



CENTRAL REGION –RED DEER, WETASKIWIN AND CAMROSE COURT RESUMPTION PROTOCOL – PART 3

Effective: September 8, 2020

Purpose:

The purpose of this protocol is to outline the resumption for both base and circuit points for the Central Division of the Provincial Court of Alberta.

Procedures/Guidelines:

Family and Child Protection

1. All family and CFE hearings or trials will be set and heard in the Courthouse where the matter arose.
2. All parties are expected to practice social distancing and no parties other than Counsel, parties and witnesses will be allowed in the Courthouse.
3. Once a witness, other than a party, has been heard they are expected to leave the Courtroom and the Courthouse.
4. Docket Court for Red Deer and Camrose will be governed by the Family – Business Resumption Protocols.

Civil

1. In person trials will be accommodated in Red Deer, Wetaskiwin and Camrose provided proper social distancing and all other COVID-19 protocols have been met.
2. Parties will be contacted by the Court to confirm time and date for trial.
3. Only parties, Counsel and witnesses will be allowed in the Courthouse or Courtroom. Any person not in the Courtroom shall wait in the adjacent public area and must practice social distancing and follow appropriate health and safety protocols related to COVID-19.
4. Witness are required to leave the Courthouse once their evidence is heard.

5. Dockets will resume on a limited basis. The Court will call the parties to set a time and date for hearing.

JDR's, PTC's and Case Management

1. All JDR's, PTC's or Case Management matters will be heard remotely until further order of the Court.
2. Parties will be contacted by the Court to set up a time for a hearing.

Criminal

1. In custody trials and preliminary hearings will continue in the base or circuit point the matter arose.
2. All docket matters for base and circuit points will be heard on their normal day, but will be heard in the nearest base point. See attached list.
3. Counsel are expected to appear by Webex for their matters.
4. Self-represented litigants will be expected to:
 - a) Contact the CMO desk, if available, to speak to their matter, at which time a return date will be given. The person is expected to access Legal Aid, private Counsel or Duty Counsel before their next appearance and obtain their disclosure. A list of contact information for these entities can be found on the Provincial Court website under CMO.
 - b) If a self-represented litigant appears at a circuit point they will be expected to contact the numbers posted to deal with their matter in the same manner as above.
 - c) Any self-represented matter where the party does not appear will be put into Court and a Warrant to Hold will issue for a period of four (4) weeks from the date of appearance. If the party fails to appear at that time the Warrant will be released.
 - d) Matters will be allowed to be adjourned pursuant to the CMO and Out of Custody Docket Court Business Resumption Protocol for three (3) consecutive adjournments or eight (8) weeks which ever occurs first. Once a matter has reached this limitation, the matter must be spoken to in Docket Court before a Judge. This appearance can be a remote appearance upon providing the Clerk of the appropriate court with a telephone number.

Trial Matters

1. Those in and out of custody trial matters and preliminary inquiries set will proceed on the date scheduled subject to the COVID-19 protocols.
2. PTC's and Case management meetings will proceed remotely unless otherwise ordered.

As per: Assistant Chief Judge Hunter

Central Region Courts

BASE POINT

RED DEER

WETASKIWIN

CAMROSE

CIRCUIT

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE

STETTLER

CORONATION

PONOKA

RIMBEY

KILLAM