



NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION AND PUBLIC

Expanded Hearing Methods for Civil Matters

September 23, 2025

Effective October 1, 2025, a new hybrid hearing method will be available for all **civil** appeal hearings and applications. The new hybrid hearing method will not be available for criminal matters, appeal conferences or judicial dispute resolution.

The application process for seeking a change in the hearing method has also been streamlined.

Description of Different Hearing Methods

- In-person – proceedings in which all parties, counsel, the clerk, and the judge(s) are physically in the courtroom.
- Virtual – proceedings in which all parties, counsel, the clerk, and the judge(s) connect through audio and visual using a platform such as Webex.
- Hybrid – proceedings in which some participants appear in-person and others participate virtually.

Standard Hearing Methods

The Court has directed the standard hearing methods be either in-person or virtual (see the [April 20, 2022 Notice to the Profession and Public](#)) as follows:

Proceedings	Method
Appeal Hearings	In-person
Applications (three judge panels)	In-person
Single Judge Applications	Virtual
Appeal Conferences	Virtual
Judicial Dispute Resolution	Virtual

Applying for an Alternate Hearing Method

Applications to change hearing methods from in-person to virtual hearings or virtual to in-person hearings are permitted for all types of proceedings.

Effective October 1, 2025, applications for hybrid hearings will be permitted for civil appeal hearings, three judge applications, and single judge applications. The new hybrid hearing method will not be available for criminal matters, appeal conferences or judicial dispute resolution at this time.

How to Apply

Applications to change the standard hearing method, including a request for a hybrid hearing, are made to a judge or panel by completing the [Application to Change Hearing Method form](#) and submitting it to the appeal file in the Court of Appeal Management System (CAMS).

Timing

Applications for a change in hearing method can be made **after** a proceeding has been scheduled for hearing and no later than:

Civil Proceedings	Timing in Advance of Scheduled Hearings
Appeal Hearings	1 week
Applications (three judge panels)	1 week
Single Judge Applications	at least 48 hours
Appeal Conferences	at least 48 hours
Judicial Dispute Resolution	at least 1 week

Late requests will be considered in urgent circumstances.

Receiving the Decision

The Application to Change Hearing Method form will be endorsed to indicate whether the application has been granted or denied. Notification of the endorsement will be sent via email from CAMS

Questions and Technical Assistance

Questions can be directed to the applicable Registry as follows:

Calgary Registry – Calgary.Registry@albertacourts.ca or 403-297-2206

Edmonton Registry – Edmonton.Registry@albertacourts.ca or 780-422-2416

For technical assistance using CAMS, please submit a request to the CAMS Unit using the [online form](#).

Ritu Khullar
Chief Justice of Alberta