

Why the YJC Works

The Youth Justice Committee provides an increased role for victims and communities in dealing with offences committed by young persons who are prepared to be accountable.

This program allows the young person to experience the harm that he/she has caused to the victim and the community. By taking responsibility for the offence and complying with the agreed upon measures, the young person can avoid a criminal record.



Participation in the Youth Justice Committee gives the victim information about the proceedings, as well as an opportunity to be heard. By participating, victims are able to assist the Committee and the youth in finding an appropriate way for the young person to make amends for their actions. This process reinforces the importance of the victim's involvement in the justice system.

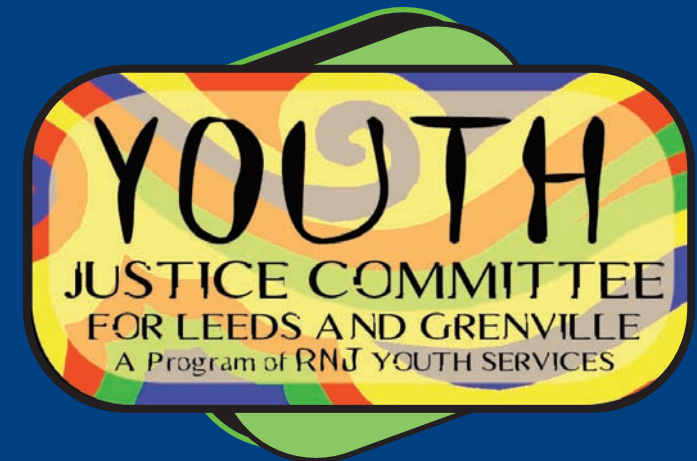
The support of the community allows its members to attain a greater understanding of the criminal justice system and to have input into deterring the young person's future involvement in crime.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

If you are interested in volunteering with the Youth Justice Committee please contact our office at the address below.

**Youth Justice Committees –
Working Together for Success!**

Sponsored by:
Ministry of the Attorney General



Youth Justice Committees are in place or in development in 57 communities throughout Ontario.

<http://www.yjcontario.ca/overview.html>

**YOUTH JUSTICE COMMITTEE
FOR LEEDS AND GRENVILLE**
A Program of RNJ Youth Services

187 King Street West
Unit # 206
Brockville, ON K6V 3R6

Telephone: 613-342-4238 or
1-866-349-0539
Fax: 613-342-4211

Email: yjc@cogeco.net
Website: www.rnjyouth.com



YOUTH JUSTICE COMMITTEE
Promoting Responsibility In Our Community!

Our History

In 2003, RNJ Youth Services was selected as the organization to oversee the implementation of the Youth Justice Committee for Leeds and Grenville.

Our Mission

RNJ Youth Services is a non-profit charitable organization that is committed to reducing crime through the provision of community-based services and programs for youth.



Examples of Eligible Offences

- theft
- possession of stolen property
- food / accommodation fraud
- fraud
- mischief
- giving a false name when arrested
- causing a disturbance
- property offences
- credit card offences
- minor assaults



Our Goals

- Promoting crime prevention and protection of the community
- Assisting youth in becoming productive proactive community members engaged in a responsible lifestyle
- Educating the community in regards to services for youth
- Promoting community support and participation
- Identifying and implementing community-based initiatives



What is the YJC

The Youth Justice Committee (YJC) for Leeds and Grenville is a program that is committed to reducing a young person's future involvement with crime. Our program is an alternative to the formal court system. It involves trained, volunteer community members who meet with victims, young persons and their parents to negotiate an appropriate way for the young persons to make amends for their actions.

How the YJC Works

To be eligible for the program, the young person must have been between the ages of 12 and 17 at the time of the offence and be alleged to have committed a low-risk offence.

The Youth Justice Committee receives referrals pre-charge from the police and post-charge from the Crown.

To participate, the young person must be accountable for his/her actions, aware of his/her rights and be willing to participate in the Youth Justice Committee.

The victim has the opportunity to participate in the outcome and gain closure to the incident.

Examples of Measures

The Youth Justice Committee requires that the young person apologize to the victim(s) for the harm that he/she has caused. In addition to the apology, the young person may be required to complete one or more of the following;

- reparation to the victim
- participation in the Rebound program
- written projects
- charitable donation
- community service
- voluntary participation in counseling

If the young person does not agree with or fails to comply with the agreed upon measures, he/she may be returned to the formal justice system.