

Participants of a Restorative Justice Circle

Participants often include:

- The victim(s) and their supports (family, friends, etc.)
- The offender and their supports
- Key persons involved in helping the offender and victim (youth workers, social workers, teachers, counselors)
- Elders
- Community representatives



Intent of the Program

The Community Youth Restorative Justice Program aims to guide youth towards a better understanding of how their behaviour affects others within the community. Once a referral is made, youth will work towards making amends by mending harm and giving back to the community in a meaningful way. Through the process, youth will gain a new insight into the cause and effects of their behaviour and how it affects those around them. This program also helps youth to develop new skills and interests, and build meaningful connections within their community.

Community Youth Restorative Justice Program

**Nishnawbe-Aski
Legal Services**

<https://nanlegal.on.ca/>



For more information, visit:
<https://nanlegal.on.ca/>

For inquiries and referrals email
rjreferral@nanlegal.on.ca
or call toll free at
1-800-465-5581



Examples of common referrals

Below you will find a common list of charges that may be referred to the program. The referring party will consider all of the circumstances of the particular charge before deciding whether the offence may be referred to the Youth Justice Program.

Pre-Charge

- Theft
- Assault
- Break and Enter
- Breaches
- Bullying
- Uttering Threats

Post-Charge

- Theft Under, \$5000
- Break & Enter
- Assault
- Mischief Under \$5000
- Cause Disturbance
- Breaches
- Uttering Threats

Outcomes and agreements

With dispositions through the Court, youth may be required to do some form of Community Service Work such as:

- Apologies and apology letters
- Community service hours
- Restitution
- Attending a treatment program
- Attending school



How does it work?

- Through Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services proven Restorative Justice model, Community Youth Justice Workers (CYJWs) will receive youth diversions from the courts, police and probation officers in the communities that they serve.
- Once diverted, the CYJWs will begin to plan for a justice circle to take place where the youth will be afforded the opportunity to fully understand their behavior and how it has affected those around them in a manner that is traditionally and culturally suited to them.
- Through the involvement of the victim, offenders and the community, the CYJWs will facilitate healing circles towards a resolution that affords reparation, healing and successful re-integration while preventing further harm. Youth will be held accountable for his/her actions.

Our clients

- Youth between the ages of 12-17 at the time of pre-charge or post-charge diversion
- Youth who are in trouble with the law
- Youth who want to make positive and healthy lifestyle changes
- Youth who are serious about taking responsibility for and being accountable for their actions and behaviour

Pre vs. Post Charge:
 "Pre-charge referrals are typically made by an officer, teacher, parent, or other community member. A charge is not laid at this time. Post-charge referrals are typically made by the courts after a charge has been laid.
 For more info, visit our website

