

NOTICE

MANITOBA COURT OF APPEAL

RE: HEARINGS WILL BE CONDUCTED REMOTELY BY VIDEOCONFERENCING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

APRIL 3, 2020

This Notice replaces the previously issued Notice dated March 16, 2020.

The Manitoba Court of Appeal continues to balance its institutional obligations with broader public health priorities. As a result, and until further notice, starting on Monday, April 20, 2020:

- 1) all appeals will be heard remotely by videoconferencing; and
- 2) all motions or applications will be heard remotely by teleconferencing.

For in-custody criminal appeal, motion or application hearings, special procedures are required in order to ensure that the accused can participate in the hearing. Unless the accused's presence is waived, counsel for the accused will be required to attend Courtroom 330 in person with their webcam-equipped laptop. An internet feed has been set up in Courtroom 330 that allows counsel for the accused to access the videoconference. A sheriff will bring the accused into Courtroom 330. The only other persons that will be allowed in the courtroom, other than the accused, counsel for the accused, the sheriff and the court clerk, will be members of the press who will be in the gallery. Social distancing measures are compulsory.

How to access a videoconference appeal hearing: Half an hour before the hearing, the Court Clerk will send out a videoconferencing hearing email invitation from GoToMeeting.com to all counsel or self-represented litigants with a link to join the videoconference. All counsel or self-represented litigants are required to access the videoconferencing line using a webcam-equipped computer 10 minutes before the hearing.

How to access a teleconference motion or application hearing: At least 24 hours prior to the hearing, the Court Clerk will provide counsel or self-represented litigants with a telephone number and access code. All counsel or self-represented litigants are required to access the teleconferencing line five minutes before the hearing.

If you are not familiar with videoconferencing or teleconferencing technology, please contact the Registry at least 24 hours before the hearing with any questions you may have.

With respect to the appeals that were adjourned by consent between March 20, 2020 and Friday, April 17, 2020, the Registry staff, after consulting with the parties, will reschedule them to the next available timeslot. The registry remains open for filings. With respect to the filing of documents, social distancing measures are in place. Everyone is asked to respect these measures.

Finally, for the latest information, please monitor the Manitoba Courts website at: <http://www.manitobacourts.mb.ca/>

ISSUED BY:

“Original signed by Chief Justice Chartier”

The Honourable Richard J. Chartier

Chief Justice of Manitoba

DATE: April 3, 2020