



CENTRAL REGION - FAMILY - RED DEER BUSINESS RESUMPTION PROTOCOL – PART 3

Effective: September 8, 2020

Purpose:

The purpose of this protocol is to outline the process to be followed as the Provincial Court Family Division in the Central Region resumes sitting times in person. The protocol will follow all health and safety recommendations relating to COVID-19.

Procedures/Guidelines:

Child and Family Enhancement Matters

1. All Child and Family Enhancement matters will be heard in person Friday mornings beginning July 10, 2020, in Courtroom 103.
2. All Child and Family Enhancement matters will be heard commencing at 9:00 a.m. and must be completed by no later than 10:00 a.m.
3. All matters scheduled to be heard must be ready to proceed when called. Any discussion between parties must be held before Court opens.
4. There will be no more than six (6) people allowed in the Courtroom at any given time and the people in the Courtroom must follow the social distancing guidelines. Any persons not in the Courtroom will be required to wait in the adjacent public area, again, practicing social distancing until called for their matter.
5. No parties or workers who are not essential for the application should be present in the Courthouse. If parties have come to a consent agreement than only one party need to appear or the consent can be sent via letter to the Court and no parties need to attend.

Family

6. Family docket will resume sitting on Friday July 10, 2020 in Courtroom 103 commencing at 10:00 a.m.

7. There will be a maximum of three (3) matters set in each hour with twenty (20) minutes allotted to each application and a maximum of twelve (12) matters per day.
8. Parties will be contacted and given their hour to appear (i.e. 10:00 a.m.) and are expected to be there and ready at the set hour. One matter at a time will be called into the Courtroom and dealt with. The twenty (20) minute time will be strictly adhered to. Once a matter is complete the parties are expected to exit the Courthouse.
9. No one, excepting the parties, Counsel, Duty Counsel or Family Court Counsellors, should be in attendance or will be allowed in the Courtroom.
10. If parties are not present at their appointed hour the matter will not be heard or an order may be made in the absence of a party.
11. All participants are expected to follow social distancing guidelines both in and outside the Courtroom.

As per: Assistant Chief Judge Hunter

Central Region Family Courts