

A) Introduction

B'nai Brith Canada, with a presence in the country since 1875 has been tracking antisemitism in this country since its inception. The *Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents*, as a formal study in Canadian antisemitism, is now in its 32nd year of publication as a well recognized contribution to the global study of racism.

The incidents reported to the Anti-Hate Hotline of the League of Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada as well as its national and regional offices, partner organizations across the country including hate crime police units, form the basis of the annual *Audit of Antisemitic Incidents*. The report is used widely by governments, research agencies, human right groups and police forces both in Canada and abroad to follow the pattern of antisemitism as well as to analyze the factors contributing to racism against all minority groups in Canada.

Canada-wide, 1276 incidents were recorded in the 2013 *Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents*. This represents a 5.3% decrease from the 1345 incidents recorded for the year 2012. While incidents of harassment decreased by 13.9 percent (down from 1013 in 2012 to 872 in 2013), vandalism increased by 21.6% (up from 319 in 2012 to 388 in 2013). Cases of violence also rose by 7.7% (from 13 to 14).

While an overall decrease is welcome, there is every reason to suspect that many have chosen not to report incidents especially where a clear remedy is not in place. A number of cases have contributed to such a reluctance to report. Consider the case out of Manitoba where a male high school student verbally harassed a fellow female student and burned her hair. While the male student was convicted criminally, the court, with support of the Crown and defence, ruled in 2013 that no hate element was made out. Earlier the provincial Attorney General refused to proceed with hate crime charges against a poster that singled out the Jewish mayor and other Jewish businessman for accusations. A complaint by the League to Calgary police regarding online teaching material for Muslim students denigrating Jews was rejected. In Ontario, a complaint that a speech at the annual Al-Quds rally suggesting Jews get out of Jerusalem or be shot was ruled by the Attorney General department not to justify a hate crime charge. Add to that the refusal to remove internet based hate on various forums and one can understand the reluctance to come forward.

The small decrease in reported levels has also to be viewed with ongoing concerns about rampant growth in antisemitism in Europe and parallels that can be drawn as some indication as to what might be in store for Canada.

A 2013 report by the Federation of European Unions, showed that 29% of all respondents did "not feel safe" living in their countries as Jews. The Internet was seen as the biggest platform for spreading hate against Jews, with 75% of respondents saying they had experienced antisemitism on websites and social platforms. Some 42 per cent of respondents

said they had experience verbal abuse at demonstrations, and 14 per cent at sports events. Furthermore, 76% believed that hatred had increased over the past five years.

Adding to the concerns shared by Canadian Jewry, was the introduction of Bill 60 in Quebec, the so-called Charter of Values, in 2013 by the Partis Quebecois, signaling a challenge to a policy of multiculturalism.

While anti-Israel incidents where not combined with hatred directed at Jews is not included in this Audit for purposes of consistency, the prevalence of anti-Israel rhetoric in a significant portion of the 2013 incidents off and on campus, make it all too clear that the so called new antisemitism is a constant factor in the study of antisemitism in Canada.

Key findings

- Antisemitic Incidents decreased by 5.3 % Canada-wide
- Cases of Vandalism rose by 21.8% while violence increased by one incident and harassment cases dropped by 13.9%
- Incidents of antisemitism were recorded across the country with regional variations
- Despite the small drop, antisemitism shows a consistent presence in Canada when taking a 10-year view
- Hatred continues to invade the daily life of Canadian Jewry, at home, work and at school.

B) Findings of the Audit

1) The Overall Picture

In 2013, the League for Human Rights documented 1274 antisemitic incidents across Canada, representing a decrease of 5.4% over the 1345 incidents recorded in 2011. An additional 308 cases were investigated but not included in the database as they could not be independently corroborated or did not meet the League's definitions of antisemitism (see Appendix)

While a decrease is always welcome, the incidents reveal the unrelenting nature of antisemitism in Canada. A ten-year view, shows the sustained level of antisemitism in Canada. Since 2009, incidents have almost doubled (48%).

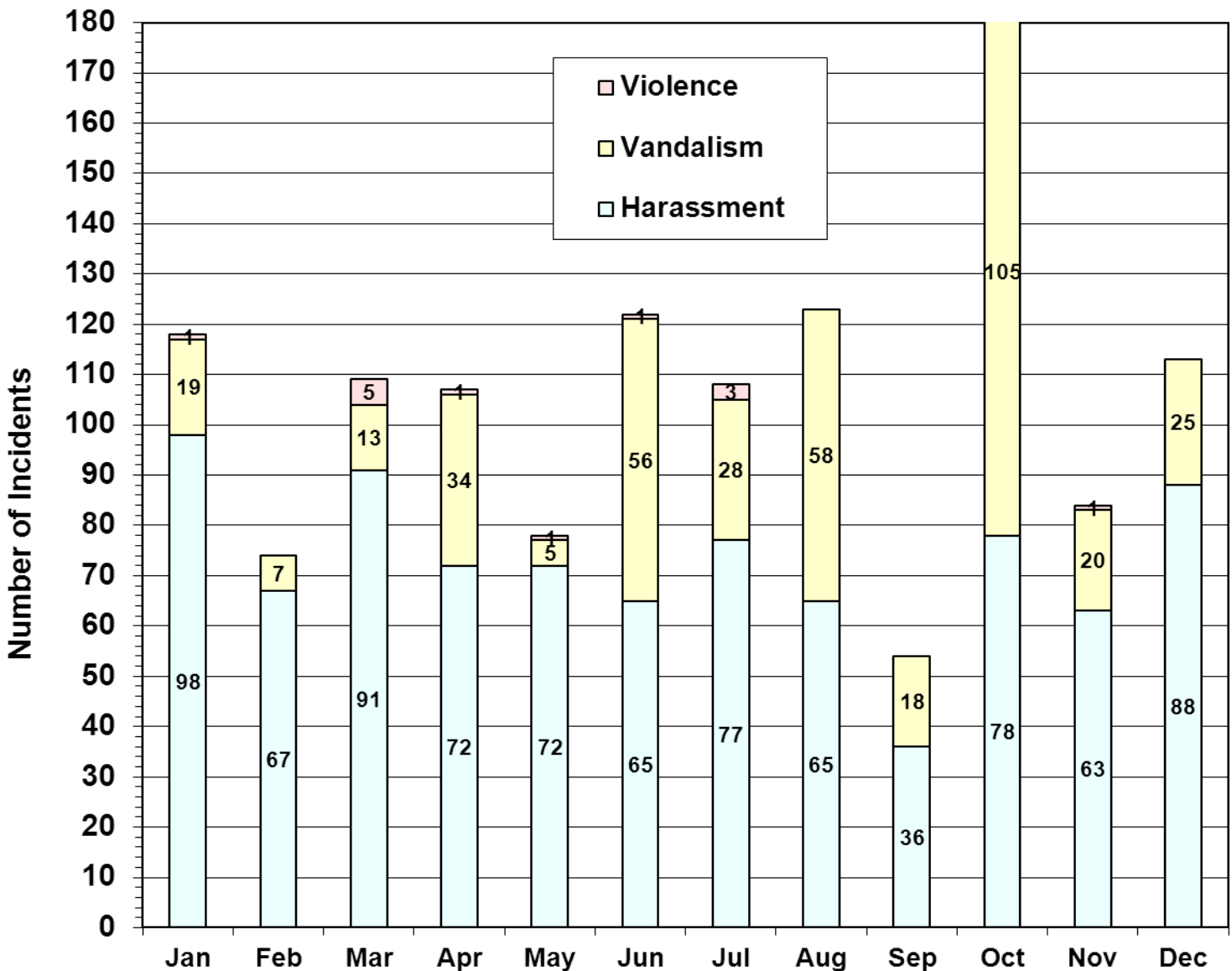
Just over half of the incidents (741) took place, as is the usual pattern, in the province of Ontario. The next largest number (250) were recorded in the province of Quebec. The

Regional Charts that follow will further explain the geographical breakdown of incidents across Canada.

Law enforcement experts (see for example StatsCanada 2013 report) estimate that only a small portion of victims of hate-related incidents report their victimization (estimated between 10-30%). In fact, impact statements noted this year by the League indicate a significant reluctance to report primarily due to concerns of retaliation as well as uncertainty of the criminal system’s response or a more general frustration of the utility of reporting such incidents.

Of the cases that came to the attention of the League in 2013, 353 cases were reported to police, down from the 373 reported in 2012 and the 446 cases or 34% reported in 2011. While cases with a clear criminal component are generally reported to the police, there is a greater reluctance in cases of harassment.

Canadian Antisemitic Incidents



Year	Month	Incidents	Harassment	Vandalism	Violence
2013	Jan	118	98	19	1
	Feb	74	67	7	
	Mar	109	91	13	5
	Apr	107	72	34	1
	May	78	72	5	1
	Jun	122	65	56	1
	Jul	108	77	28	3
	Aug	123	65	58	
	Sep	54	36	18	
	Oct	184	78	105	1
	Nov	84	63	20	1
	Dec	113	88	25	
	Total for 2013:	1274	872	388	14

Harassment continued to be show the highest level of activity. The nature of these incidents varied but it should be noted less they be dismissed as trivial annoyance that 113 of the 872 cases classified as harassment involved explicit threats of violence or harm against individuals, families, businesses or institutions.

The 872 incidents of harassment represented a drop of 13.9% from the 2012 recorded levels. This certainly reflects the impact statements collected concerning a reluctance to report. This was particularly notable in Quebec where harassment reports were down by 50%. Yet a survey of internet sites with antisemitic content with a connection to Quebec are readily found for example.

Vandalism incidents rose 319 cases in 2012 to 388 in 2013 – a 21.6% increase across Canada. This is disappointing given the 11.9% decrease in this category seen in the 2012 Audit. A marked increase was noted in the Montreal area as well as Atlantic Canada while dropping in the Western provinces.

Once again a number of residential areas were targeted with antisemitic graffiti including Toronto (ON), Vaughan (ON) and Winnipeg (MB). Two Jewish homes were vandalized and burned down in the St. Agathe area, an area noted with concern in the Audit in previous years. As well a religious Jewish camp reported desecration to religious books

and objects. Antisemitic graffiti defaced public sites including parks, memorials and transportation hubs across the country.

Of the vandalism cases, 9 involved synagogues (Ontario and Quebec). Three of the cases involved the use of fire. Likely the potential for greater damage was averted. In at least one case a Jewish community center, in fact one where a school and synagogue meet, received a bomb threat.

There were 14 recorded incidents categorized as violence across the country, up from the 13 recorded in the previous year. Incidents included disturbing cases where objects being thrown at teens and seniors on their way home from school or synagogue, ripping off a man's kippah (skullcap) in a busy business district, an assault outside a synagogue.

Percent Change Year 2013 vs. Year 2012

Region	Percent Change Year 2013 vs. Year 2012				% of Total			
	Incidents	Harassment	Vandalism	Violence	Incidents	Harassment	Vandalism	Violence
Atlantic Region	+25.9%		+140.0%		+32.9%	-20.6%	+90.6%	
Montreal	-21.4%	-50.2%	+164.1%		-17.0%	-36.7%	+235.8%	+27.2%
Quebec Region	-57.1%	-84.6%	-6.7%	-100.0%	-54.8%	-64.1%	+117.8%	-100.0%
Toronto Region	-3.6%	-7.8%	+11.9%		+1.8%	-4.3%	+16.1%	+3.7%
Ottawa	-8.3%	+15.4%	-70.0%		-3.2%	+25.9%	-67.3%	
Ontario Region	+27.7%	+13.0%	+47.2%	+100.0%	+34.8%	-11.5%	+15.3%	+0.6%
Winnipeg	+33.9%	+17.9%	+68.8%	+100.0%	+41.4%	-11.9%	+26.0%	+49.3%
Saskatchewan	-50.0%	-50.0%	-50.0%		-47.2%			
Alberta	+21.3%	+74.5%	-67.9%		+28.1%	+43.8%	-73.5%	
British Columbia	-27.2%	-17.8%	-50.0%		-23.1%	+12.9%	-31.3%	
North Region	-100.0%	-100.0%			-100.0%	-100.0%		
Canada	-5.3%	-13.9%	+21.6%	+7.7%		-2.1%	+10.6%	-56.6%
All of Quebec	-25.8%	-53.4%	+116.7%	-25.0%	-21.7%	-37.2%	+192.1%	+1.1%
All of Ontario	+1.5%	-2.6%	+13.2%	+12.5%	+7.2%	-4.0%	+11.5%	+10.8%

3) Type of Incidents

i. Community Property, Private Homes and the Public Domain

There were 22 incidents targeting synagogues reported to the League in 2013. This continues a downtrend from the 25 recorded in 2012 and notably the 47 recorded in 2011. It is hoped that this decrease in part due to improved security at houses of worship and community institutions with the help of funding under the federal Security Infrastructure Program. However, it is to be noted that a number of these incidents were only disclosed sometime after the incident when the institutions were directly contacted by the League. This might reflect a concern over the reluctance to report for factors noted earlier.

During the course of 2013, B'nai Brith Canada issued security alerts to the community. In late August 2013, it asked community members and institutions to be vigilant as the High Holidays and the 9/11 anniversary approached following a report by the Counter Terrorism Bureau based in Israel that warned of danger to Israeli and Jewish interests world-wide. Concern was also raised following remarks in August at the annual Al-Quds rally in Toronto where speakers incited hatred against Jews and at least one prominent speaker suggested that Jews should be shot if they did not agree to abandon all of Jerusalem. Another alert was issued in June after a series of vandalism incidents in around Toronto and Winnipeg.

Other community venues were also targeted in 2013. Fifty-seven incidents involved community centres, more than double the 25 cases in 2012 and more than the 46 recorded in 2011. There were no reports of incidents purposely targeting Jewish cemeteries although callers did express concerns on two occasions of seeing suspicious groups within the vicinity of Jewish cemeteries. In one case it could not be established if overturned tombstones were the result of poor repair or deliberate acts.

In 2013, private residences were targeted in 155 separate cases. There were 144 such cases in 2012 and 146 in 2011. These cases involved repeated mezuzah desecrations, defacement of cars parked outside Jewish family homes. One neighborhood with a concentration of orthodox families was targeted with threatening and hateful graffiti

Jews were harassed and assaulted on public streets. Jews running for office in Quebec had their election signs defaced. Jewish customers were verbally harassed in

at businesses in 28 cases. 56 Jewish business owners reported vandalism or harassment directed at them.

ii. Workplace

There were 20 cases directly related to the workplace in 2013, a drop from the 37 cases reported in 2012. This drop far from a welcome trend but in fact given impact statement collected reflect a growing reluctance to report. These cases involved unwelcome remarks by co-workers and supervisors. There were 18 cases of systemic discrimination in the workplace that the League assisted in. There were another 10 cases of harassment involving government-based offices. There were also 3 cases involving complaints of systemic discrimination within the prison system in Ontario and Quebec.

iii. Educational Settings

There were 59 cases involving schools in 2013, down from 79 cases in 2012 and 60 in 2011. Of the 59 cases, 24 involved vandalism with antisemitic imagery and swastikas. Cases of harassment included systemic discrimination as well as ongoing bullying between classmates. Nine of the 59 cases targeted Jewish private schools: three of these cases involved graffiti on school building. The cases of harassment against Jewish educational facilities including the hacking of a school website in Hamilton, as well as threatening hate-filled material being sent by mail. There were also at least three cases where Muslim private schools were reported as using hate-filled teaching material.

There were 89 cases of antisemitism on university campuses across Canada, a small increase over the 79 reported last year. Fourteen of the cases involved vandalism. In one case a heated argument ended up in two students being physically assaulted on campus. Ongoing graffiti at Dalhousie did evoke considerable outrage by the students but overall the Jewish students found themselves more and more isolated. Overall tensions are high on campuses across Canada as Israel Apartheid Week has become a year long string of activity. Students report a reluctance to speak up knowing specific cases where students that have taken a public stand are the subject of concentrated harassment. Boycott of Israel campaigns at a number of universities in 2013 have reportedly left Jewish students experiencing a poisoned environment. Student groups have felt at ease, with the tacit support of administrators in the name of free speech, to invite terrorists to address their students. A free speech wall at Queen's has to be taken down due to racist remarks added it. Nonetheless students at campuses such as Calgary and University of Toronto (Scarborough) at to be commended for having the courage to take a public stand.

iv. Web-Based Hate

There were 434 reported incidents involving web-based hate activity. This is a drop from the 521 incidents reported in 2012 and the 528 in 2011. About half of these incidents involved the use of social media applications including facebook and twitter. There were also incidents involving new application such as the Iphone which utilized antisemitic imagery.

A drop in this type of incidents cannot reflect a drop in hate on the internet but again more a reluctance to report due to the perception of a lack of remedies and the rhetoric of free speech.

In addition there were 114 reports of hate-related comments made on media news sites that denigrated the Jewish community but still based the media's internet/posting policies.

Conspiracy theories against the Jews abounded across the net during 2013 – from age old connards of blood in the matzos to new versions that peg Jews as controlling the climate with sinister objectives. Anti-Israel references which were recorded in 285 of the cases of harassment went hand in hand in such commenting with antisemitism.

v. Holocaust Denial

Incidents of Holocaust denial sustained the high rate noted in 2012. The Audit recorded 199 cases involving Holocaust denial, similar to the 197 in 2012 compared to only 111 in 2011. In a number of cases Holocaust denial material were turned away by Canada Customs officials as hate material. Once again Holocaust imagery and comparison crept into political debates. Internet incidents were replete with Holocaust imagery when accusing Jews of horrendous offences. Comedians out of Quebec were noted for including the Quenel associated with French comedian Deudionne in their routines.

The Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion, adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's member countries at its October 2013 meeting held in Canada under the chairmanship of Canada is most welcome given the prevalence of this type of incident as a contemporary and growing manifestation of contemporary antisemitism. Under the definition, denying the Holocaust includes not only claiming it did not happen or minimizing its extent but also calling into doubt the methods used to carry out the genocide or blaming the Jews in anyway such as the repeated hateful canard that the Jews profited from the Holocaust. As occurred in a number of incidents in 2013,

distortion as defined arose as media comments bemoaned that the Holocaust did not go far enough or that Nazi collaborators were more slaves than perpetrators.

v. Neo-Nazi/White Supremacist Activity

Police from Western provinces in particular note a drop in Neo-Nazi activity – accrediting an intensive effort by law enforcement to bring such activity which had taken at times a violent turn on local streets. Certainly white pride marches in cities such as Calgary (AB) and London (ON) failed to draw a visible and significant mass. Nonetheless, the reported incidents to the League show a sustained level of related activity. There were 163 such reports, compared to 151 in 2013 and 145 in 2011.

Web-based forums which draw those professing to support white supremacist viewpoints remain active in Canada, showing postings from individuals right across Canada.

Incidents of recruitment to white supremacist groups were isolated. In one case white pride music cds were found to be on sale at a community based event. A number of reports of businesses selling Nazi related artifacts were reported in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec. In addition, concern was raised by the League as to the amount of White Supremacist material along with Holocaust denial material readily available on commercial sites including E-bay and Amazon.

Under judicial review is the bequest by Robert McCorkell of his estate to the National Alliance, a nearly defunct neo-Nazi group based in the United States that potentially could be revived with the infusion of money. The League is one of the intervenors arguing that the gift should be blocked on public policy grounds. A decision is expected shortly but likely to be see an appeal.

European based Neo-Nazi groups also made an appearance in Canada during 2013. The Greek Golden Dawn was noted as trying to organize activities in Toronto.

Of the 388 cases of vandalism in 2013, 270 involved swastikas -- or XX % (last year 185 of 319) This of course suggests that the Nazi symbol continues to be the chosen symbol of hate by perpetrators.

4) Perpetrators

Overall very few perpetrators were identified. Police reported laying of charges in only 22 cases. However, the ethnic and religious background of perpetrators were documented where corroborating evidence to support such identity could be obtained or the perpetrators self-identified in some way.

There were 126 cases where identify of the perpetrators was revealed in this way. Perpetrators came from a number of different ethnic or religious backgrounds. Where identified the vast majority were adults. However, as in 2012 there the most significant

group were those identifying primarily as Muslims – 58 cases in fact. There were such 87 cases in 2012, which was a jump from only 16 in 2011.

In addition there were 8 face to face encounters involving Christians, and 3 involving Hindu. Perpetrators identified by their ethnic origins were as follows: 3 Aboriginals, 10 Arabs, 8 Bangedash, 1 Chinese, 3 Egyptian, 3 French, 3 Germans, 16 Iranian, 2 Italians, 3 Polish, 8 Pakistani, 2 Russian, 1 Ukrainian.

Antisemitic blood libels were portrayed in posters advertising rallies to condemn massacres in Pakistan suggesting a Zionist plot behind it. Urdu publications based in Ontario also repeated allegations against Jews world wide.

Religion appeared to be a motivating factor as revealed in the messaging that appeared in 159 cases, a drop from the 203 cases reported in 2012 but still a sustained level compared to the 94 cases recorded in 2011. Ongoing debates concerning Jewish religious practices such as kosher food, ritual slaughter, circumcision and Jewish synagogue celebrations gave a platform to those on the Internet, in the media as well as at work to express antisemitic, intolerant views.

5) PATTERNS OF OCCURRENCE

While there was a sustain level of antisemitic activity across Canada throughout the year, the highest number of incidents was recorded by far in October. While a clear pattern to explain this jump is hard to find, it is noted that it is in this period that campus activity, and with it anti-Israel activity came to life. This pattern is in part due to a jump in activity in Quebec in particular. Another jump came at the beginning and the end of the year.

C) Regional Breakdown of Incidents

Year 2012 Number of incidents by province

Where do Canadian Jews live.

D) EXAMPLES OF INCIDENTS

January 2013

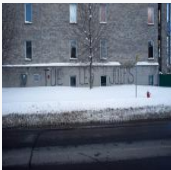
Vaughan, ON poster with images of a blood libel accusing Jews as Zionists for massacres in Pakistan



Winnipeg, MB – The person who hanged posters against the Jewish, Israeli-born Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz, Gordon Warren continues to attack Mayor

March 2013

Montreal, QC - residential building in Saint-Léonard has been repeatedly targeted with antisemitic graffiti.



Toronto, ON. Anti-Jewish card mailed to provincial member of parliament's office
Toronto, ON. Bomb threat investigated at Jewish Community Centre



April 2013

Dollard-des-Ormeaux, QC - The owner of a snow removal company fires employee who gestures to neighbors with Nazi salute.



May 2013

Hamilton, ON - Newspaper publishes letters promoting antisemitic tropes & inciting violence against Israel

Vancouver BC - A North Vancouver councillor who was recorded saying the city was being “Jewed down” in a property tax dispute has apologized for his remarks.

June 2013

Montreal - Employees of a St. Denis Street store selling Israeli footwear were shocked to find antisemitic graffiti scrawled on the sidewalk outside when they came to work



Montreal QB kosher restaurants, Jewish home and business owned by a Jew targeted with firebombs

Toronto - An Orthodox Jewish family in Toronto woke up this week to a swastika and the words “watch your children” scrawled on their garage door, the Friends of Simon ...



August 2013

Vaughan ON – cars outside Jewish homes vandalized with swastikas



Winnipeg MB – With two weeks residential area struck twice with multiple swastikas reportedly spray painted



September 2013

Montreal, QC Graffiti slurs target mayoral campaign signs



Hamilton, Ontario - The website of a Jewish school was hacked on the night of September 11 and defaced with anti-Israel material

October 2013

Hampstead, QC - campaign posters defaced with antisemitic graffiti and Hitler like mustaches during provincial election



Montreal, QC - A poster of mayor candidate defaced with word Jew



Hamilton, ON.- synagogue was spray-painted with an antisemitic slur in early morning hours.

December, 2013

Whitby, ON --

Synagogue sign defaced with swastika



E) Conclusion/Recommendations

The Audit, while showing a small decrease overall in 2013, also establishes the existence of a sustained level of hatred in Canada. Clearly the concern about intolerance in Canada is paralleled in other minority communities including Asian communities in British Columbia which witnessed ugly graffiti targeting them, homes of Black Canadians in Edmonton and Hamilton, hate directed at the aboriginals in Saskatchewan. Acts of disrespect towards government officials and memorial sites have also contributed to a level of concern that has prompted questions as to the success of multiculturalism as a national policy.

It is therefore even more important than ever that communities come together to examine what it means to be Canadian and to find ways for Canadians from across communities to come together to renew their commitment to core Canadian values.

A number of provincial initiatives with the support of police units have been established with websites designed to disseminate information and encourage reporting. Such initiatives must be encouraged and extended.

Debates as to the limits of free speech continues throughout 2013. A consensus as to such limits and the balance to be struck in the fight against hate speech is necessary. Section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Act which allowed for cases of hate on the internet to come before the Commission was repealed in June 2013 even though the Canadian Courts in the case of Marc Lemire found that the provision was in fact constitutional. Thus the only remedy for hate on the internet cases other than voluntary compliance, is left to the higher standard to meet of the Canadian Criminal Code. The case of Arthur Topham who is accused of committing a hate crime for maintaining a website continues in the courts. The

charges were made following a complaint by the League and Richard Warman, In a presentation to the Minister of Justice, the League asked for guidelines for hate crime charges and other changes. Yet, a number of cases as discussed show the reluctance by officials to use the criminal legislation to control hate related activity. The debate on the limits of free speech continue with the release of the Supreme Court of Canada in Bill Whatcott, anti-gay activist. Reaction was divided on the finding by the court which effectively upheld limits on free speech in finding that Whatcott had in some respects breached the applicable provincial human rights code.