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HISTORY IS CALLING

**A Senate Brief Supporting the Inclusion of Anti-Black Hate Protections Within
Bill C-9 and the Development of Canada's First Federal
Anti-Black Hate Legislative Framework**

Submitted to the Senate of Canada

By

The Black Manitobans Chamber of Commerce (BMCC)

Winnipeg, Manitoba

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Founder & President

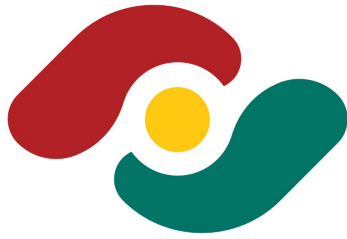
Opening Reflection

“You cannot live within the lie of mutual benefit through integration, when integration becomes the source of your subordination.”

— **Prime Minister Mark Carney** —

Canada has long presented multiculturalism and integration as evidence of equality.

Yet for many Black Canadians, integration has too often occurred without equal protection, equal dignity, equal opportunity, or equal safety.



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Black Canadians continue to experience:

- disproportionate hate crimes,
- racial profiling,
- over-policing,
- economic exclusion,
- healthcare disparities,
- educational inequities,
- housing discrimination,
- media vilification,
- and systemic under-protection within institutions that claim neutrality.

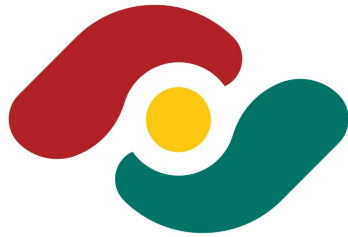
This contradiction is no longer sustainable within a democracy that constitutionally guarantees equality under law.

Bill C-9 presents Parliament with a historic opportunity to confront that contradiction directly. Because legislative silence in the face of documented anti-Black harm is not neutrality.

It is unequal protection under law.

Cover Statement

This submission accompanies BMCC's January 22, 2026, Written Submission to the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights regarding Bill C-9, which provided a detailed constitutional, evidentiary, and legislative analysis of Anti-Black Hate within Canada's existing hate-crime framework.



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The present Senate brief expands upon that legal foundation by addressing the broader societal, economic, democratic, institutional, psychological, and human consequences of Anti-Black Hate in Canada and globally.

This brief urges the Senate of Canada to:

- strengthen Bill C-9 through explicit Anti-Black Hate protections,
- recognize Anti-Black Racism as a distinct and systemic form of hate,
- and advance the development of Canada's first comprehensive federal Anti-Black Hate legislative framework.

Canada now stands at a defining moment.

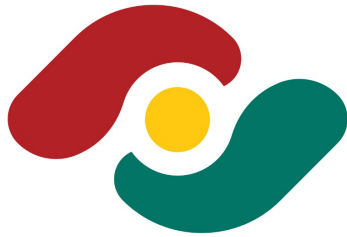
History will remember whether this country merely acknowledged Anti-Black Racism or whether it had the courage to legislate against it.

Executive Summary

The Black Manitobans Chamber of Commerce (BMCC), Canada's first bilingual Black chamber of commerce, submits this brief in support of strengthening Bill C-9 and advancing comprehensive Anti-Black Hate legislation in Canada.

For centuries, Black communities have endured systems of exclusion, dehumanization, racial violence, segregation, economic suppression, institutional discrimination, and symbolic terror rooted in anti-Blackness.

This reality is not confined to history.



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It continues today through:

- hate crimes,
- racial profiling,
- extremist mobilization,
- inequitable policing,
- healthcare discrimination,
- educational exclusion,
- labour disparities,
- housing discrimination,
- media criminalization,
- economic exclusion,
- and the normalization of anti-Black narratives.

Canada has addressed many forms of hate through targeted legal and policy responses.

Anti-Black Hate remains structurally under-addressed despite overwhelming evidence of disproportionate harm.

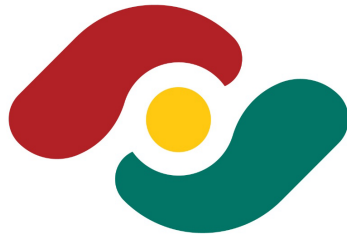
The evidence demonstrates that Anti-Black Racism is not incidental prejudice.

It is Structural.

This is not a request for symbolic recognition.

It is a Call for:

- enforceable protection,
- measurable accountability,



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- and lasting structural change.

1- The Global Reality of Anti-Blackness

For centuries, Black communities across the world have confronted a painful and recurring question:

Why has Blackness so consistently been associated with fear, criminalization, exclusion, exploitation, and dehumanization across societies, institutions, and generations?

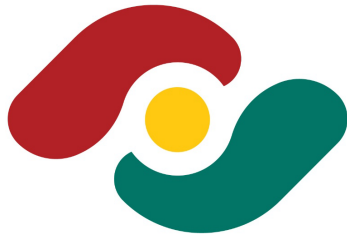
At some point, Anti-Black Racism can no longer be dismissed as isolated ignorance or individual prejudice.

The consistency of anti-Black harm across institutions, nations, and generations demonstrates that anti-Blackness is not incidental prejudice.

It is structural.

Black communities continue to experience simultaneous:

- criminalization,
- fetishization,
- exclusion,
- economic exploitation,
- over-policing,
- media vilification,
- educational inequity,
- and systemic erasure.



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This pattern persists even in societies with relatively small Black populations, demonstrating that anti-Blackness is not dependent on personal interaction alone.

It has become ideological.

The modern global order was built upon systems that required Blackness to occupy the bottom rung of a racial hierarchy in order to justify slavery, colonialism, empire-building, and economic exploitation.

That conditioning did not disappear with abolition or civil rights legislation.

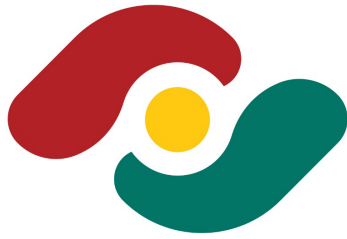
It continues to shape:

- public perception,
- institutional behaviour,
- policy outcomes,
- media narratives,
- and social belonging.

When one Black person fails, entire communities become associated with dysfunction.

When Black communities struggle under conditions of historic inequity, Blackness itself becomes framed as the problem rather than the systems that produced the inequity.

White people are often granted individuality.



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Black people are too often subjected to collective judgment.

This collective judgment has produced generations of exhaustion, overperformance, and psychological harm.

Black Canadians, like Black communities globally, are too often required to prove exceptional humanity simply to receive baseline dignity, safety, and grace.

2- Canada's Constitutional Responsibility

Section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees equal protection and equal benefit under the law.

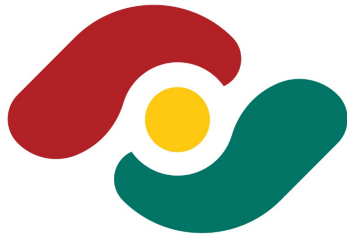
The Supreme Court of Canada has repeatedly affirmed that equality must be substantive, not merely symbolic or theoretical.

Canada has legal obligations under:

- the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms,
- the Canadian Human Rights Act,
- the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD),
- and the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent.

Canada's own Black Justice Strategy recognizes Anti-Black Racism and Anti-Black Hate as systemic realities.

The law must now reflect that recognition.



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Because legislative silence in the face of documented anti-Black harm is not neutrality.

It is unequal protection under law.

3- Anti-Black Hate Is a National Crisis

Police-reported hate crimes continue to rise nationally.

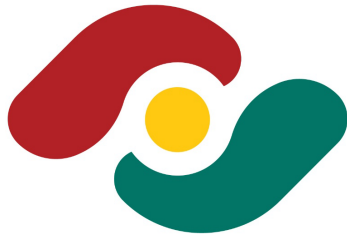
Black Canadians remain among the most frequently targeted racialized groups in Canada for hate-motivated incidents.

These incidents include:

- violent assaults,
- racial intimidation,
- noose displays,
- extremist propaganda,
- online harassment,
- school-based racism,
- workplace discrimination,
- and organized hate activity.

Nova Scotia has witnessed:

- cross-burnings,
- noose incidents,
- KKK-style symbolism,
- and repeated acts of racial intimidation against Black communities.



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Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Quebec have also experienced documented Anti-Black Hate incidents involving violence, threats, extremist symbolism, and racial targeting.

These are not isolated incidents.

They are manifestations of enduring systems of anti-Black hatred.

4- The Rise of Extremist Networks and “Race War” Propaganda

Canada is witnessing the growing normalization and coordination of extremist ideologies rooted in white supremacy, fascism, and racial violence.

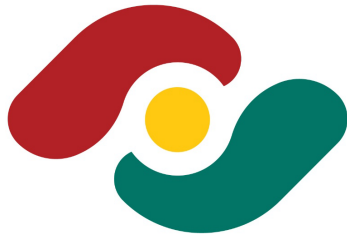
This threat extends beyond isolated hate speech or fringe online rhetoric.

Increasingly, extremist movements are:

- building transnational networks,
- recruiting and radicalizing youth,
- glorifying political violence,
- weaponizing online platforms,
- and promoting narratives centered on demographic replacement, racial conflict, and “race war.”

Public reporting, including investigations and warnings highlighted by CBC and other national media outlets, has documented the growing visibility of extremist accelerationist ideologies and white supremacist organizing in Canada.

These movements do not emerge in isolation.



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They thrive in environments where:

- hate becomes normalized,
- anti-Black narratives go unchallenged,
- disinformation spreads unchecked,
- and democratic institutions fail to respond decisively.

The normalization of “race war” rhetoric is particularly alarming because it frames racial coexistence itself as a threat and promotes the belief that violence against racialized communities is inevitable or justified.

History has repeatedly shown the dangers of allowing such ideologies to organize unchecked.

The consequences are not theoretical.

Extremist propaganda has already contributed globally to:

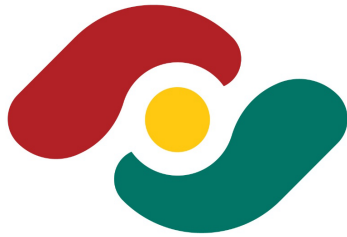
- mass violence,
- domestic terrorism,
- democratic destabilization,
- and targeted attacks against racialized communities.

Canada must recognize that Anti-Black Hate cannot be separated from the broader ecosystem of extremist radicalization.

Combating Anti-Black Hate is therefore not only a human rights obligation.

It is:

- a public safety imperative,



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- a democratic responsibility,
- and a national security priority.

Legislation that fails to address the growing coordination of extremist ideologies risks responding to yesterday's realities while ignoring tomorrow's threats.

5- Education, Healthcare, Housing, Labour, and Media

Anti-Black Racism does not operate in isolation.

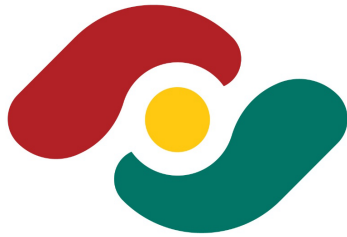
It manifests across interconnected institutions.

Black Canadians continue to report:

- educational exclusion,
- disproportionate school discipline,
- healthcare discrimination,
- housing barriers,
- labour inequities,
- media criminalization,
- and economic exclusion.

These systemic inequities affect:

- mental health,
- economic mobility,
- public trust,
- social cohesion,
- and democratic participation.



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Housing discrimination affects:

- wealth creation,
- long-term stability,
- and intergenerational opportunity.

Media vilification shapes:

- unconscious bias,
- public fear,
- vilification of Blackness
- and institutional treatment.

Healthcare inequities affect:

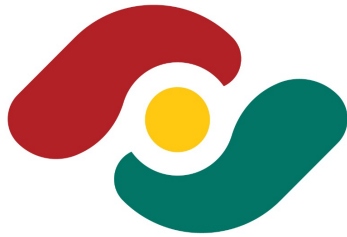
- dignity,
- safety,
- and health outcomes.

Economic exclusion suppresses:

- innovation,
- productivity,
- entrepreneurship,
- and national growth.

Canada cannot meaningfully address Anti-Black Hate while ignoring the institutional systems through which it operates.

6- Why This Matters to All Canadians



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Combating Anti-Black Hate strengthens Canada as a whole.

Protecting Black Canadians from hate:

- strengthens democracy,
- improves public trust,
- reduces extremism,
- enhances social cohesion,
- and reinforces constitutional equality.

Equitable societies are:

- safer,
- more innovative,
- more economically stable,
- and more resilient.

A nation cannot claim equality while one community must continuously prove its humanity to receive it.

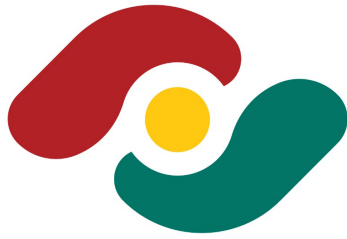
7- BMCC Recommendations to the Senate of Canada

BMCC calls on the Senate of Canada to:

1. Explicitly Recognize Anti-Black Hate in Bill C-9

Amend Bill C-9 to formally recognize Anti-Black Hate and Anti-Black Racism as distinct and systemic forms of hate.

2. Expand Prohibited Hate Symbols



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Include:

- nooses,
 - burning crosses,
 - and white pointed hoods
- within prohibited hate-symbol provisions.

3. Mandate Review of the Ku Klux Klan

Require a formal review regarding designation of the Ku Klux Klan as a terrorist organization.

4. Protect Against Discriminatory Enforcement

Maintain Attorney General oversight and establish independent Black community advisory mechanisms.

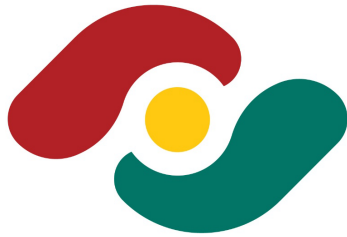
5. Require Meaningful Consultation

Mandate transparent and ongoing consultation with Black communities nationally.

6. Establish National Race-Based Data Collection

Require consistent national data collection regarding:

- hate crimes,
- policing,
- education,
- healthcare,



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- housing,
- and employment disparities.

7. Invest in Prevention and Youth Resilience

Fund:

- anti-radicalization initiatives,
- youth leadership,
- mental health supports,
- digital literacy,
- and community resilience programs.

8. Advance a Federal Anti-Black Hate Act

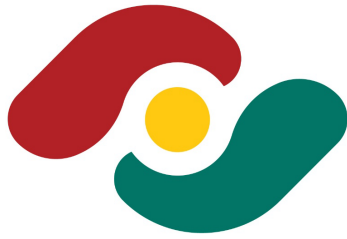
Commit to developing Canada's first stand-alone Anti-Black Hate legislative framework.

8- Conclusion

Canada now stands at a democratic crossroads.

For generations, Black Canadians have contributed to this country while simultaneously being denied equal protection within the institutions meant to serve them.

Too often, Anti-Black Racism has been acknowledged rhetorically while left structurally intact.



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Bill C-9 presents Parliament with an opportunity that extends far beyond legislative amendment. It presents Canada with the opportunity to decide whether equality under law will remain aspirational or become enforceable.

The rise of extremist networks, race-war propaganda, organized hate movements, and online radicalization makes this moment especially urgent.

This is no longer solely a question of historical injustice. It is a question of democratic integrity, public safety, and national stability.

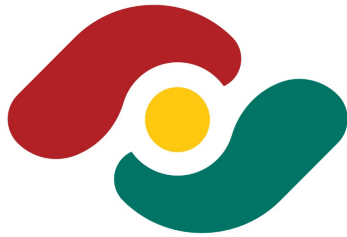
The evidence is overwhelming.
The constitutional obligations are clear.

The consequences of inaction are increasingly visible.

If enacted meaningfully, Canada would become the first country in the world to legislatively recognize and comprehensively confront Anti-Black Hate through a federal framework grounded in constitutional equality, democratic integrity, and equal protection under law.

Such leadership would not weaken Canadian democracy. It would strengthen it.

Because democracies are ultimately judged not by how comfortably they protect the majority but by whether they possess the courage to protect communities historically left vulnerable to systemic harm.



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Future generations will not judge Canada by the statements it issued about equality.

They will judge Canada by:

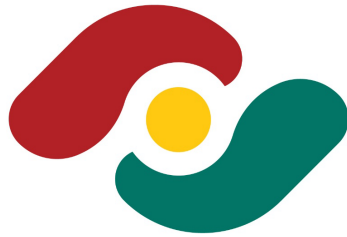
- the protections it created,
- the systems it reformed,
- the communities it defended,
- and whether it acted before normalization became irreversible.

History is calling.

The question before the Senate is whether Canada is prepared to answer with the seriousness this moment demands.

9- Evidentiary Statement

The evidence demonstrating the existence, persistence, and systemic nature of anti-Black racism in Canada is extensive, credible, and well-documented across federal institutions, provincial human rights commissions, public health agencies, academic research, justice system reports, parliamentary studies, and community-based organizations. This brief draws upon publicly available Canadian and international sources that collectively demonstrate the urgent need for comprehensive Anti-Black Hate legislation and stronger constitutional protections against anti-Black hate, discrimination, and extremist targeting



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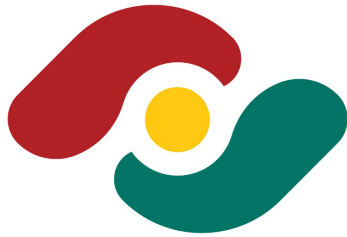
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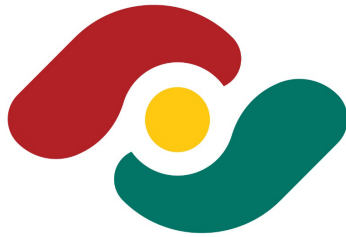
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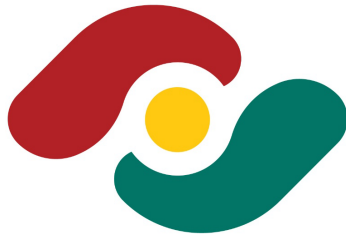
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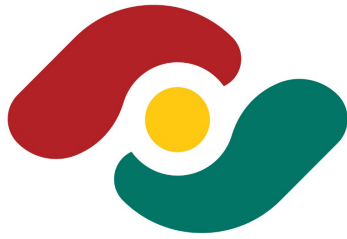
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