

NOTICE

PROVINCIAL COURT OF MANITOBA

Re: COVID-19 SUSPENSION AND RESTRICTION OF HEARINGS

December 29, 2021

This Notice is further to the Notice issued on December 23, 2021. The case numbers as a result of Covid-19 and in particular the Omicron variant continue to rise at an alarming rate. The Provincial Court of Manitoba has no choice but to further reduce its court sittings in order to reduce the spread of Covid-19. While it was hoped we would be able to continue with out of custody trials etc., it is clear we need to once again pull back in order to balance the health and safety of court participants with providing meaningful access to justice. As a result, effective January 4, 2022, the following proceedings will be cancelled for the month of January. Counsel can contact their local trial coordinator to re-book these matters:

- All out of custody trials, continuations, special sittings and preliminary hearings in all court centres and circuit locations. (An exception will be made for any continuation which is for submissions only. These can continue remotely.)
- Gun Prohibition Hearings
- Private Prosecution Hearings
- All in-custody trials, continuations, special sittings and preliminary hearings at fly-in circuit locations. Requests can be made to move these matters to the closest major court centre where possible.
- All Child Protection, *Family Maintenance Act* and Private Guardianship trials.

Protection Order Hearings will be heard by telephone. All other matters will proceed as set out in the Notice of December 23, 2021. The Court remains available to hear applications with respect to urgent matters, especially where those can be arranged with the parties attending remotely.

ISSUED BY:

“Original signed by:”

**The Honourable Chief Judge Margaret Wiebe
Provincial Court of Manitoba**

DATE: December 29, 2021