

They Sigh or Give You the Look

Discrimination and Status Card Usage

2022

FACT SHEET

Encountering racism when using status cards is a near-universal experience for First Nations in BC. **99% of the 1076 survey respondents** had experienced racism when presenting their status card as ID or for goods and services.

39 cases of confirmed or suspected discrimination experienced in the fieldwork, Assessors came out of the transactions **feeling uncomfortable (59%), stressed (44%), and angry (38%)**, among other emotions.

Survey respondents were asked what steps they take to minimize their chances of having a negative interaction when using a status card in a retail context.

The most common approach **(52%)**, was **making an effort to be courteous and polite**, followed by being prepared to **explain what a status card is (37%)**, and **moderating one's tone or way of speaking (27%)**

Respondents were presented with potential scenarios where discrimination could be experienced, and the frequency of discrimination.

- Clerks act as though processing cards is a hassle **(74%)**
- Clerks acting as though status cards are not acceptable at the place of business **(63%)**
- General rudeness **(61%)**
- Clerk suggesting that people using their status cards had an unfair advantage **(48%)**
- Refused a tax exemption **(45%)**.

When analyzed by gender identity, this experiential data reveals differences with LGBTQ2S+ respondents. The largest variation was with tobacco products and alcohol, where the **LGBTQ2S+ rate (41%) was 5.1 times higher** than either the women's or men's rate.

