



**NATIONAL
COUNCIL
OF CANADIAN
MUSLIMS**

Your Voice. Your Future.

**National Council of Canadian Muslims
(NCCM)**

2014 ODIHR Hate Crime Report

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ABOUT NCCM

The National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM) is a national, not-for-profit, non-partisan grassroots organization that professionally represents the human rights and civil liberties concerns of Canadian Muslims (and by extension those of all Canadians).

AREAS OF ACTION

NCCM approaches its human rights and civil liberties mandate by focusing on 4 areas of action:

- Anti-Discrimination Case Work
- Community Education & Outreach
- Public Advocacy
- Media Engagement

NCCM advocates on behalf of Canadian Muslims and others who have experienced discrimination and hate crimes based on their religion. It offers suggestions and advice to individuals who file complaints with NCCM. NCCM also provides assistance in mediating cases with employers, educators, and public institutions to help resolve complaints and to help avoid what can be costly and time-consuming legal avenues.

NCCM offers regular seminars and workshops on Islamic practices, anti-discrimination, and media engagement.

It also produces a number of publications, which include guides outlining Islamic religious practices for journalists, employers, educators, and health care providers. NCCM also distributes “Know Your Rights” pocket guides in both English and French. These publications are regularly requested by government departments, local and national media outlets, police services, hospitals, schools, private firms, and various non-profit groups.

REPORT OF HATE CRIMES

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Reports to NCCM & reports in the media

As in previous years, the data in this report is assembled with the inclusion of documented cases of hate crimes or hate incidents reported to NCCM's intake staff as well as those cases reported in the media.

Please note that some incidents are reported both to NCCM and covered in the media. Where a public media report of the incident exists, it has been included in this report. The name(s) of victims of individual attacks are only included where the name has already been publicly reported in the media.

Report represents a fraction of actual hate crimes & incidents

Only a fraction of actual hate crimes and incidents are reported to police authorities and a similar small percentage is reported to NCCM. When hate crimes or incidents are reported to NCCM, NCCM encourages the victim to simultaneously report the incident to police if they have not already done so. NCCM's experience indicates that crimes committed against Canadian Muslim institutions are likely more frequently reported to authorities than crimes against individuals.

While the outcome(s) of hate crimes/incidents investigated by authorities are not always made public, NCCM's general experience is that "minor incidents" (defined as those not involving serious physical injuries or major property damage) receive minimal investigative resources from authorities and very few criminal proceedings are actually launched.

Incorporation of Toronto Police Services Data

The Toronto Police Service (TPS) is the largest municipal police force in Canada in the country's largest and most diverse city. Its Hate Crimes Unit publishes clear and timely hate-crime reports online annually.

New in NCCM's report this year is the incorporation of this data. There was only one common hate crime reported to both NCCM and the TPS in 2014.

Ideally, NCCM would include data from other major urban centres as well, including, for example, Montreal, Ottawa, Calgary, and Vancouver. However, NCCM is not aware of any other similar police reports available online for the previous year.

Due to the lack of consistent national reporting, this report's overall figures likely underestimate the actual numbers of anti-Muslim incidents and hate crimes in Canada. Further, this report includes incidents which may not fit the definition of a hate crime according to Canadian criminal law but which authorities may have investigated and/or classified as 'hate incidents'.

Hate Crimes & Hate Incidents

Canadian police services keep data on hate crimes only, not incidents, which is later submitted to Statistics Canada. The federal agency publishes these police-reported hate crimes on the agency's website; the most recent published report is from 2012. Police-reported hate crimes are reported a full year after general crime data for the previous year is made available by Statistics Canada. This causes a two-year lag between reporting and full public disclosure of the data.

Also, data on hate crimes is categorized based on various motivating factors. These factors include both ethnicity and religion. However, it is difficult to distinguish when perpetrators of hate crimes are motivated by a hatred to a particular ethnicity or race, or due to a connection (perceived or otherwise) to a person's Islamic identity. In this report, for example, a crime that the victim felt was clearly anti-Muslim was classified as being motivated by ethnicity alone.

Finally, it is important to echo Statistics Canada's [note that](#) "according to police services, higher rates of police-reported hate crime in certain jurisdictions may reflect differences or changes in the awareness, reporting and investigation of these incidents by police and community members."

CONTEXT

In 2014, the most significant and high profile development in Canada that likely had an impact in the incidence of hate crimes was the tragic killings of two Canadian soldiers at the hands of individuals linking themselves to violent extremism.

These two incidents occurred in October, 2014.

Following these murders, purportedly committed in the name of Islam, there was an [immediate spike](#) in the number of cases of anti-Muslim incidents and hate crimes reported to the NCCM.

Advocacy work around Hate Crimes and/or Incidents

The NCCM regularly issues press releases following the reporting of hate crimes or incidents affecting either Canadian Muslims, or members of other minority groups, including Canadian Jewish and Canadian Sikh communities, for example.

The NCCM's public statements are regularly covered in local and national, and sometimes international, media. Our aim is to raise awareness around hate crimes/incidents and to encourage victims to come forward to report incidents to their local police services, as well as to the organization for documentation purposes.

NCCM staff provide guidance and support to victims as well as to community leaders whenever a crime or incident is reported. The NCCM also encourages communities to refer to our ["Community Safety Guide"](#) for ways to safeguard as best as possible from potential hate-motivated harm.

The NCCM also recognizes the critical role community leaders and elected officials play in standing united and speaking out against hate of any kind or in any form against anyone. The NCCM regularly calls on our elected officials and leaders to unequivocally condemn acts of hatred.

Finally, the NCCM frequently highlights the importance of creating positive, cohesive, and welcoming communities in order to ensure that every citizen feels both valued and welcome. Canada is renowned for its multicultural mosaic.

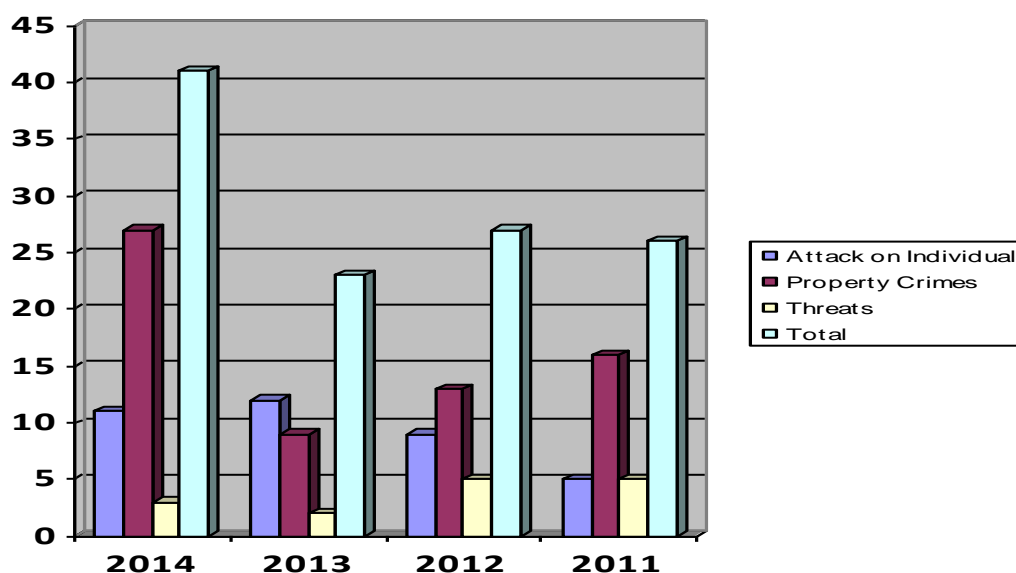
DISAGGREGATED FIGURES

This report references and contains information about 48 hate crime incidents divided as follows:

- 11 physical attacks on individuals (or groups of individuals)
- 34 property attacks on Muslim institutions/properties
- 3 threats against Muslim institutions

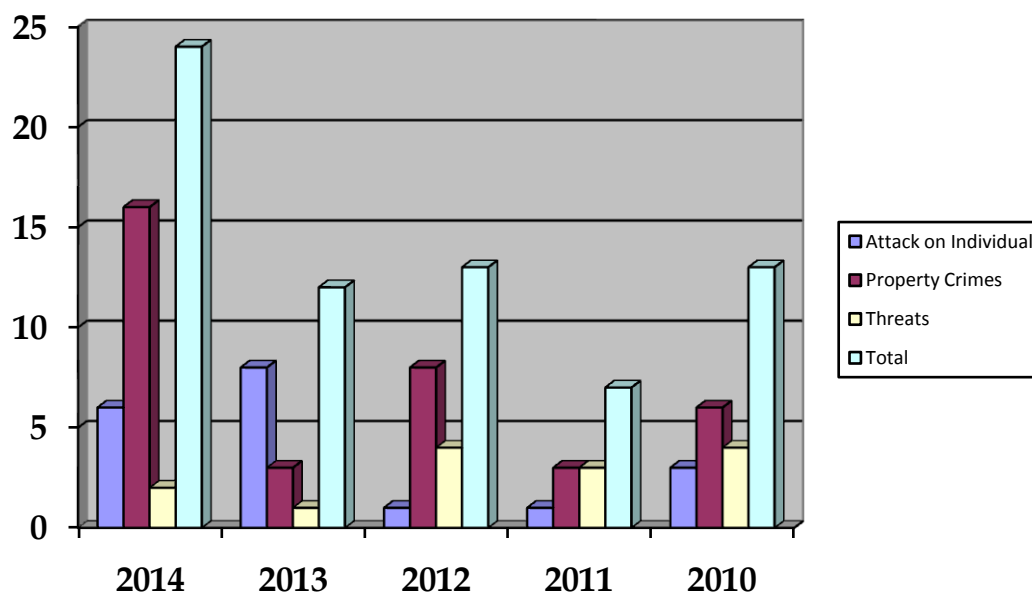
4-YEAR TREND

As referenced above, we have updated our data for the past four years with data collected from the Toronto Police Service. The incidence of anti-Muslim hate crimes or incidents reported to NCCM, the Toronto Police, or in the media has risen sharply overall in 2014. The major change for 2014 has been the proportion of hate crimes taking the form of attacks on property, whereas attacks on individuals and threats have remained steady.



5-YEAR TREND

The incidence of anti-Muslim hate crimes reported to NCCM or in the media has risen sharply overall in 2014. The major change for 2014 has been the proportion of hate crimes taking the form of attacks on property. These figures do not include police-reported hate crimes.



INCIDENTS

ATTACKS ON INDIVIDUAL(S)

Date & Location	Description and Additional Sources ¹
1. April 9, 2014 Hamilton, Ontario	<p>A teenage girl was racially assaulted trying to enter her apartment building by a 67-year-old man. The man began yelling racial slurs at her in the lobby of the apartment building. The man yelled at her to leave the building and became more aggressive, trying to kick her. Another tenant intervened and helped restrain the man, while the teenage girl ran to her apartment.</p> <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/news/man-charged-with-racial-assault-on-teenage-girl-1.2604345</p>

Date & Location	Description and Additional Sources ¹
<p>2. July 18, 2014</p> <p>Hamilton, Ontario</p>	<p>Two brothers were attacked on their way home from a late prayer session at a downtown mosque, during the holy month of Ramadan. Twin brothers were riding their bikes back from the mosque when a group of 10-12 people gathered at a corner began yelling and mocking them. One suspect pulled out a pocket knife and another yelled a “racial epithet”. One of the brothers suffered a severe wound on the right side of his face and lower lip as well as cuts on his right foot. The other brother fell off his bike and had a concussion.</p> <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.thespec.com/news-story/4638671-police-investigating-attack-as-possible-hate...%2021/07/2014</p>
<p>3. July 26, 2014</p> <p>Toronto, Ontario</p>	<p>A Muslim woman was going to attend the AlQuds day rally with a friend. They were both physically attacked by protesters opposing the rally. Police are investigating and may have arrested four to five people.</p> <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/publications/files/reports/2014hatecrimereport.pdf</p> <p>Toronto Police Service :</p> <p>http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/publications/files/reports/2014hatecrimereport.pdf</p> <p>See Appendix 1</p>

Date & Location	Description and Additional Sources ¹
<p>4. September 12, 2014</p> <p>Calgary, Alberta</p>	<p>A Calgary <i>imam</i>, Syed Soarwardy, was attacked by a driver while heading towards the Genesis Centre to lead the Friday congregation after parking his car in the parking lot. The driver chased the <i>imam</i> to hit him while shouting racist slogans and accused him of being a terrorist. Although the <i>imam</i> ignored the slurs, the driver drove and hit the imam. The <i>imam</i> called 911 and reported the incident.</p> <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://calgary.ctvnews.ca/calgary-imam-attacked-1.2005185</p>
<p>5. September 26, 2014</p> <p>Pickering, Ontario</p>	<p>Six Muslim students were assaulted with a weapon on their way home from a movie theater at night. The group was assaulted by four individuals who first chased them yelling racial / religious slurs. The assault involved a baseball bat and resulted in injuries. The assailants were apprehended and charged.</p> <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/muslim-students-attacked-in-apparent-kingston-ont-hate-crime-1.1991230</p>

Date & Location	Description and Additional Sources ¹
6. October 26, 2014 Halton, Ontario	<p>A pregnant Muslim woman received a hateful note on the windshield of her car when she parked in the Sears Maplevue parking lot in one of the “ baby and expectant mothers” parking spots. The note stated</p> <p>“You parked in a baby space for mothers. Typical Islamists!”</p> <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.insidehalton.com/opinion-story/4948487-hateful-note-leaves-burlington-woman-in-tears/</p> <p>http://www.cbc.ca/newsblogs/yourcommunity/2014/11/myexperiencewithracism-canadians-share-their-stories-with-cbcca.html</p>

ATTACKS ON PROPERTY / INSTITUTIONS

Date & Location	Details
1. May 20, 2014 Montreal, Quebec Assahaba Islamic Community Centre	<p>A man with sword was arrested trying to vandalize the Assahaba Islamic Community Centre while attempting to throw a Molotov Cocktail through a window.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five attacks on the same centre since April 2014, including someone throwing an axe into the

Date & Location	Details
	<p>window</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-April a letter containing white powder was sent to the community centre's director, Adil Charkaoui • At the start of May, an item was thrown through one of the building's windows with the message, "Kill Islam" • Front door was broken in one incident. <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/man-with-sword-stopped-by-stun-gun-outside-islamic-centre-1.2647822</p> <p>See Appendix 2.</p>
<p>2. July 21, 2014</p> <p>Thornhill, Ontario</p> <p>Jaffari Community Centre</p>	<p>Offensive comments were found scrawled outside a mosque and community centre in Thornhill. Messages of a hateful nature were spray painted on the sidewalk, as well as symbols spray painted on a sign in front of the centre.</p> <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/vandals-spray-anti-muslim-graffiti-at-thornhill-islamic-centre-1.2712958</p> <p>See appendix 3.</p>
<p>3. September 15, 2014</p> <p>Fort Saskatchewan,</p>	<p>The Fort Saskatchewan's Muslim Community was vandalized with anti-Islamic insults twice in one week.</p>

Date & Location	Details
Alberta Fort Saskatchewan's Muslim community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 11, 2014 a red cross was spray painted across the front of the centre September 15, 2014 the centre was egged. Hate messages were scrawled on the eggshells. <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/anti-muslim-vandals-strike-fort-saskatchewan-home-twice-1.2767643</p> <p>See appendix 4.</p>
4. September 26, 2014 Windsor, Ontario Scizzors Inc.	<p>Windsor Police started investigating a fire that they say was intentionally set at a hair salon. Firefighters were called to put out the fire. The salon's owner reported that the store was vandalized before, earlier in the week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Front windows where shot with a pellet gun Spray painted racist graffiti on the windows calling the owner an Arab and telling him to get out. <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/police-probe-suspicious-fire-at-erie-street-salon-1.2778938</p> <p>See appendix 5.</p>

Date & Location	Details
<p>5. September 26, 2014</p> <p>Pickering, Ontario</p> <p>Pickering Islamic Centre</p>	<p>A glass door was shot out at the Pickering Islamic Centre, while people were there worshipping. Police believed that a high-powered BB gun or a pellet gun was used.</p> <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.durhamregion.com/news-story/4883018-shot-fired-through-door-of-pickering-islamic-centre</p>
<p>6. October 14, 2014</p> <p>Hamilton, Ontario</p> <p>Mayoral Election Sign</p>	<p>A swastika was spray painted over a campaign sign for Hamilton mayoral candidate Ejaz Butt.</p> <p>http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/news/sign-for-muslim-candidate-for-mayor-defaced-with-swastika-1.2797795</p> <p>See appendix 6.</p>
<p>7. October 24, 2014</p> <p>Cold lake, Alberta</p> <p>Cold Lake Mosque</p>	<p>Cold lake Mosque was vandalized, RCMP received the call about 6:30 a.m. on Friday October 24, 2014.</p> <p>Windows on either side of the front entrance were broken, smashed by bricks, and the words “Canada” and “go home” were spray painted on the building with red spray painted.</p> <p>By Friday afternoon, residents had removed most of the graffiti and covered one broken window with a sign which reads "Love Your Neighbour."</p> <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://calgary.ctvnews.ca/cold-lake-residents-help-clean-up-vandalized-mosque-1.2069658</p> <p>http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2014/10/24/cold-lake-</p>

Date & Location	Details
<p>8. October 27, 2014</p> <p>Toronto, Ontario</p> <p>Municipal Election sign</p>	<p>mosque_n_6043002.html</p> <p>See appendix 7.</p> <p>Three Muslims Candidates for Toronto's municipal election were targeted with hateful messages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hateful messages were scrawled on some of Ward 2 council candidate Munira Abukar's campaign signs. • A Toronto District School Board trustee candidate, Ausma Malik, was heckled at a candidates' debate, as well as the subject of thousands of flyers which were distributed throughout the ward which accused her of being a supporter of the Toronto 18 terrorist cell and a proponent of Sharia law. One flyer even has a photo of Malik superimposed over a yellow and green Hezbollah flag. • Also in Toronto, a city council candidate, Mohammad Uddin, claimed he had been the target of a steady stream of Islamophobic insults. He tweeted a photo of one of his campaign signs defaced with the words "F--- Islam." Uddin said that racist graffiti has been discovered outside his campaign office. <p>Reported at:</p> <p>http://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2014/10/24/islamophobia_the_ugly_side_of_the_municipal_election.html</p> <p>http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2014/10/12/munira-</p>

Date & Location	Details
	abukar-toronto_n_5973692.html?utm_ See appendix 8.
9. October 31, 2014, Ottawa, Ontario Dar As Sunnah Mosque	Dar As Sunnah Mosque in Ottawa was vandalized and Ottawa Police were investigating a possible hate crime. A rock was thrown through a window of the mosque. Reported at: http://www.ottawasun.com/2014/10/31/rock-thrown-through-mosque-window See appendix 9.
10. November 8-9, 2014	Four mosques were vandalized in three cities in Quebec. Signs were left at three of the mosques, with signs saying "Islam-Out of my Country". A rock was thrown through the window of a fourth mosque in St. Jean Richilieu as well. Reported at: http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/quebec-city-st-jean-sur-richelieu-mosques-vandalized-1.2829698 See Appendix 10
11. November 21-22,	Beer and alcohol bottles were thrown at the centre. Glass and windows were broken and religious symbols were

Date & Location	Details
2014	drawn in the snow nearby.
Kingston, Ontario	Reported at:
Kingston Mosque	http://cornwallfreenews.com/2014/11/islamic-centre-in-kingston-ontario-vandalized-kps-see-public-assistance-nov-24-2014/
	See Appendix 11

THREATS TO INDIVIDUALS AND INSTITUTIONS

Date & Location	Details
1. October 24, 2014	RCMP investigating threats sent to the B.C. Muslim Association in the wake of two separate attacks on Canadians soldiers during beginning of October, 2014. The Organization received multiple messages, mainly via email, that threatened the general Muslim population in the province.
Vancouver, British Columbia	
The British Columbia Muslim Association	Reported at: http://bc.ctvnews.ca/b-c-muslim-association-threatened-following-ottawa-shootings-1.2070297
2. November 26, 2014,	A bomb threat was called in to a Quebec mosque.

**Chateauguay,
Quebec**

Reported at:

**Quebec
Mosque**

<http://montreal.ctvnews.ca/mosque-in-chateauguay-target-of-bomb-threat-1.2120000>

APPENDICES: PICTURES

APPENDIX 1:



P.O. Box 13219, Ottawa, ON, K2K 1X4 tel: 1-866-524-0004 fax:613-254-9810 email: info@nccm.ca

www.nccm.ca

APPENDIX 2:

APPENDIX 3:





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APPENDIX 4:



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APPENDIX 5:



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APPENDIX 6:

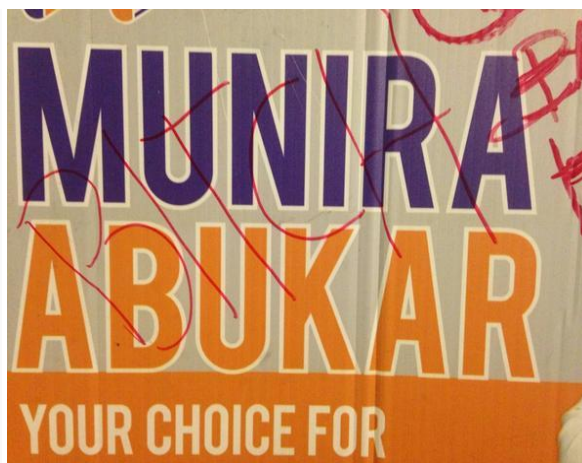

APPENDIX 7:


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APPENDIX 8:





APPENDIX 9:



APPENDIX 10:



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APPENDIX 11:



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