



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Toronto Police Service: 2017 Annual Hate/Bias Crime Statistical Report

<b>Date:</b>	May 3, 2018
<b>To:</b>	Executive Committee, City of Toronto
<b>From:</b>	Andy Pringle, Chair, Toronto Police Services Board

#### **SUMMARY**

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The purpose of this report is to provide the Executive Committee with the Toronto Police Service's ("Service") 2017 Annual Hate/Bias Crime Statistical Report.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

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It is recommended that the Executive Committee receive this report for information.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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There are no financial implications with regard to the receipt of this report.

#### **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

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At its meeting held on April 18, 2018 the Toronto Police Services Board ("Board") was in receipt of a report dated April 4, 2018 from Mark Saunders, Chief of Police, with regard to the Service's 2017 Annual Hate Crime/Bias Crime Statistical Report.

#### **COMMENTS**

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The Board received the Chief's report and agreed to forward a copy to the City of Toronto – Executive Committee for information.

#### **CONCLUSION**

A copy of Board Minute No. P64/18, in the form attached as Appendix "A", regarding this matter is provided for information.

A copy of the Executive Summary to the 2017 Annual Hate Crime Report is attached. The complete report can be accessed electronically at:

<http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/publications/files/reports/2017hatecrimereport.pdf>

## **CONTACT**

Chief of Police Mark Saunders

Toronto Police Service

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Andy Pringle  
Chair

## **ATTACHMENT**

Appendix A – Board Minute No. P64/18  
Executive Summary

## APPENDIX A

### **This is an Extract from the Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Toronto Police Services Board that was held on April 18, 2018**

P64            2017 Annual Hate Crime Statistical Report

The Board was in receipt of a report dated April 4, 2018 from Mark Saunders, Chief, with regard to this matter.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Forward a copy of this report to the City of Toronto Executive Committee for information.

Detective Sergeant Joe Matthews, Detective Purches and Police Constable Bisla delivered a presentation to the Board in regards to this matter.

**The Board received the presentation and approved the foregoing report.**

Moved by:            U. Chandrasekera  
Seconded by:        M. Moliner

## **Executive Summary**

The Toronto Police Service Hate Crime Statistical Report is an annual report that provides statistical data about criminal offences that are committed against persons or property and are motivated by the victim's race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation or other similar factor within the City of Toronto.

The report explains the mandate of the Toronto Police Service Hate Crime Unit (HCU) and the methodology that is used by the HCU to collect the statistical data. The data is based on hate crimes that were reported to the Toronto Police Service, hereafter referred to as "the Service" between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017.

The report also provides an overview of the training and education that was provided to the Service's police officers with respect to hate crimes in 2017, as well as the various community outreach initiatives that were undertaken by the HCU and other units within the Service.

In 2017, there was an increase in the total number of hate crimes occurrences reported to the Service. In comparison to 2016, the number of reported occurrences increased from 145 to 186 representing a difference of approximately 28%. Over the past ten years, between 2008 and 2017, the average number of reported hate crimes is approximately 147 per annum.

The number of arrests related to hate crimes in 2017 increased from 12 persons arrested in 2016 to 23 persons arrested in 2017. As in previous years, the number of arrests for hate motivated offences was attributed to allegations of mischief to property (i.e. graffiti) in circumstances where there was little or no suspect description available. These occurrences frequently transpired without the victim or any witnesses present. These factors present significant challenges to the investigation into hate motivated offences and arresting suspects.

In 2017, the Jewish community, followed by the Black community, the Muslim community, and the LGBTQ community were the groups most frequently victimized. The three most frequently reported criminal offences motivated by hate in 2017 were mischief to property, assault and utter threats. The Jewish community was the most frequently victimized group for mischief to property occurrences; the LGBTQ community was the most frequently victimized group for assault occurrences; and the Muslim community was the most frequently victimized group for criminal harassment occurrences.

There are multiple factors that can affect fluctuation in the number of reported hate crimes and the community groups that are victimized. These factors include international events, community educational programs, hate crime training, and increased reporting.

When more than one identifiable group (i.e. Catholic and Ukrainian) was targeted in an incident the occurrence was categorized as multi-bias. In 2016, 14 of the 145 hate occurrences were categorized as multi-bias. In 2017, 27 of the 186 hate occurrences were categorized as multi-bias.

An identifiable group is defined by the Criminal Code as, “*Any section of the public distinguished by colour, race, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or mental or physical disability*”.

Midway through 2017, the Criminal Code definition of identifiable group was expanded to include gender identity or expression as a result of Bill C-16. Hate crimes motivated on the basis of gender identity or expression were captured by the Service under the sex category in the 2017 report.

Back in 2014, the Canadian Center for Justice Statistics (CCJS) published the Hate Crime Consultations and Recommendation Report. One of the recommendations made in this report was for police services to report hate crimes targeting members of the Transgender community under either the sex and/or gender category for the purpose of comparability across jurisdictions.

For the purpose of uniform crime reporting across Canada, the Service adopted the CCJS recommendation. Hate crimes targeting members of the Transgender community have been categorized under the sex category since the 2014 report. Prior to 2014, the Toronto Police Service Annual Hate Crime Statistical Report categorized hate crimes against members of the Transgender community under the sexual orientation category.

Since the publication of the first Hate Crime Statistical Report in 1993, hate crimes have been most commonly motivated by the following five factors: race, religion, sexual orientation, multi-bias, and nationality.



# Toronto Police Services Board Report

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April 4, 2018

To: Chair and Members  
Toronto Police Services Board

From: Mark Saunders  
Chief of Police

**Subject: 2017 ANNUAL HATE CRIME STATISTICAL REPORT**

## **Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Board:

- 1) receive this report for information; and,
- 2) forward a copy of this report to the City of Toronto Executive Committee for information.

## **Financial Implications:**

There are no financial implications relating to the recommendations contained within this report.

## **Background / Purpose:**

The Toronto Police Service Intelligence Services – Hate Crime Unit (H.C.U.) has collected statistical data and has been responsible for ensuring the thorough investigation of hate crime offences within the City of Toronto since 1993.

The Toronto Police Service Hate Crime Statistical Report is an annual report that provides statistical data about criminal offences that are committed against persons and/or property that are motivated by the victim's (either perceived or real) race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation or other similar factor within the City of Toronto. The report also provides an overview of the hate crimes in 2017, as well as the various education, training and community outreach initiatives that were undertaken by the H.C.U. and other units within the Service.

## **Discussion:**

The year 2017 was characterized by strengthened community partnerships and engagement, education and a commitment to encouraging public reporting of hate crimes.

In 2017, there was a 28% increase in the number of reported hate crimes compared to 2016. The fluctuation in the number of reported hate crimes and the community groups that are victimized can be attributed to multiple factors. These factors include international events, community educational programs, hate crime training, and increased reporting.

Mischief to property, assault, and utter threats were the three most reported criminal offences motivated by hate in 2017. As in past years, these kinds of offences occurred in a variety of different locations including private dwellings, public park/streets, and schools and on public transportation.

Throughout 2017, H.C.U. members attended provincial hate crime and extremism training relating to hate crime laws and trends, investigative strategies and the prosecution of hate crimes with police services, community agencies and partners from across North America in Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto and Niagara Falls.

In 2017, the H.C.U. continued to be an active partner of the provincial Hate Crime Extremism Investigative Team (H.C.E.I.T.). H.C.E.I.T. includes members from 15 Ontario police services that receive provincial funding for the joint collection and sharing of information, enforcement and education of hate/bias crimes.

In May 2017, the H.C.U. in partnership with H.C.E.I.T. facilitated a three day hate crime Seminar at the Toronto Police College. The seminar was attended by internal and external police service members including; Guelph Police Service; Niagara Regional Police Service; Peel Regional Police; and York Regional Police; and representatives from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. The seminar focused on an enhanced understanding of the investigation of hate crimes, application of federal legislation, and community impact. Guest speakers included representatives from the Ministry of the Attorney General's office and from the academic community.

In November 2017, the H.C.U. hosted the annual divisional Hate Crime Coordinators meeting with Coordinators from the Service's 17 police divisions. The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss divisional hate crime cases, current case law and other issues relating to hate crimes.

Also in November 2017, the H.C.U. in partnership with the Ministry of the Attorney General's office facilitated a one-day seminar at the Toronto Police College to provide training to the Service's frontline officers, investigators, and a member of H.C.E.I.T. The training included hate crime reporting, identification, evidence gathering and community impact.

In June, and October 2017, the H.C.U. delivered presentations to University of Toronto, York University and Ryerson University campus security officers, and students. The presentation topics included recognizing, understanding and reporting hate crimes.

Throughout the year, the H.C.U. consulted with community organizations and representatives for the purposes of education, negotiation, mediation for public order and safety, and to address community concerns specific to hate crimes. Moreover, the H.C.U. collaborated with the Service's Divisional Policing Support Unit, Muslim and Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Queer Liaison Officers, with regards to outreach in the respective communities. The partnership between the H.C.U. and Divisional Policing Support Unit provides local and national education on the subject of hate crimes and discrimination to local government and social agencies, community leaders and police officers.

### **Conclusion:**

This report provides the Board with a comprehensive statistical overview of the hate crimes reported and investigated in the City of Toronto throughout 2017.

Deputy Chief James Ramer, Specialized Operations Command, will be in attendance to answer any questions that the Board may have regarding this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Saunders, O.O.M.  
Chief of Police