



Alberta Court of Justice

Edmonton Indigenous Court Practice Note

**Effective: November 20, 2023
(Revised July 30, 2025)**

Edmonton Indigenous Court (EIC) sits Wednesdays and Thursdays in Courtroom 266, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

A Pre-Court Meeting is held Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom 266, with Crown Prosecutors, Duty Counsel, and a case coordinator from Native Counselling Services of Alberta (NCSA). Defence Counsel whose clients are scheduled to appear in EIC that week must attend the Pre-Court meeting, in person, by Webex or through an agent.

EIC can hear all Criminal Code (CC) offences, except those under section 269 CC, and all Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) offences which occurred in Edmonton. Traffic Safety Act and other offences will only be heard in EIC when related to a CC or CDSA offence. Criminal offences from other jurisdictions may only be waived to EIC for Bail (including revocation) or for Summary Disposition (Wellness Court) with active Edmonton files and with the consent of the Crown Prosecutor.

Unrepresented accused will be assisted by Duty Counsel.

Prior to a client's first appearance in EIC, counsel or the accused's agent must complete the EIC Referral Form found at <https://forms.office.com/r/R8c1V8wsua>.

Bail

Accused who are bail denied are not eligible to seek bail in Courtroom 266.

Appearances for Bail Referrals are Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. After the initial appearance, the matter will be adjourned for preparation of a Bail Report.

A contested bail hearing must be scheduled through the Case Management Office (CMO) (COJEdmonton.CMO@just.gov.ab.ca). Where an accused will be released with the consent of the Crown, a bail hearing need not be scheduled.

Summary Disposition (Wellness Court)

Apart from sentencing hearings, appearances for Summary Disposition (Wellness Court) Referrals are Thursdays. First appearances should be at 9:00 a.m. Subsequently, the matter may be adjourned to 9:00 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

Where a matter has proceeded through the Summary Disposition (Wellness Court) process on Thursdays, sentencing hearings (including joint submissions) are held Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. and must be booked through the CMO (COJEdmonton.CMO@just.gov.ab.ca).

Alternative Measures

Appearances for the Alternative Measures Program (AMP) are Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

An accused who wishes to access AMP through EIC is not required to complete the usual AMP referral form. Instead, counsel or the accused's agent must complete the EIC Referral Form found at <https://forms.office.com/r/R8c1V8wsua>.

Probation officers who receive AMP cases from EIC will typically refer the accused to NCSA to complete their alternative measures in a culturally informed manner.

Courtroom 266 Schedule

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10:00 a.m. – noon Pre-Court Meeting	9:00 a.m. Appearances related to bail referrals	9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Appearances related to AMP and Summary Disposition (Wellness Court) referrals (excluding sentencing hearings)
	1:30 p.m. Scheduled sentencing hearings	

- Leave of a Justice is required to schedule any matter needing more than 60 minutes.

Dated this 31st day of July, 2025

 The Honourable Joyce L. Lester
 Assistant Chief Justice
 Alberta Court of Justice
 Edmonton Criminal Division