

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.

Our Mission

ILAH is a coalition of legal organizations and concerned individuals in British Columbia that works in solidarity with Muslim and racialized communities to combat Islamophobia and racism through the provision of free legal advice and representation to individuals and groups affected by Islamophobia and related racism. ILAH provides public legal education, research and systemic advocacy.



**ISLAMOPHOBIA LEGAL
ASSISTANCE HOTLINE**



United Way
British Columbia



ACCESS
PRO BONO



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

CONTACT

604-343-3828



**ISLAMOPHOBIA LEGAL
ASSISTANCE HOTLINE**



**Free confidential legal
advice and
representation**



OUR SERVICES

What to Expect When You Reach Out to the Hotline

The legal professionals who staff the hotline are there to assist you, and they will guide you through the process of seeking support. Below are examples of things you can say or ask when calling:

- To start the conversation:
 - “I would like to report an incident of Islamophobia I experienced recently.”
 - “I need help understanding what my legal options are after an Islamophobic incident.”
 - “Can you guide me on how to file a complaint or take legal action?”
- If you're unsure about your legal rights:
 - “I’m not sure if my case qualifies for legal action—can you help me understand my rights?”
 - “What legal protections do I have under Canadian law if I’ve been discriminated against for my religion?”
- If you need to report ongoing harassment or discrimination:
 - “I’ve been experiencing ongoing discrimination at my workplace, and I’m unsure how to report it.”
 - “Can I file a human rights complaint for discrimination I faced in a public service?”

What ILAH Will Ask You

When you contact the ILAH, the legal professional will likely ask you a series of questions to understand the specifics of your case.

1. Details about the Incident:

- What happened? Can you describe the event in detail?
- When did the incident take place? Was there a specific time or date?
- Where did the incident occur (e.g., at work, in public, at home)?
- Were there any other people involved? Were there any witnesses?

2. Impact of the Incident:

- How did the incident affect you emotionally, physically, or financially?
- Were you physically harmed? Did you require medical attention?
- Did you experience any damage to personal property or your reputation?

3. Desired Outcome:

- What outcome are you hoping for? Are you seeking an apology, compensation, legal protection, or criminal prosecution?
- Are you looking for advice on how to prevent further incidents of Islamophobia or harassment?

What You Can Expect from ILAH

1. Assessment of Your Case

When you first contact ILAH, the legal professional will assess your situation to understand the specifics of what you experienced. They will determine whether the incident involves criminal behavior (such as assault or a hate crime) or civil matters (such as discrimination in housing, employment, or public services).

2. Guidance on Legal Options

Once the legal professional understands the details of your case, they will explain the next steps you can take, based on the nature of the incident.

3. Referrals to Other Services

ILAH is not only a legal resource—it can also connect you with additional services for ongoing support, both legal and emotional.

4. Ongoing Support

ILAH is committed to providing ongoing support throughout your legal process. The legal professional will check in periodically to ensure your case is progressing and offer additional assistance if needed.

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