

ABOUT US

Over the past several years, Islamophobia has increased significantly in Canada. In response to the rise of Islamophobia, a group of legal organizations and concerned lawyers in British Columbia established the Islamophobia Legal Assistance Hotline (ILAH) in March 2016. Working in solidarity with Muslim and racialized communities, the Hotline aims to combat Islamophobia by providing free legal advice and representation to individuals and groups affected by Islamophobia. Individuals who have experienced Islamophobic discrimination will be assisted by BC lawyers to access available legal remedies.



ISLAMOPHOBIA LEGAL
ASSISTANCE HOTLINE

Free confidential legal
advice and
representation if you
have experienced
discrimination,
harassment, or violence
because you are Muslim
or were perceived to be
Muslim.



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CONTACT US

604-343-3828



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Presents



Reporting
Islamophobia:
Steps to Take

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A. Emergency or Non-Emergency Reporting

Emergency Reporting (Immediate Danger): If you or someone else is in immediate danger, such as during or after a physical assault, threat of violence, or when there is an active hate crime occurring, dial 911 immediately.

- **What to tell the 911 operator:**
 - **Your location:** Provide your address or a clear description of where you are.
 - **Type of emergency:** Explain that you are reporting a hate crime (e.g., physical assault, threat of violence, vandalism).
 - **The situation's urgency:** Mention if the perpetrator is still at the scene or if you are in immediate danger.
 - **Any immediate injuries:** Let the operator know if anyone is hurt or requires medical attention.

Non-Emergency Reporting (604-717-3321):

- When using the non-emergency line, be prepared to provide the following:
 - Your contact information (name, phone number, and address)
 - A brief summary of the incident
 - Whether there are any ongoing concerns (e.g., threats or continued harassment)
 - The police station you wish to report the crime to (if you're not calling the local station)

B. Provide Clear Details about the Incident

When reporting a hate crime, it's essential to provide a detailed and clear account of what happened.

The Nature of the Incident: Clearly describe what happened.

- **Example:**
 - "I was verbally harassed by a group of individuals who called me derogatory names related to my religion."
 - "A man physically attacked me and used Islamophobic slurs during the incident."
 - "Someone spray-painted hateful messages on my car related to my Muslim identity."

When the Incident Occurred:

- **Example:**
 - "It happened last night, around 9:30 p.m."
 - "It occurred just after I left the mosque at around 8:00 a.m. this morning."

Where the Incident Took Place:

- **Example:**
 - "The incident occurred outside my apartment building on Main Street."
 - "It took place in the parking lot of the mosque on Oak Avenue."

Bias or Prejudiced Language Used:

- **Example:**
 - "During the verbal assault, the individual repeatedly called me a 'terrorist' and shouted 'go back to your country.'"

C. Follow-Up and Additional Information



Once the incident is reported, law enforcement will typically provide you with a case number or reference number, which you can use for follow-up inquiries. Keep a record of this number, as it will help you track the progress of the investigation.

D. Accessing Support Through the Islamophobia Legal Assistance Hotline

How to Contact the Hotline:

- **Phone:**
 - **Call the hotline at 1-877-800-5422**
- **Online Contact:**
 - **Visit the Access Pro Bono BC website to access an online intake form.**
 - **This form allows you to submit inquiries about Islamophobic incidents and request help.**



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