



COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH FOR SASKATCHEWAN

December 21, 2020

Court extends jury trial postponement

Saskatchewan's Court of Queen's Bench is extending the previously announced postponement of jury trials into the new year.

The Court announced today that all jury trials scheduled to begin before March 31, 2021, are postponed as a result of the COVID-19 situation in the province. The Court had earlier postponed jury trials scheduled to begin before the end of the year.

Members of the public summoned for jury selection before March 31, 2021, should *not* attend.

"We will continue to adjust our response to the pandemic as necessary, while maintaining the public's access to the essential services the Court provides," said Martel D. Popescul, Chief Justice of the Court.

Jury trials require more people to be physically present in the courtroom each day of the trial and typically draw members of the public from a fairly broad geographic area, particularly during the selection process. These and other factors were considered when extending the postponement.

There were 19 jury trials scheduled between Jan. 1 and March 31, 2021. Unless brought forward sooner on a judge's order, postponed matters will be spoken to on the date originally set for the trial to begin. Accused individuals can re-elect trial by judge alone (in which case the trial would proceed in the scheduled time frame), or have the matter adjourned to a later date. These adjournments will receive rescheduling priority from the Court.

For more information:

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