

**PRACTICE NOTE: 2020-02**  
**CALGARY REGIONAL COURTS (CALR)**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: February 24, 2020**

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**REGIONAL SPECIAL SITTINGS**

Purpose:

Regional courts are not able to accommodate multi-day trials and preliminary inquiries on consecutive days at the regional locations because these courts do not regularly sit every day of the week. Recent legislative changes have resulted in more lengthy and complex trials remaining in the Provincial Court of Alberta. In addition, an increase in overall volumes has resulted in lead times for matters set in the regional courts becoming unacceptably long. Therefore, it has become necessary to schedule multi-day matters from some of the regional locations in the Calgary Courts Centre.

Procedure:

Commencing Monday, February 24, 2020, matters that require more than one day of court time to complete a trial or preliminary inquiry originating from the following locations will now be booked in the Calgary Courts Centre: Didsbury, Canmore, Airdrie, Okotoks, Strathmore.

Specific permission from the Assistant Chief Judge to move these matters into the Calgary Courts Centre from the designated jurisdictions is no longer necessary. All scheduling of these matters however must be coordinated with the Judicial Scheduler.

Where moving a matter from one of the designated regional locations into the Calgary Courts Centre would result in undue hardship for someone charged with a criminal offence, counsel or witnesses, a request can be made to the Assistant Chief Judge to schedule the matter in the Regional location.

Drumheller, Hanna, Cochrane, Turner Valley and Siksika and Tsuut'ina Nations are not included in this Practice Note.

However, matters originating in the regional locations not covered by this Practice Note can still be moved into the Calgary Courts Centre upon request of counsel to the Assistant Chief Judge.

Per: Assistant Chief Judge M.J. Durant  
Calgary Criminal and Regional Courts  
Dated: February 21, 2020