

APPENDIX B

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE GRANT OF AUTHORITY

The *Provincial Court Act* and its predecessor establish the responsibility of a family court committee. It must:

- meet at least 4 times a year to review community resources for family and children's matters, assist the court if requested, and to make recommendations it considers advisable;
- assist the court, if requested, to provide a community resource or assistance in individual cases referred to the committee; and
- report annually to the municipalities involved and to the Attorney General respecting its activities.

Members must serve without remuneration, are appointed in January for one year terms, and must include those with experience in education, health, probation or welfare.

The *Youth Criminal Justice Act* states that the committee's functions may include:

- relating to a young offender:
 - giving advice on extrajudicial measures to be used;
 - providing victim support by soliciting concerns and facilitating the reconciliation of the victim and the young person;
 - ensuring that community support is available to the young person by arranging the use of services within the community, and enlisting members of the community to provide short-term mentoring and supervision;
 - if a child protection agency or community group is involved, assist in coordinating the interaction of that group with the justice system;
- advising the federal and provincial governments on policies and procedures related to the youth criminal justice system;
- providing information to the public respecting the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and the youth criminal justice system;
- acting as a "conference", that is, taking referrals from the court; and
- such other functions as are assigned by the person who establishes the committee.