

ABOUT MHC

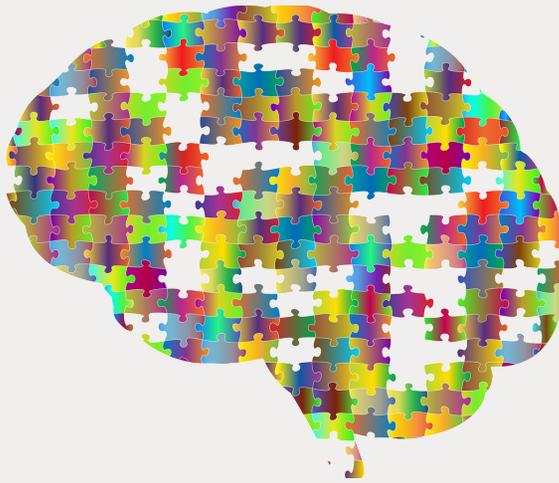
MHC participants work with a team of professionals to address the issues that have led to the offenses before the Court.

Issues such as inadequate housing, lack of employment, barriers to employment and education, support, inappropriate medication use and self-medication with alcohol or drugs contribute to behaviours that lead to crime.

WHO QUALIFIES?

A person may qualify for this program if they:

- have a mental health illness connected with the crime;
- take responsibility for the crime committed;
- live in St. John's or surrounding area and can attend programming in person; and
- are 18 years or older.



Provincial Court NL Mental Health Court (MHC)

<https://court.nl.ca/provincial/courts/mentalhealth>

ABOUT THE COURT

- Provides effective treatment options instead of, or in addition to, criminal sanctions to reflect the needs of the offender and the community;
- Improves public safety;
- Improves quality of life for people with mental illness;
- Includes collaboration with key community partners; and
- Provides community based support and medical support to the participants.

Contact



Tel: (709) 729-1787



<https://court.nl.ca/provincial/courts/mentalhealth>



enquiry@provincial.court.nl.ca



Locations

St. John's

Court Support Services
(Eastern Health)
709-777-7876



HOW DOES IT WORK?



1. Complete an application with your lawyer.
2. Your application is reviewed and approved by the Crown Attorney.
3. Referral is made to Court Support Services (CSS), Eastern Health. Intake, screening and assessment are completed. If accepted, CSS staff will help you develop a treatment plan and a Mental Health Court treatment contract.
4. Your lawyer attends a pre-court meeting to review your suitability for the program.
5. If accepted, you meet with your lawyer to review the information and sign the consent form.
6. Attend court to enter the treatment plan.
7. Begin a treatment program.

You attend court until successfully completing the program.

Participants may take part in a group treatment and/or individual counselling each week as well as accessing community supports.



HAVE YOU BEEN CHARGED WITH A CRIME RELATED TO YOUR MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS?

THE MENTAL HEALTH COURT MAY HELP YOU CHANGE YOUR LIFE

HOW DO I GET INTO THE PROGRAM?

Your lawyer will refer you.

To get into the program you must:

- take responsibility for your crime
- agree to get treatment and attend programming. Legal Aid NL may provide a lawyer.

For more information or to get an application:

Provincial Court NL, 709-729-1787

WHAT IF I WANT TO STOP?

Individuals can leave the program at anytime and go back to regular court.

IF I ENTER MHC, WHAT HAPPENS TO MY CHARGES?

Nothing will change with the charges.

Upon successful completion of the program, a sentence may be reduced.

This depends on the case, your involvement in programming, and the recommendation from the program team to the Judge.