

NOTICE

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH OF MANITOBA (FAMILY DIVISION)

RE: COVID SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR CHILD PROTECTION INTAKE COURT

The following COVID safety protocols will be followed for Child Protection Intake Court proceedings:

1. It is expected that all participants who are attending Child Protection Intake Court will abide by current protocols and practice directions, including the wearing of masks and maintaining appropriate social distancing.
2. Counsel are encouraged to have any settlement discussions in advance of their attendance at the Law Courts Complex.
3. Counsel are to file any exhibits that they wish to rely on with Registry prior to the Intake hearing.
4. Each Intake matter will be assigned a half-hour time slot by the Intake Judge beginning at the 9:00 a.m. session and the 2:00 p.m. session.
5. As is the current practice, the Intake Judge's assistant will send an email to counsel and self-represented parties notifying them of the time of their in-person hearing.
6. A sheriff will be present each Thursday commencing at 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. for the Child Protection Intake Court. The sheriff will usher in counsel and each party when their matter is ready to be heard and will ensure that all participants are wearing masks and are seated in a socially-distanced manner in designated seating.

7. At the conclusion of the Child Protection Intake Hearing, the clerk will print the Child Protection Intake Memorandum and will leave a copy for counsel and each party in front of them on the counsel table for them to take. The clerk will then page the sheriff to request the sheriff to escort the participants from the courtroom.

8. The clerk will sanitize the witness box and counsel table at the conclusion of each matter.

Coming into effect

This Notice comes into effect immediately.

ISSUED BY:

“original signed by Associate Chief Justice Gwen B. Hatch”

**The Honourable Associate Chief Justice Gwen B. Hatch
Court of Queen’s Bench (Manitoba)**

DATE: August 24, 2021