



Notice to the Profession and Public COVID-19 – Electronic Hearings Extended to March 25, 2022

February 10, 2022

In the [December 17, 2021 Notice to the Profession and Public](#), the Court of Appeal announced that, unless otherwise directed, all appeal sittings, applications before three-judge panels, applications before a single judge and Bar Admissions would continue to be heard electronically until February 25, 2022, and Appeal Conferences and Judicial Dispute Resolution matters would continue to be heard electronically until further notice.

The purpose of this Notice is to advise that, unless otherwise directed, all appeal sittings, applications before three-judge panels and Bar Admissions will continue to be heard electronically until March 25, 2022 with a return to in-person starting March 28, 2022. Appeal Conferences, Judicial Dispute Resolution matters and single judge matters will continue to be heard electronically until further notice.

The decision to extend the use of electronic hearings again has been guided by several considerations including the current public health status of the province, the evident threat from the COVID-19 Omicron variant, and the continuing need to preserve the health and safety of all Court participants by minimizing traffic to the courthouses.

Access to all courthouses in Alberta continues to be restricted in accordance with the Courts' [Notice dated November 27, 2020](#). The mask requirements set out in the Courts' [Notice dated July 3, 2020](#) will continue to apply to individuals attending at courthouses.

To provide a safe location for all individuals who voluntarily come to or who are compelled to attend court, the Courts have implemented vaccination policies for all Court staff and those wishing to access the secure areas of Alberta courthouses. Details are set out in the following notices:

- [September 21, 2021 – All Courts' Vaccination Policies and Access to Restricted Court Workspaces](#)
- [October 1, 2021 – All Courts' Vaccination Policy and Access to Courtrooms in Alberta Courthouses](#)

The current processes and guidelines for electronic hearings in the Court of Appeal set out in the March 23 and July 6, 2020 Notices to the Profession and Public will continue to govern. The links to those Notices are:

- [March 23, 2020 – Update of Affected Court Operations - Appeals, Applications and Motions Generally](#)
- [July 6, 2020 – Electronic Hearings Update - Attendance and Resource Reminders](#)
- [July 6, 2020 – New Procedure for Electronic Hearings – Confidentiality or Privacy Concerns](#)

Information on attending an electronic hearing and related resources for counsel and self-represented litigants is available on the Court of Appeal’s website. Links to these also follow:

- [Guide for Connecting and Attending Electronic Hearings for Counsel and Self-Represented Litigants](#)
- [Guide for Viewing Electronic Hearings for Public and Media](#)
- [Court’s Policy on the Use of Electronic Devices in Courtrooms](#)

Requests to be heard by audio only (teleconference) or in writing only can be made by contacting the appropriate Registry by email.

- Calgary Matters: Calgary.Registry@albertacourts.ca
- Edmonton Matters: Edmonton.Registry@albertacourts.ca

Or by telephone:

- Calgary Matters: 403-297-2206 (Fax: 403-297-5294)
- Edmonton Matters: 780-422-2416 (Fax: 780-422-4127)



Catherine A. Fraser
Chief Justice of Alberta