

## **NOTICE**

### **MANITOBA COURT OF APPEAL**

#### **RE: COVID-19 SUSPENSION AND RESTRICTION OF HEARINGS**

**MARCH 16, 2020**

Manitoba Courts are trying to balance their institutional obligations with broader public health priorities. Effective and including Friday March 20, 2020, the Manitoba Court of Appeal will suspend all appeal and chamber matters up to and including Friday April 17, 2020, at which time the COVID-19 situation will be reassessed. The only exceptions will be urgent matters and matters where all parties consent to having their appeal or chamber matter heard based only on written materials filed with the court. Urgent matters will be heard by teleconference or again, where all parties consent to a paper hearing, based only on written filings.

In-custody matters, will be deemed urgent matters, unless the accused waives such a designation. With respect to other matters, the determination of whether a matter is urgent will be made by the Registrar after consultation with the parties. If a party disagrees with the Registrar's conclusion, the issue on urgency will be placed before the Chambers judge for final determination.

The registry remains open for filings. With respect to the filing of documents, social distancing measures will be in place. Everyone is asked to respect these measures. While filing deadlines remain in place, judges have been asked to exercise their discretion mindful of the special circumstances arising from the COVID 19 situation when considering any extension of time requests or special accommodation requests.

Finally, for the latest information, please monitor the Manitoba Courts website at: <http://www.manitobacourts.mb.ca/>

**ISSUED BY:**

**“Original signed by Chief Justice Chartier”**

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**The Honourable Richard J. Chartier**  
**Chief Justice of Manitoba**

**DATE: March 16, 2020**