



## **COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH FOR SASKATCHEWAN DIRECTIVE UPDATE**

As of July 12, 2021

The Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan is committed to taking the steps necessary to safeguard the health of everyone in our courtrooms and court facilities while ensuring access to justice, upholding the rule of law, and continuing court operations as effectively and efficiently as possible.

As such, notwithstanding the lifting of public health restrictions by the Province in accordance with Step 3 of the Province's Re-Opening Roadmap, the Court of Queen's Bench Directive of August 31, 2020 respecting Court operations remains in effect until further notice, subject only to the following changes:

- Persons entering a court house will no longer be screened with a COVID-19 assessment by Court Security except that masks will still be offered, and any person showing obvious signs of illness may be asked to leave.
- Bottled water will no longer be provided to court participants. Persons will be permitted to bring their own water bottles into the court house. Water pitchers and disposable drinking glasses will also be available in courtrooms for court participants.
- Access to the Local Registry offices is no longer restricted; however, court participants are encouraged to avoid personally attending the court house but, rather, to continue to communicate with the Local Registrar by phone, and file documents by fax, mail or by drop-off in the drop boxes available at each court house and, to the extent permitted, by email.
- While masks are no longer required to be worn to enter a court house, and there is no public health restriction on social distancing, the presiding judge may still require that masks be worn and that physical distance be maintained in a courtroom.

All other provisions of the August 31, 2020 Directive remain in effect, including the direction that all court proceedings, other than trials and certain criminal matters, will continue to be heard by phone unless the presiding judge otherwise directs.

### **Jury Trials**

Subject to further direction of the Court, jury trials are being scheduled to resume offsite in September 2021.

### **Effective Date**

This Directive takes effect immediately.

Chief Justice M. D. Popescul