

Read the [plan to safely reopen Ontario \(https://covid-19.ontario.ca/plan-safely-reopen-ontario-and-manage-covid-19-long-term\)](https://covid-19.ontario.ca/plan-safely-reopen-ontario-and-manage-covid-19-long-term) and continue to follow the [restrictions and public health measures \(https://covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures\)](https://covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures).

Anti-Racism Directorate

Leads the government's anti-racism initiatives to build a more inclusive society, and works to identify, address and prevent systemic racism in government policy, legislation, programs and services.

What we do

The Anti-Racism Directorate (ARD) works to eliminate systemic racism in government policies, decisions and programs, and advance racial equity in Ontario for Black, Indigenous and racialized populations. We're committed to advancing a more inclusive and responsive Ontario government, to ensure all people are served equitably, with a plan that is grounded in evidence and research.

42%

of Indigenous people in Ontario are under the age of 25

48%

estimated racialized population in Ontario by 2036

25%

of Ontario's labour force is racialized

Government has a leading role to play in eliminating systemic racism. We have zero tolerance for hate, racism or discrimination in all its forms and are committed to creating conditions to build a more inclusive province.

▲
Anti-Racism Directorate established

February 16, 2016

▲
10 public meetings across Ontario

[July - December 2016](#)

[\(#publicmeetings\)](#)

▲
[Ontario's anti-racism strategic plan \(/page/ontarios-anti-racism-strategic-plan\)](#) released

[March 7, 2017](#)
[\(#publicmeetings\)](#)



[Anti-Racism Act, 2017 \(/laws/statute/17a15\)](#) is passed

June 1, 2017



Inaugural anti-racism conference

December 1, 2017



[Ontario's anti-black racism strategy \(/page/ontarios-anti-black-racism-strategy\)](#) is released

December 14, 2017



[OPS anti-racism policy \(/page/ontario-public-service-anti-racism-policy\)](#) is released

February 22, 2018



[Anti-racism data standards \(/document/data-standards-identification-and-monitoring-systemic-racism\)](#) are released

April 23, 2018



Youth Justice sector begins collecting race-based data in compliance with data standards

July 2019





Targets and indicators are established to measure the strategy's progress

August 2019



Police services begin collecting race-based data about use of force

January 2020



[Annual progress report \(/page/annual-progress-report-2020-ontarios-anti-racism-strategic-plan\)](#) released

September 20, 2020




Anti-Black racism conference

October 21–22, 2020



Roundtable with [CivicAction \(https://www.civicaction.ca/\)](https://www.civicaction.ca/) to advance racial equity in Ontario workplaces

January 26, 2021



[Economic Inclusion Roundtable summary report \(https://www.civicaction.ca/roundtable/\)](#) released

March 15, 2021

Legislation

We administer the [Anti-Racism Act, 2017 \(/laws/statute/17a15\)](/laws/statute/17a15), which focuses on eliminating systemic racism and advancing racial equity. Everyone deserves to be treated with fairness, respect and dignity. We're committed to advancing racial equity because this supports the social, economic and cultural development of Ontario as a whole. Everyone benefits when individuals and communities are no longer marginalized.

Anti-Racism Anti-Hate Grant Program

The Ontario government is helping protect communities against racism and hate through the province's new \$1.6 million Anti-Racism Anti-Hate Grant. Eligible organizations, including community-based, not-for-profit organizations, can apply for grants of \$40,000 over two years for independent projects, or \$100,000 over two years for partnerships between two or more organizations.

The program focuses on supporting community-led initiatives that will increase public education and awareness on the impact of racism and hate, in all of its many forms. This program will contribute to improving outcomes for those facing racism and hate by funding public education and awareness projects.

[Learn more about the program \(/page/anti-racism-anti-hate-grant-program\)](/page/anti-racism-anti-hate-grant-program), if you're eligible and what you need to apply.

Resources for employers

In January 2021, CivicAction and the Anti-Racism Directorate held a roundtable that brought together multi-sector leaders to discuss the way employers can enhance opportunities for Indigenous, Black and racialized talent. Read the [summary report from that session \(https://www.civicaaction.ca/roundtable/\)](https://www.civicaaction.ca/roundtable/).

Following the roundtable, we've been developing an [employer resource hub \(/page/employer-resource-hub-workplaces-work-all\)](/page/employer-resource-hub-workplaces-work-all) to help employers identify actions they can take to:

- advance racial equity in the workplace

- enhance workplace opportunities for Black, Indigenous and racialized talent

We will continue to add digital tools and resources to the hub to help people reach their full potential, experience true economic inclusion and build workplaces that work for all.

What to do if you've experienced racial discrimination

Please note, the Anti-Racism Directorate is not a court and will not investigate individual cases or make legal decisions on cases of racism or discrimination under the law.

If you have questions or need support, contact the:

- [Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario \(https://tribunalsontario.ca/hrto/\)](https://tribunalsontario.ca/hrto/), if you think you've experienced race-based discrimination or harassment
- [Human Rights Legal Support Centre \(http://www.hrlsc.on.ca/en/contact-hrlsc/contact-information\)](http://www.hrlsc.on.ca/en/contact-hrlsc/contact-information), if you need legal advice on a human rights issue or help filling out an application for the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario
- [Ontario Human Rights Commission \(http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en\)](http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en), for information on policies and guidelines on race-based discrimination and other human rights issues in Ontario. The commission may also initiate or intervene in legal cases that involve systemic forms of discrimination which are illegal under the [Ontario Human Rights Code \(http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/ontario-human-rights-code\)](http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/ontario-human-rights-code).

If you need legal help for other types of concerns:

- learn more about how to find [lawyer or qualify for legal aid \(http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/lawyers.php\)](http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/lawyers.php)
- visit [Legal Aid Ontario's website \(http://www.legalaid.on.ca/en/\)](http://www.legalaid.on.ca/en/) for a list of legal aid offices and clinics near you

If you have been a victim of a crime:

- visit the [victim services directory \(http://services.findhelp.ca/ovss/\)](http://services.findhelp.ca/ovss/) to learn more about the services available to you
- call the Victim Support Line at 1-888-579-2888 (tel:+18885792888) or 416-314-2447 (tel:+14163142447) in the Greater Toronto Area, to talk to an

information and referral counsellor

If you want to report a hate crime, call your local authorities

[\(\)](#) **Public community meetings**

Between July and December 2016, we hosted 10 public community meetings across the province to hear your perspectives and recommendations for fighting systemic racism.

2,500+

people attended in person

2,000+

watched online

What we heard:

- anti-racism legislation is needed to ensure longevity and sustainability of anti-racism work within government
- we need to mandate race-based data collection and public reporting
- the need for government action to address systemic racism in the education, child welfare, health and justice sectors

Read the meeting transcripts to learn more:

- [Toronto \(/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-toronto-public-meeting\)](/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-toronto-public-meeting)
- [Hamilton \(/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-hamilton-public-meeting\)](/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-hamilton-public-meeting)
- [Mississauga \(/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-mississauga-public-meeting\)](/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-mississauga-public-meeting)
- [Scarborough \(/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-scarborough-public-meeting\)](/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-scarborough-public-meeting)
- [Sudbury \(/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-sudbury-public-meeting\)](/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-sudbury-public-meeting)
- [Kitchener-Waterloo \(/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-kitchener-waterloo-public-meeting\)](/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-kitchener-waterloo-public-meeting)
- [London \(/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-london-public-meeting\)](/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-london-public-meeting)
- [Thunder Bay \(/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-thunder-bay-public-meeting\)](/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-thunder-bay-public-meeting)
- [Windsor \(/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-windsor-public-meeting\)](/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-windsor-public-meeting)
- [Ottawa \(/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-ottawa-public-meeting\)](/page/transcript-anti-racism-directorate-ottawa-public-meeting)

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Related

[Anti-Racism Act, 2017 \(/laws/statute/17a15\)](/laws/statute/17a15)

[Anti-Racism Data Standards \(/document/data-standards-identification-and-monitoring-systemic-racism\)](/document/data-standards-identification-and-monitoring-systemic-racism)

[Ontario's Anti-Black Racism Strategy \(/page/ontarios-anti-black-racism-strategy\)](/page/ontarios-anti-black-racism-strategy)

[Ontario Public Service Anti-Racism Policy \(/page/ontario-public-service-anti-racism-policy\)](/page/ontario-public-service-anti-racism-policy)

[Ontario's Anti-Racism Strategic Plan \(/page/ontarios-anti-racism-strategic-plan\)](/page/ontarios-anti-racism-strategic-plan)

[Annual progress report 2021: Ontario's Anti-Racism Strategic Plan \(/page/annual-progress-report-2021-ontarios-anti-racism-strategic-plan\)](/page/annual-progress-report-2021-ontarios-anti-racism-strategic-plan)

[Anti-Racism Anti-Hate Grant Program \(/page/anti-racism-anti-hate-grant-program\)](/page/anti-racism-anti-hate-grant-program)

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