



Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police

Supporting police professionals through innovative and inclusive police leadership
to advance the safety and security of all Canadians.

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Combating Hate-Motivated Crimes

Canada's Chiefs of Police recognize the urgency of addressing hate-motivated crimes targeting all vulnerable communities. Several communities have been disproportionately impacted by such crimes. For example, a significant majority (69% between April and June 2025) of reported religiously based hate crimes targeted the Jewish community, followed by the Muslim community (16%). During this same period, the number of hate crimes against the Jewish community increased 6% (to 203 incidents). It is important to recognize both the disproportionate impact and the corrosive effect of hate crimes against all affected communities.

Accordingly, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) has established, effective immediately, a [Special Purpose Committee on Hate-Motivated Crime](#), mandated to promote and operationalize the consistent and robust enforcement of Canada's criminal law and related measures addressing hate-motivated conduct, with a particular emphasis on antisemitic crimes.

The Committee's objectives include:

- identifying and promoting a comprehensive understanding within the law-enforcement community of existing Canadian criminal law and related measures available to combat hate-motivated crimes, including antisemitic crimes;
- evaluating the use and enforcement of such existing measures and identifying barriers to the consistent enforcement and prosecution of hate-motivated crimes in Canada; and
- supporting legislative reform to enhance existing criminal law measures to combat hate crimes.

Although the Committee will focus on robust, consistent law enforcement across the country, it will also address how law enforcement and prosecutors can most effectively coordinate and build mutual understanding in combatting hate-motivated crimes.

In addition to this important initiative, the CACP publicly reiterates and amplifies its strong support for [Bill C-9](#), the Combatting Hate Act, with several amendments to both clarify and strengthen the legal tools available to law enforcement and prosecutors to combat hate.

.../2

In particular, the CACP endorses:

- new intimidation and obstruction offences as necessary preventive measures to help deter hate-motivated individuals and groups;
- the creation of a new category of hate-motivated offences to ensure that all crimes motivated by hate are eligible for enhanced penalties and adequately reflected on an offender's criminal record;
- a statutory definition of hatred that adheres to the Supreme Court of Canada's definition;
- removal of the requirement of Attorney General consent for police to lay certain hate propaganda charges to streamline investigations, reduce delays, and enable more responsive policing. The CACP also supports the initiative to retain Attorney General consent for privately laid charges to avoid misuse of the law, coupled with measures to promote timely decisions by Attorneys General and prosecutors;
- creation of a new offence to address the public display of specific terror-related and hate symbols to promote greater certainty and statutory direction for law-enforcement; and
- an amendment to preserve the existing offence of mischief motivated by bias, prejudice or hate which has represented an important measure to combat vandalism targeting vulnerable communities.

The CACP also strongly endorses an addition to Bill C-9 to create a new offence of wilful promotion of terrorist groups or terrorist activities, to address a significant deficiency in the law. There is no constitutional protection for activities that wilfully promote terror.

The CACP urges all Parliamentarians to work collaboratively to ensure that Bill C-9 is enacted as soon as possible. It represents a balanced and principled approach to strengthening public safety, supporting consistent enforcement across jurisdictions, and ensuring that hate-crime laws are applied effectively and responsibly.

The CACP is fully committed to confronting hate-motivated crimes in all its forms through strengthened enforcement, improved coordination, and legislative reform.