



SOUTHERN REGION COURT RESUMPTION PROTOCOL – PART 3

Effective: September 2nd, 2020

Purpose:

For the time period September 4, 2020, until further direction, the following protocols will apply to the Southern Region.

Court Locations:

Lethbridge and Medicine Hat Court locations will remain open. All circuit points save as specified hereunder will remain closed. All matters scheduled for Pincher Creek, Cardston, Fort Macleod and Taber will require a remote appearance at the Lethbridge Courthouse. All matters scheduled in Brooks will require a remote appearance at the Medicine Hat Courthouse. Court in Lethbridge and in Medicine Hat commences at 9:30 a.m.

All courthouse participants will be required to wear a mask or protective face covering in all public areas of the courthouse.

Procedures/Guidelines:

Case Management Office:

The Case Management office will remain closed to all in-person appearances unless other authorized by the Court. All appearances by self-represented litigants and by Counsel will be by remote appearance only via email or telephone pursuant to the Case Management Office and Out-of-Custody Docket Court Business Resumption Protocol.

Self-Represented Individuals:

Self-represented individuals must appear in person for trials, preliminary inquiries and all other hearings as scheduled unless advised otherwise. Docket appearances are to be made remotely and a remote docket appearance is required. To determine how to do this they are encouraged to contact Duty Counsel, Native Counselling or the appropriate Court House for assistance:

Contact Information:

Duty Counsel (Legal Aid)	1-866-845-3425 (Intakes only) 1-855-670-6149 (Legal advice except for same day appearances)
Native Counselling	403-329-6140 lETHBRIDGE@ncsa.ca
Lethbridge Provincial Court	403-381-5224 pc.lETHBRIDGE@just.gov.ab.ca
Medicine Hat Provincial Court	403-529-8644 criminaljp.medicinehat@csadm.just.gov.ab.ca

Trials, Preliminary Inquiries and Hearings:

All trials, preliminary inquiries and hearings presently scheduled for Lethbridge and Medicine Hat will proceed as scheduled unless the parties are otherwise advised, this includes, Criminal, Family and Child Protection, Civil and Youth matters.

All trials, preliminary inquiries and hearings scheduled for Pincher Creek, Cardston and Fort Macleod scheduled for hearing commencing September, 2020, shall be conducted at the courthouse in Fort Macleod. All trials, preliminary inquiries and hearings scheduled for Taber commencing October, 2020, will be conducted in the courthouse in Taber (see August 28th, 2020 direction South Region Lethbridge Circuit). All trials, preliminary inquiries and hearings scheduled for Brooks commencing September 14th, 2020, and thereafter, will be conducted in the courthouse in Brooks (see August 28th, 2020 direction South Region Medicine Hat/Brooks).

All trials, preliminary inquiries and hearings require personal appearance of the parties and witnesses at the trial location unless otherwise directed by the Court.

Dockets:

All dockets including dockets in Criminal, Youth, Family and Child Protection and Civil will continue to be conducted remotely.

All circuit point dockets for Pincher Creek, Cardston, Fort Macleod and Taber will continue by way of remote appearance at the courthouse in Lethbridge. All criminal docket matters for Brooks will continue by remote appearance at the courthouse in Medicine Hat.

In-Person and Remote Applications:

In-person and remote applications by counsel, agents or self represented individuals may be scheduled in accordance with the *In-Person Application Practice Note* (please see Court website).

LETHBRIDGE

Child Protection docket matters will commence at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. Circuit matters which are scheduled at a circuit location will be heard on the regular docket day at the base location closest to the circuit location.

Family docket matters will commence at 9:30 a.m. on Thursdays. Circuit matters which are scheduled at a circuit location will be heard on the regular docket day at the base location closest to the circuit location.

In-person and remote applications for Family and Child Protection matters in Lethbridge will be scheduled by appointment only starting at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Civil docket matters will commence at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays by appointment as specified by the Civil Docket Clerk.

MEDICINE HAT

Family and Child Protection docket matters will commence at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. respectively. Brooks matters will be heard on the regular docket day in Medicine Hat.

Civil matters will commence as scheduled by appointment only.

Judicial Dispute Resolution, Pre-Trial Conferences and Case Management Meeting:

All Judicial Dispute Resolutions, Pre-Trial Conferences and Case Management meetings will proceed by remote appearance only unless otherwise directed by the Court.

Lethbridge Integrated Services Court:

All appearances required at the Lethbridge Integrated Services Court will occur on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom #1 in Lethbridge. These appearances will be remote appearances until further notice.