

NOTICE

PROVINCIAL COURT OF MANITOBA

RE: APPEARANCES IN WINNIPEG BEFORE THE COURT DURING THE COVID-19 SUSPENSION AND RESTRICTION OF HEARINGS

MARCH 18, 2020

On March 16, 2020, the Provincial Court released a notice advising of a restriction of hearings to help contain the spread of COVID-19.

The following is to explain the expectations of the Court with respect to Counsel appearing on those matters both that have been cancelled and those “in custody” matters which have not been cancelled.

Out of Custody PTC dockets

These dockets sit in Winnipeg on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday in courtrooms 301 & 302 for Provincial matters.

The federal dockets sit on Mondays at 1:00 in Courtroom 303 and 1:00 the first and third Thursday of each month in Courtroom 301.

These dockets **have been cancelled** until May 1, 2020. The dockets will be rolling “blanket adjournments” to a date eight weeks into the future from the originally set docket. The dates that these dockets will be remanded to will be posted on the Court’s website once a week. Please check back on the website to find out the remand dates. **Crown counsel, defence counsel and their clients need not appear for these dockets.**

We encourage defence counsel to continue to contact the appropriate Crown to obtain disclosure at the following email addresses:

Provincial Crown: +WPG124 – Disclosure Unit (JUS) DiscUnit@gov.mb.ca

Federal Crown: wpgppscintake@ppsc-sppc.gc.ca.

In Custody PTC dockets

These dockets have not been cancelled. We encourage counsel to have discussions in advance of the dockets. We continue to encourage the fewest number of counsel

appearing in the courthouse as possible. We encourage counsel to discuss these matters in advance and notify the PTC by email as to what remand date is being requested so that counsel do not have to appear in person. **If the PTC has not been notified in advance of the agreed upon request, someone will be required to appear in person to speak to the adjournment of those matters - Crown paralegal, Crown attorney, defence counsel or Legal Aid duty counsel as agent.** The matter will be adjourned to the date that has been agreed to between counsel.

Email requests for adjournments will be accepted, if counsel have discussed and agreed on the date in advance and have made the request by 3 P.M. the day before the court appearance. Once Crown counsel and defence counsel of record have communicated and agreed upon an adjournment date, then counsel should email the PTCs and the Crown paralegal advising of the agreed upon date. **Once the date has been confirmed by the PTC, counsel do not need to appear.**

PTC at +WPG136 – PTC – Winnipeg (JUS) ptcwinnipeg@gov.mb.ca

Out of Custody Dispositions and Trial Dates already set between March 16, 2020 and May 1, 2020

Out of custody trial and dispositions dates have been cancelled. However, these matters continue to appear on a docket on the originally scheduled date. We encourage counsel to discuss these matters. If they are prepared to re-set the trial date or disposition date into the future, and have arranged a date in advance with the trial or disposition coordinator, the date can be set when the matter appears on the previously set/cancelled trial or disposition date.

If no new date is arranged the matter will be adjourned 8 weeks from the originally set date to a PTC docket.

We will require at least one counsel to be present to advise the Court of the new date.

Bail Triage Courts, Monday to Friday at 9:30 in Courtroom 301

These dockets have not been cancelled. We encourage counsel to email the appropriate Crown requesting disclosure. We encourage email or phone communications between counsel regarding potential release. Email requests for adjournments will be accepted, if counsel have discussed and agreed on the date in advance and have made the request by 11 A.M. the day of the court appearance. Once Crown counsel and

defence counsel of record have communicated and agreed upon an adjournment date, then counsel should email the PTCs and the Crown paralegal advising of the agreed upon date. **Once the date has been confirmed by the PTC, counsel do not need to appear.**

PTC at +WPG136 – PTC – Winnipeg (JUS) ptcwinnipeg@gov.mb.ca

We continue to work on a process where counsel could potentially appear by telephone. We are not yet in a position to offer that option in Winnipeg. We will notify you once that is available.

ISSUED BY:

“Original signed by:”

**The Honourable Chief Judge
Margaret Wiebe**

DATE: March 18, 2020