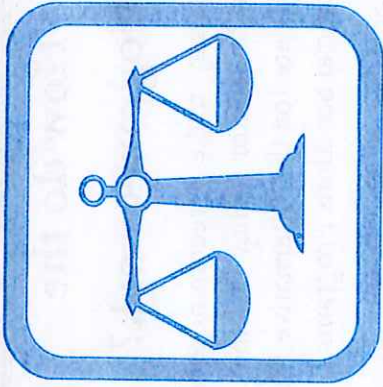


In 1995, Cabinet approved the restorative justice strategy for Saskatchewan. The strategy includes the following goals:

- ◆ Enhancing community safety and protection
- ◆ Reserving the formal justice system for the more serious matters
- ◆ Developing alternative measures for less serious crimes
- ◆ Strengthening communities by involving victims, offenders, government and community members in a balanced approach to criminal behavior
- ◆ Reducing crime by increasing offender accountability to victims and communities
- ◆ Increasing public trust and perception of the fairness of the criminal justice system

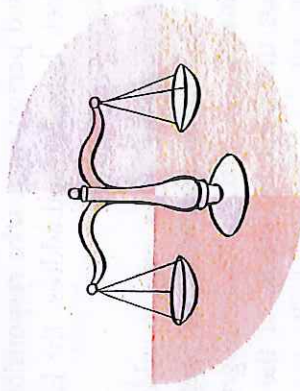


In partnership with the  
*Ministry of Justice*  
and the  
*R.C.M.P.*

**When cases are forwarded to Nipawin Community Justice Committee, the assigned facilitator will contact the victim and the accused.**

# NIPAWIN COMMUNITY JUSTICE COMMITTEE

*“RESTORING  
BALANCE”*



Serving  
the communities of:  
Nipawin,  
White Fox, Garrick,  
Choceland, Snowden,  
Smeaton, Candle  
Lake and area



## What are Alternative Measures or Extra Judicial Sanctions?

They refer to programs in which adults and youths who are accused of a criminal offence take responsibility for their behavior by participating in a community based program. These programs balance the needs of the victims, the accused and their communities while ensuring that society is protected. The accused person must take responsibility for their behavior and address the harm they have committed.

These programs are a way to address crime in conjunction with the present criminal justice system. These programs address the criminal actions of the accused while preserving their dignity and requiring them to be accountable for their behavior. It attempts to make things right by taking a problem solving approach to crime, which emphasizes forgiveness and healing while helping to repair relationships between the victim, the accused, and the community.

They are consistent with the move towards a responsive system that tries to deal with criminal behavior in a proactive manner.

## How do the Programs work?

The police may make a recommendation to the Crown Prosecutor if they feel the offender is a candidate for the Alternative Measures or Extra Judicial Sanctions Programs.

If, in the opinion of the Crown prosecutor, the programs would be an appropriate way for the offender to be held accountable for his or her behavior, they are referred to the programs.

A person who is referred to and chooses to participate in the Alternative Measures or Extra Judicial Sanctions programs must admit responsibility for the offence.

A forum is then arranged between the victim, the offender and the community members. Each is given an opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings with respect to the offence and with the assistance of a facilitator, come to an agreement which each believes is fair. The agreement could involve the offender doing volunteer work for the victim or the community, paying the victim for the damage caused, attending counseling, or any other activity acceptable to all parties.

This process often leads to the restoration of harmony between the victim and the offender.

## Alternative Measures and Extra Judicial Sanctions programs aims to:

- ◆ Hold the offender responsible to repair the harm they have caused the victim which may involve face to face contact.
- ◆ Promote the involvement of victims to allow them to be heard on how the crime has affected them.
- ◆ Involve the community's participation in resolving the conflict.
- ◆ Provide the offender with the opportunity to avoid the consequences of having a criminal record.
- ◆ Help restore understanding, trust, and acceptance between the victim and the offender.
- ◆ Reduce the number of cases heard in the court system.

