

## Organize against systemic racism

- Contact us (front panel) to review your options, you have more than one!
- Talk to your friends, neighbours, co-workers: figure out solutions together.
- Be part of a team not a lone individual.
- Raise awareness with us via media or do a public demonstration.



From a rally in Fort Erie protesting an anonymous threat to a Black family (2021)

There have been ZERO local hate crime prosecutions. Reporting makes it possible.

If you don't feel comfortable reporting to the police, we can do it for you. Send us details, date, time, place, any recording.

To report to the police (non-emergency):  
St. Catharines, Thorold, Niagara Falls, and Niagara-on-the-Lake: (905) 688-4111  
Fort Erie: (905) 871-2300  
Grimsby, Lincoln, W Lincoln: (905) 945-2211  
Welland, Wainfleet, Pelham, Pt Colborne: (905) 735-7811

The Niagara Region Anti-Racism Association (NRARA) was founded in 2018 on the principle that anti-racism should be of BIPOC-led.

Our campaigns include:

- Support for people dealing with racism.
- A 10-point plan for police reform.
- Employment equity.
- Anti-racism municipal advisory committees.
- Anti-racism workshops and forums

We have been able to get coverage of local racism by local newspapers, CHCH (TV), and radio stations such as CKTB 610AM, MORE FM 101.1, and 900CHML (Hamilton).



Join us! We meet by zoom every other week. Fill out the form at <https://nrara.org/how-to-get-involved/>



Donate: E-transfer to [donate@nrara.org](mailto:donate@nrara.org).  
Donations are not tax-deductible.

What can I do if I see RACISM?

What if I am targeted?

What can WE do to stop racism?

# The Worst Thing You Can Do Is Nothing



[info@nrara.org](mailto:info@nrara.org) [www.nrara.org](http://www.nrara.org)



@thenrara  
289-990-7683

## Hate crimes and racism in Niagara

If hate against a protected group (race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression) involves crime it is a hate crime, otherwise it is a hate incident. The police want both reported to them.

Incidents can be “microaggressions” (indirect/subtle discrimination).

Police-reported hate crimes (not **all** hate crimes) in Niagara doubled from 10 to 21 over 2020-2021 (but up only 27% in all Canada) and doubled again to 41 in 2022.

But there have been ZERO prosecutions in Niagara, even with the vandalism of the Harriet Tubman Public School and a Caribbean restaurant in St. Catharines.

The Niagara Police’s use of force against Black people is 9 times their share of the population, the second worst in Ontario and the same as Minneapolis (where George Floyd was murdered), which the US Dept. of Justice called discriminatory.

BIPOC people increased in Niagara from 12% to 16% of the population between the 2016 and 2021 censuses.

Black people and POC who recently moved here from the GTA tell us they have never seen the level of racism they see here.

## If you are a victim/target of racism

- Stay calm.
- Think before acting as much as possible, stay safe.
- Speak out on what’s wrong with the jokes/comments/actions.
- React toward the issue, not the person.
- Write down what happened with the date as soon as possible, record video/audio if it’s safe.
- Be the first to call the police before the aggressor if you feel comfortable, especially if they are making you look like the aggressor.
- Consider if it's safest not to react at all for the moment, and follow-up later when you are safe and out of danger.
- Tell others around you what’s happening, what kind of support you would like from them.
- Contact us to let us know what happened and explore your options. It may not be too late, you don’t always need to be able to prove everything.

### Free Resources

#### Niagara Community Legal Clinic

Free for low-income.

[www.niagaracommunitylegalclinic.com](http://www.niagaracommunitylegalclinic.com)

905 682 6635 toll free: 1-877-801-5956

#### Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario

For job, housing, commercial, contracts, union/trade membership discrimination. File within 1 year of last incident (usually). [tribunalsontario.ca/hrto](http://tribunalsontario.ca/hrto)

## If you are a witness to racism

- Stay calm, keep both of you safe.
- Speak up that you don’t agree with what’s happening and explain why.
- Check that you don’t further escalate.
- Show empathy for the person being targeted.
- Stand by the person being targeted and ask them what they need.
- Take your cues from the person being targeted.
- Ask the person being targeted if it’s OK to call the police – don’t assume.
- Record what’s happening if safe, take notes with details and dates.
- Offer to walk the person to safety or to report the incident with them.
- Don’t try to be “even-handed” or “see both sides,” be 100% on their side.
- Contact us and explore your options.
- **Don’t do nothing!**

For online: don’t engage, take screenshots of rule violations and report them.

### Free Resources (continued)

#### Ontario Landlord Tenant Board

File within 1 year of last incident.

[tribunalsontario.ca/ltb](http://tribunalsontario.ca/ltb)

#### Victim Services Niagara

Safety planning, advice, and referrals. Not counselors. In police HQ building but don’t require police involvement to help. 905-682-2626 24-hour line [victimservicesniagara.on.ca](http://victimservicesniagara.on.ca)