

UNITED FOR ALL

Together we can overcome
hate and violence

United For All coalition condemns rise in hate crimes against Asian community

March 25, 2021

United For All partners are deeply disturbed by the highest increase in harassment and intimidation of the Asian community since the start of the pandemic, as shown in a recent Ottawa Police Services report.

The partner organizations recognize the pain and harm that is caused by the increased intolerance and hate-motivated acts against the Asian community.

United For All calls for a strengthening of enforcement and increased efforts to prosecute offenders. Governments should ensure that those responsible for hate crimes are held accountable under the law, that the enforcement of hate crime laws is a priority for the criminal justice system. The record of their enforcement must be well documented and widely publicized.

The Coalition is constantly monitoring hate crime statistics in the city with the help of the Ottawa Police Hate Crime Unit. The data informs our action planning to counter hate, reduce fear and assist victims, advance police-community relations, encourage improved reporting of hate crimes to the police and help improve the quality of data collection by law enforcement bodies.

Hate, bias and violence should be seen not only as an attack on a targeted individual, but on the community's health and wellbeing. Hate tears society along racial, ethnic, gender, and religious lines. Racist and xenophobic actions targeting the Asian community in Ottawa sow seeds of hatred in our communities. That's not who we are, that's not what Ottawans stand for, and we have no intention of moving backwards.

People committing these crimes and peddling hate in Ottawa will never define this vibrant community.

About United for All: United for All is a coalition of 44 organizations representing 150+ partners who are all committed to overcoming hate-based violence, racism, and extremism in East Ontario. Since 2016, this growing partnership has brought together social service agencies, faith-based organizations, policymakers, human rights groups, health providers, school boards and post-secondary institutions, grassroots social justice groups, criminal justice professionals, cultural groups and more – all with the common mission to build safe, compassionate, resilient communities for everyone.

United for All and our partners acknowledge the privilege to be operating on the unceded traditional territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg. We recognize the Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island who have been thriving on this land since time immemorial.

For more information on United for All, visit unitedforall.ca.

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