then fled the scene. The accused was charged with dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, assault with a weapon and fail to remain.

- (6) Occurrence PR140507295 indicates that the accused, who is a South Asian adult male with Schizophrenia, proceeded to make several threats to several people over his Twitter account. Primarily the threats were to family members however one was directed at the Brampton Batman; ""MURDER THAT NIGGER IN BRAMPTON OR VAUGHN THAT ACTS LIKE BATMAN. KILL EVERY COP THAT SUPPORTS HIM TOO.". The accused was charged with uttering threats.
- (7) Occurrence PR140605450 details that the accused, who is a white adult male, and the victim, who is an adult male perceived by the accused to be from the middle-east, were both present at an outdoor licensed establishment in Mississauga. The accused got upset with the victim and after stating "You're from the middle-east you're bad" grabbed a beer bottle, threw it at the victim striking him in the shoulder and then pushed his thumb into his eye causing blood vessels to burst. The accused was charged with assault with a weapon and assault.
- (8) Occurrence PR140617725 outlines an offence involving two roommates in a boarding house. The accused is a 52 year old white male and the victim is a 29 year black male. The accused, who was in a common area of the house drinking with friends while the victim was in his room, stated "fucking nigger...I could hang you from a fucking tree". The accused was charged with uttering threats.
- (9) Occurrence PR140678703 stipulates that four white males (three 16 and one 18) broke into a public school in Mississauga, spray painted swastikas on the walls in several of the classrooms, ate food out of the storage room and damaged equipment. One of the males had an extendible baton and \$65 worth of marijuana in his possession at the time. The four males were charged with break, enter and commit mischief. One was additionally charged with possession of weapon for a dangerous purpose and cautioned for the marijuana and another was additionally charged with breaching probation.

Appendix "B" Advocating Genocide Occurrences

- (1) Occurrence PR140082011 is a mischief offence of graffiti on the rear of a Brampton School. A large swastika with the words "kill the Jews" in black spray paint. No culprit has been identified at this time.
- (2) Occurrence PR140473216 outlines another graffiti mischief on the front of an apartment unit door "white trash stay away from Whitney or die 204" in combination with graffiti in the stairwell "all whites must die blacks rule crips" all written in black marker. Suspect information is an unknown black male aged 27.
- (3) Occurrence PR140580954 indicates a graffiti offence on a Mississauga bus shelter in black ink "Death to Islam". No culprit has been identified at this time.

(4) Occurrence PR140595799 outlines the behavior of a male party who is a registered student at Sheridan College. He has been posting anti-Semitic comments on the College's twitter account and his own Facebook account. He has also been expressing extremist ideology on this account making statements regarding ISIS and that Canadian Soldiers should be killed. This party has been interviewed and has apologized for his actions.