



**COURT OF APPEAL OF ALBERTA
COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH OF ALBERTA
PROVINCIAL COURT OF ALBERTA**

**NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION AND PUBLIC
WEARING MASKS IN COURTHOUSES**

July 3, 2020

The Court of Queen's Bench and Provincial Court are scheduled to increase in-person hearings July 6, 2020.

It is now recognized by public health officials that people who are infected but are asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic contribute to community spread of COVID-19. The use of face masks can reduce the spread of infection.

Accordingly, to enhance safe access to Alberta courthouses, effective July 6, 2020, all persons entering a courthouse in Alberta shall be required to wear a face mask while in any public area of the courthouse subject to the exceptions outlined below.

Public area means all common areas outside of individual courtrooms including entrances, reception areas, waiting areas, hallways, stairways, restrooms and elevators. In addition, while inside individual courtrooms, those present must wear a face mask when required to do so by the presiding Judge or Master.

While wearing a face mask can reduce the spread of infection, it does not substitute for physical distancing which must be maintained. For those who do not have a face mask, one can be obtained from perimeter security at the entrance to the courthouse.

Children under two years of age, persons with a medical condition or disability that inhibits wearing a face mask and persons who are unable to place or remove a face mask without assistance are exempt from these requirements. Persons who are seated at a facility in the courthouse that offers food or beverage service are also exempt while they are eating or drinking provided they are able to maintain a distance of at least six feet from persons who are not members of the same household or residence.

We ask for the cooperation of the members of the public and Bar in complying with these requirements designed to protect everyone attending courthouses in this province.



Catherine A. Fraser
Chief Justice of Alberta



Mary T. Moreau
Chief Justice of the Court of
Queen's Bench of Alberta



Terrence J. Matchett
Chief Judge of the
Provincial Court of Alberta