

NOTICE
PROVINCIAL COURT OF MANITOBA

RE: COUNTER COURT

Beginning in January 2021, the Provincial Court will move to a Counter Court model in Winnipeg for all out of custody administrative courts, currently called PTC (Pre-Trial Coordinator) courts. The PTC dockets are where people currently make their first appearances and where they appear for administrative purposes of ensuring counsel have been appointed, disclosure has been provided and discussions have taken place as to resolution. Disposition or trial dates are set in these courts.

The Counter Court will replace the need to appear in a courtroom for these matters. Accused persons and Counsel can appear at the Provincial Court Counter between 8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to speak to their matters. Counsel are encouraged to have their discussions in advance and if the appropriate paperwork (Designation of Counsel or Undertaking of Counsel) have been filed and agreements as to adjournments dates have been made, counsel need not attend the Counter at all. Please refer to the Pre-Trial Coordinator's Protocol which will continue to apply. This will not be a court of record, although the docket will have a note as to the stage and state of discussions of the matter. At 2:30 p.m., any matters that have not been spoken to will be addressed on the record.

The Counter Court model will improve access to justice and efficiency in the following ways:

- One on one interaction for an accused person with the Staff Justice of the Peace
- An expanded time to attend and less waiting time to have your matter addressed
- There will be more than one Staff Justice of the Peace at the Counter so matters can be spoken to more quickly
- Persons will not have to wait until all of Counsel's matters have been addressed before they can have their matter addressed by the Court

Beginning today, counsel and accused persons will begin to see release conditions that require them to appear at the Provincial Court Counter between 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for release dates beginning in 2021.

Adult Provincial Court Out of Custody Docket Matters will now be released to appear at the **PCC** (Provincial Court Counter), **on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday between 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Youth Provincial Court Out of Custody Docket Matters will now be released to appear at the **PCC** (Provincial Court Counter), **on a Tuesday between 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Adult & Youth Federal - Provincial Court Out of Custody Docket Matters will now be released to appear at the **PCC - F** (Provincial Court Counter Federal), **on a Thursday between 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Additional Provincial Court Counter dockets will occur between 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for Date Setting Court, the Adult Diversion docket and the Adult Federal Complex and Federal Summary Dockets.

ISSUED BY:

“Original signed by:”

**The Honourable Chief Judge
Margaret Wiebe**

DATE: December 1, 2020