

NOTICE

PROVINCIAL COURT OF MANITOBA (THOMPSON COURT CENTRE)

RE: COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS – IN CUSTODY FIRST APPEARANCES IN PERSON

Since the commencement of the COVID-19 pandemic and in an effort to protect the health and safety of persons attending court, efforts to avoid unnecessary in person appearances by court participants has been a consistent focus of the Court.

Up until the present time it has been the practice in Thompson to have accused persons appear in person in Courtroom B for their first appearance when they are arrested and held in the Thompson RCMP cells.

Accused held in custody, pending their first appearance, at the Thompson RCMP Detachment will continue to be transported to the Court building in Thompson on the day of their first appearance. As is currently the practice, counsel will receive instructions from their client over the phone, in phone rooms provided for that purpose.

Commencing March 1, 2021 accused making their first appearance will appear in court via teleconference from the interview room or holding cells in Thompson Court building and will be brought into the Courtroom for a personal appearance only if so ordered by the presiding Judge.

ISSUED BY:

“Original signed by”

**The Honourable Associate Chief Judge
Malcolm McDonald
Provincial Court of Manitoba**

DATE: February 24, 2021