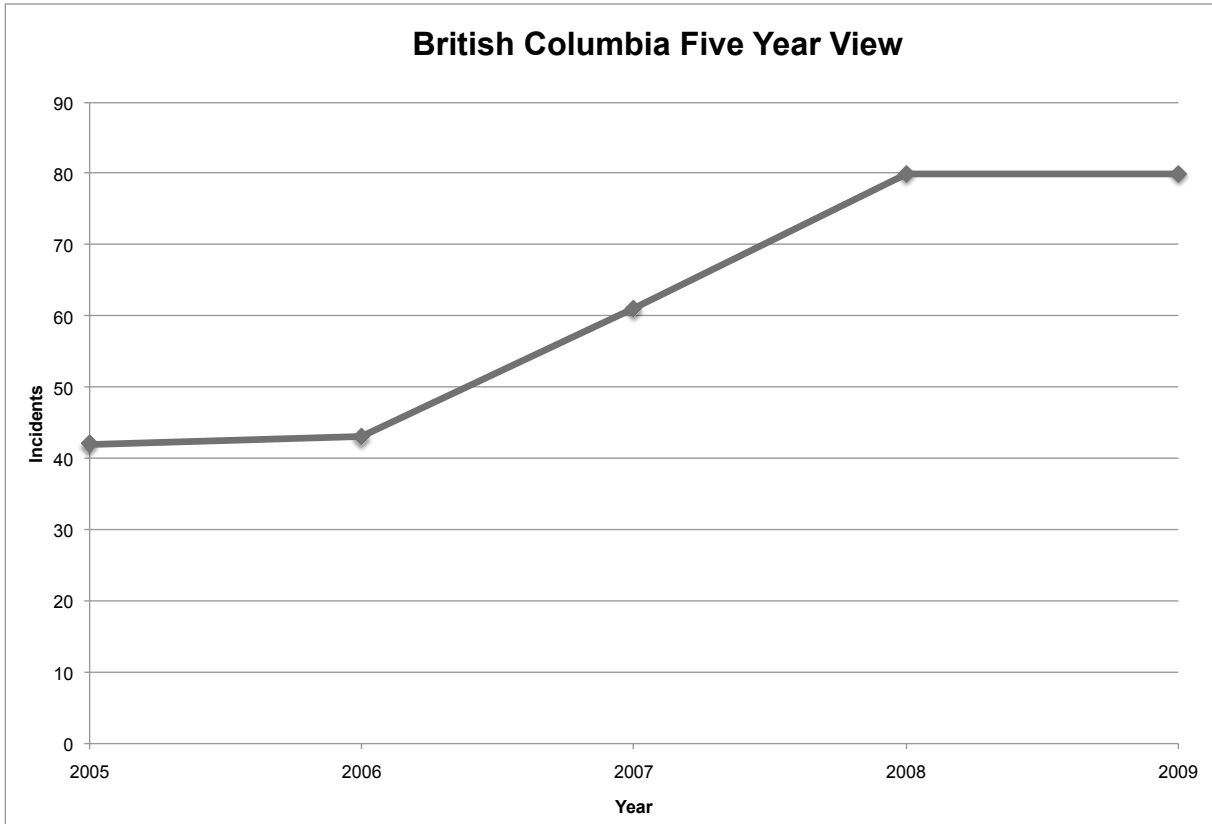

2009 AUDIT OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS: *BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIONAL SUMMARY*

The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada has monitored and reported on hate-motivated incidents against the Jewish community in Canada for twenty-eight years. This annual *Audit of Antisemitic Incidents* provides an examination of racism and bigotry in this country, as expressed in attacks of harassment, vandalism or violence against individual Jews or the community's institutions. It is cited by Statistics Canada, government and research agencies, and authoritative sources around the world and is the single most credible study of the phenomenon of antisemitism and patterns of prejudice in Canada.

British Columbia

- There were 80 cases reported across the province of British Columbia, representing 6.3% of the total incidents recorded across Canada – the same number as reported in 2008. A five-year view shows a sustained and growing presence of antisemitism in the province.
- The 80 cases were broken down into 68 cases of harassment (85% of total), 9 cases of vandalism (11.3% of total) and three cases of violence (3.8% of provincial total). While vandalism cases decreased by 55% (9 cases in 2009, down from 20 in 2008), incidents of harassment increased by 13.3% in the province (68 cases, up from 60 in 2008 and 41 in 2007). There were three cases of violence reported, where there had been no such cases in previous years.
- Incidents took place in Vancouver (53), Victoria (9) and the remainder in the interior of the region (18).
- Cases included antisemitic slurs at public rallies, vandalism of private homes and Jewish schools, work place harassment, hate-filled postings on the Internet, and assaults as well as harassment on campus. A blood libel story in an Islamic provincial paper also circulated in the region.



Examples of Incidents

- Jewish students assaulted on university campus
- Death threats and antisemitic slurs against visibly Jewish man uttered during road rage incident
- Ongoing harassing calls to private residence including antisemitic canards
- Antisemitic emails circulated to professor on campus and others from “Youth of Islam” stating, “I am Hitler”
- Antisemitic slurs and swastikas spray-painted on homes, vehicles and schools
- Antisemitic postings on website owned by British Columbia resident
- Antisemitic letters to editors of local media
- Graffiti including swastikas defaced Jewish day school
- Antisemitic slurs directed at participants in a pro-Israel rally
- Signs stating Jews are Nazis featured at anti-Israel rallies
- Selling of product at retail outlet on which antisemitic image of the “evil Jew” featured
- Jewish students facing barrage of antisemitic slurs and harassment as they leave their school
- Antisemitic letter sent to Jewish advocacy group decrying Jewish control and influence over government in Canada and globally
- Blood libel repeated in media against Jews accused of organ theft