

What are Youth Justice Committees?

Youth Justice Committees provide an alternative way of dealing with non violent matters that are before the court.

These Committees bring together the young person, alleged to have committed a non-violent offence, the victim, and the young person's parent/guardian(s) with trained volunteer members of the community. In this way, the concerns of the victim are addressed so that the harm caused can be repaired in a way that meets the victim's, community's and offenders needs.

The young person must accept responsibility for their actions and complete sanctions assigned by the Youth Justice Committee.

The Youth Justice Committee works closely with Probation Services, Crown Attorneys, Police, Legal Aid Ontario and community organizations.

Below:

The West Scarborough Neighbourhood Community Centre (WSNCC) is one of two Scarborough locations where the Scarborough Youth Justice Committee meetings are held.



The Youth Justice Committee program depends on dedicated volunteers.

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

How to become a volunteer:

- If you currently live, or work in Scarborough
- Have an interest in helping at-risk youth
- Able to commit to a minimum of 5 hours per month
- Submit resume and complete interview process
- Submit current Police Criminal Record Clearance
- Approved by the Ministry of the Attorney General
- Sign a volunteer agreement form

If you are a community member, victim of a crime, or are interested in becoming a part of this process, please contact:



West Scarborough
Neighbourhood Community Centre
313 Pharmacy Avenue
Scarborough, Ontario M1L 3E7
Tel: 416-755-9215 Ext. 250



Operation Springboard
1371 Neilson Road, Suite 323
Scarborough, Ontario M1B 4Z8
Tel: 416-757-4181 Ext. 238

Registered Charity #11906 9094 RR0001

SCARBOROUGH

YOUTH
JUSTICE
COMMITTEE

Youth Justice Committee

Funded by the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario

What are the benefits of Youth Justice Committees?

The victims of the offences are given a **voice** as well as support in this process.

The young person must accept **responsibility** for their actions.

The young person is held **accountable** in a meaningful way.

All participants get to tell **their side**.

No youth court or criminal **record**.

Often more cost effective, **alternative** to court process.

Victims and offenders receive **closure** and **healing**.

How does the Scarborough Youth Justice Committee work?

The young person and parent/guardian meets with a Probation Officer at court, who considers eligibility for the program. If referred to the program, the young person and parent/guardian will be given an appointment time to meet with the Youth Justice Committee members. This consists of a panel of trained volunteers, the victim, the offender and the parent/guardian(s).

The victim of the offence is contacted. The Youth Justice Committee process is explained and the victim is invited to attend a scheduled hearing. Participation may also take the form of a victim impact statement or letter.

After hearing from all parties, the Youth Justice Committee, with input from the victim, will determine sanctions to be completed by the young person to repair the harm that has been done.

To contact Probation:
Paul Heys 416-314-8411
Christina Nikolaidis 416-314-0962

Possible Sanctions?

- Apology (verbal/written)
- Community Service/Personal Service to the victim
- Compensation/Restitution to the victim
- Essay
- Donation to charity
- Attendance at workshops (for example Stop Shoplifting or Victim Impact Awareness)
- Poster/Journal

What Offences are Eligible?

- Theft Under \$5,000, Possession Under \$5,000, False Pretences Under \$5,000
- False Statement Under \$5,000
- Food Fraud
- Accommodation Fraud
- Fraud Under \$5,000
- Mischief Under \$5,000
- Cause Disturbance
- Property Offences Over \$5,000
- Giving a False Name When Arrested
- Credit Card Offences
- Minor Assaults

