

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Youth and adults who could be charged with an offence under the Criminal Code including, but not limited to: Theft Under \$5000, Fraud, Mischief Under \$5000, Vandalism, Causing a Disturbance, etc.

CRITERIA FOR REFERRAL

The offender must:

- Be accountable for their actions
- Acknowledge the facts of the offence
- Be willing to participate in the restorative justice process

The victim must:

- Be willing to participate in the restorative justice process

HOW CAN CITIZENS GET INVOLVED?

For more information about the Society or community conferencing and how to become involved, contact the Program Coordinator



CONTACT US

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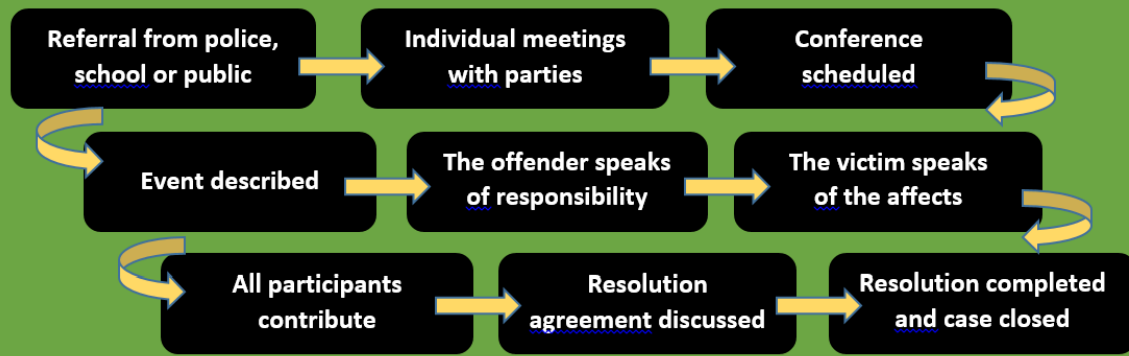
ARROWSMITH COMMUNITY JUSTICE SOCIETY



A Restorative Justice Process

*Our vision
is a community in harmony*

How Does RJ Actually Work?



ABOUT ACJS

Arrowsmith Community Justice Society is a community organization whose purpose is to administer community-based justice program(s) which promote conferencing as a resolution and peacemaking mechanism for conflict in the community. ACJS involves interested community members and resources to accomplish this service.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

City of Parksville
Town of Qualicum Beach
Regional District of Nanaimo (E, F, G & H)
RCMP - Oceanside Detachment
School District 69
Police-based Victim Services



WHAT IS A COMMUNITY CONFERENCE?

The community conference is a formal meeting involving the victim and offender with their family/support persons, as well as other community members affected. The goal of the conference is to create a consensus-based group agreement, which will repair the harm & damage caused by the offending behaviour and to provide reconciliation for all participants. This restorative justice process is available to those offenders recommended by the RCMP or Crown Counsel to the program.

Other characteristics of a community conference are:

- organized and led by trained facilitators
- it's outcome belongs to the participants
- held in a neutral location
- a safe environment to tell your story & how you were affected by the event
- all participants have input into the resolution
- a confidential process
- mentors are available to assist participants

BENEFITS

Victim Benefits:

- A safe place to tell the offender how the incident affected you
- An opportunity to understand the offender's behaviour
- An opportunity to have a part in determining what the resolution will be
- An increased possibility of receiving restitution
- An opportunity to experience a sense of closure

Offender Benefits:

- An opportunity to become aware of how your actions affected others.
- An opportunity to have a part in determining what the resolution will be
- An opportunity to acknowledge responsibility and take action to resolve and repair it
- An opportunity to avoid a criminal record in respect to this event

Community Benefits:

- A speedy way of resolving conflicts
- A cost effective alternative process
- Offender is less likely to re-offend (research based)
- An opportunity for citizens to participate in community peacemaking
- By "looking after each other" we create a healthier and safer community for all