



# Notice to the Profession and Public COVID-19 – Update on Court Operations

## April 20, 2022

Further to the March 16, 2022 – Notice to the Profession and Public, the Court of Appeal will resume in-person hearings on May 2, 2022 as set out below. As always during the pandemic, the Court is guided by several considerations including the continuing need to ensure the health and safety of all Court participants.

The purpose of this Notice is to:

- 1. confirm which matters will proceed in person and which matters will continue to proceed electronically (also referred to as "virtually"); and
- 2. describe where to find information about procedural requirements and COVID-19 safety protocols for in-person hearings.

#### How Matters Will Proceed

#### Appeals and Applications Before Three-Judge Panels

Effective May 2, 2022, all appeal sittings and applications before three-judge panels will be conducted in person.

#### Single Appeal Judge Matters

Appeal Conferences, Judicial Dispute Resolution matters and single judge matters will continue to be heard virtually until further notice.

Parties wishing to book a JDR may do so by contacting the relevant Case Management Officer.

#### **Bar Admission Ceremonies**

Effective May 2, 2022, Bar Admission ceremonies will be conducted either in person subject to courtroom capacity limits or virtually.

For questions about booking a Bar Admission ceremony, please contact the relevant Registry as follows:

- Calgary matters: Fax: 403-297-5294 or Calgary.Registry@albertacourts.ca
- Edmonton matters: Fax: 780-422-4127 or Edmonton.Registry@albertacourts.ca

# <u>Procedural Requirements and Best Practices for In-Person and Electronic Hearings and Other</u> <u>Matters</u>

The Court of Appeal Procedure Guide for In-Person and Electronic Hearings and Other Matters can be found on the website <u>HERE</u>. The purpose of the Guide is to:

- 1. provide information about procedural requirements and best practices for in-person hearings;
- 2. provide information about procedural requirements and best practices for electronic hearings;
- 3. confirm procedures for bail check-ins, electronic filing, online payment of filing fees, condensed books and the remote commissioning of affidavits; and
- 4. confirm the COVID-19 health and safety protocols in place including those for in-person hearings.

## This Notice Replaces the Following Notices:

- <u>March 16, 2020 Notice COVID-19 Emergency Court Protocol Information Regarding</u> <u>COVID-19</u>
- <u>March 23, 2020 Notice to the Profession and Public Covid-19 Update on Affected Court</u> <u>Operations</u>
- March 23, 2020 Notice to the Profession Covid-19 Alberta Courts' Pandemic Responses
- April 8, 2020 Notice COVID-19 Electronic Hearing Procedural Information
- July 6, 2020 Notice to the Profession and Public COVID-19 Update on Appellate Judicial Dispute Resolution and Bar Admissions
- July 6, 2020 Notice to the Profession and Public COVID-19 Electronic Hearings Update Attendance and Resource Reminders
- July 6, 2020 Notice to the Profession and Public COVID-19 New Procedure for Electronic Hearings – Confidentiality or Privacy Concerns
- August 27, 2020 Notice to the Profession and Public COVID-19 Electronic Hearings Update
- October 27, 2020 Notice to the Profession and Public COVID-19 Electronic Hearings Update
- July 21, 2021 Notice to the Profession and Public Covid-19 Return to In-Person Hearings
- October 19, 2021 Notice to the Profession and Public Covid-19 Electronic Hearings Extended to January 1, 2022
- December 17, 2021 Notice to the Profession and Public Covid-19 Electronic Hearings Extended to February 25, 2022
- February 10, 2022 Notice to the Profession and Public Covid-19 Electronic Hearings Extended to March 25, 2022

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Catherine A. Fraser Chief Justice of Alberta