

Mandate of the Hate Crimes Community Working Group

As outlined in its Terms of Reference, the Hate Crimes Community Working Group was established to:

1. provide advice to the Attorney General and the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services on an overall strategy to address individual and community-based victimization and related issues arising from hate crimes;
2. provide advice on how current victim-based and related justice sector programming can be enhanced to improve services to victims of hate crimes;
3. identify gaps and barriers that impede the timely delivery of programs/services to victims of hate crimes;
4. explore best practices that exist provincially, nationally and internationally to combat hate crimes;
5. offer recommendations on how the government might address the unique scope and impacts of community-based hate crimes; and
6. offer recommendations on related topics that could either strengthen the quality of government-funded hate crime programs or reduce hate crime victimization.

The Working Group was directed to prepare a report for consideration by the Attorney General and Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services outlining its efforts. The report, it was suggested, should address the options considered, recommendations for government action, and a high-level implementation plan. The Ministers also asked the Working Group to reflect on ways to judge the effectiveness of hate crime reduction strategies.