

Because the program was designed to benefit youth and their families, this brochure was put together to help parents understand the role of the Turtle Mountain Multi-Agency Committee.

Youth are referred to this committee through their involvement with community agencies. This committee can assist parents when youth:

- seem to be out of control
- get into trouble with the law
- have difficulty in school or do not want to attend school
- experiment with or are using drugs or alcohol
- are involved with a negative peer group
- have problems coping or have difficulty managing their anger

These are the types of issues that may put your child at risk of further problem behaviour, criminal activity and drug/alcohol problems. It is important to address these problems now and we need your help.

Participating agencies:

- Addictions Foundation of Manitoba
- Child and Family Services of Western Manitoba
- Manitoba Community and Youth Corrections/Probation
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Turtle Mountain School Division
- Assiniboine Regional Health Authority

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What parents should
know about the

TURTLE MOUNTAIN

MULTI-AGENCY

COMMITTEE

A Preventive Program



Objectives:

1. Co-ordination of Multi-Agency treatment of high risk children/adolescents.
2. Prevention of further re-involvements or escalation of problematic behaviours by utilizing existing family and community supports.
3. Consistent and timely enforcement of court orders.
4. Safety to the community.

Program Mandate:

The committee will meet approximately once a month to consider the needs of the children/adolescents referred to the program. Children/adolescents considered by the committee will be determined by the initiating agency according to their mandate and authority. Factors that will be considered include: court orders, prior record, severity of offenses, number of social agencies involved, past treatment approaches and social history. The program will allow all key agencies to co-ordinate services without duplication and to develop consistent intervention plans.

Youth Considered:

All of the children and adolescents considered will be high risk youth, residing in the Turtle Mountain School Division area. The committee will review the progress of the youth as necessary and offer suggestions for new approaches, offer assistance in accessing resources and provide a vehicle to quickly share pertinent treatment and behavioural updates. For those children/adolescents who are involved with probation, court conditions

will be monitored and any breaches will be addressed quickly and thoroughly. This will enable us to hold the youth involved more accountable for their actions.

The Turtle Mountain Multi-Agency Committee's primary commitment is to the youth and the family. We want parents to be well informed and very involved.

Agencies are trying to work together to meet the needs of young people. Any time a young person is involved with more than one agency, there may be a need to share information with each other and the family. We require your consent, as a parent or legal guardian, for agencies to share information with each other in order to provide the best prevention, intervention and treatment for your child.

Before you sign the release of information form, we want you to be very clear about what is expected of you and your child while involved with the Multi-Agency Committee. We know you have certain expectations too, and we have included these in the table.

Responsibilities of:

Youth:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ obey rules of home ■ attend school regularly ■ obey curfew ■ attend and participate in treatment programs ■ expect immediate consequences to problem behaviour ■ attend court when required ■ comply with conditions of probation and recognizance orders
Parent/ Legal Guardian:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ be role models ■ encourage school attendance ■ cooperate with prevention, intervention and treatment plans ■ participate in parenting workshops if appropriate ■ report concerns to the Multi-Agency Committee ■ attend court when required
Multi-Agency Committee:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure an intervention plan is in place ■ monitor school attendance and curfew ■ prevent problem behaviour ■ keep parents well informed ■ share information with agencies and parents ■ provide treatment if necessary