



**Notice to the profession, the public and the media regarding
non-medical masks in court facilities**

Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal, Supreme Court and Provincial Court

September 22, 2021

This notice is a follow-up to our July 12, 2021 notification regarding wearing non-medical masks.

Effective September 17, 2021, by order of the Chief Public Health Officer, non-medical masks are again required in all indoor public spaces.

As courthouses are public spaces, non-medical masks will be required by everyone who is present in the courthouse. Once individuals are seated in the courtroom, the requirement to wear a mask will remain in the discretion of the presiding judge.

We thank you for your continued cooperation and compliance with court protocols relating to the Covid-19 pandemic.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Jenkins".

Chief Justice David H. Jenkins
Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tracey L. Clements".

Chief Justice Tracey L. Clements
Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Lantz".

Chief Judge Jeffrey E. Lantz
Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island



**Notice to the profession, the public and the media
regarding mask wearing in court facilities**

Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal, Supreme Court and Provincial Court

July 13, 2021

This notice is a follow-up to our November 24, 2020 notification regarding wearing non-medical masks.

Effective July 9, 2021, by order of the Chief Public Health Officer, non-medical masks are no longer required in indoor public spaces. However, the Chief Public Health Officer recommends continued mask use for those who interact with the public, and where physical distancing cannot be maintained.

We are mindful that courthouses are public spaces and that individuals are often compelled to attend court. For the protection of the public and staff, the courts will continue to follow the recommendations of the Chief Public Health Officer.

Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island

In the Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island, masks will continue to be required by everyone while moving about in public areas, and when staff is interacting with the public.

Once individuals are seated in the courtroom, the requirement to wear a mask will remain in the discretion of the presiding judge.

Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island

In the Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island, staff will continue to wear masks while moving about in public areas, and when interacting with the public. Members of the public are strongly recommended to wear a mask, although it will not be a requirement.

Once again, we thank you for your continued cooperation and compliance with court protocols that have been required by this ongoing pandemic.

Handwritten signature of David H. Jenkins in blue ink.

Chief Justice David H. Jenkins
Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal

Handwritten signature of Jeffrey E. Lantz in blue ink.

Chief Judge Jeffrey E. Lantz
Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island

Handwritten signature of Tracey L. Clements in blue ink.

Chief Justice Tracey L. Clements
Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island



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Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island

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Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island

In the Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island, staff will continue to wear masks while moving about in public areas, and when interacting with the public. Members of the public are strongly recommended to wear a mask, although it will not be a requirement.

Once again, we thank you for your continued cooperation and compliance with court protocols that have been required by this ongoing pandemic.

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Chief Justice David H. Jenkins
Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal

Handwritten signature of Jeffrey E. Lantz in blue ink.

Chief Judge Jeffrey E. Lantz
Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island

Handwritten signature of Tracey L. Clements in blue ink.

Chief Justice Tracey L. Clements
Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island



**Notice to the Profession, the Public and the Media
Regarding access to the court proceedings during the COVID-19 pandemic**

Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal, Supreme Court and Provincial Court

February 19, 2021

Since March 2020, the Prince Edward Island courts have been operating with restrictions on public access to court proceedings. The courts seek to comply with changing CPHO health care guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of managing access is to ensure the safety of participants and provide ability to carry out contact tracing.

The courts respect the open court principle. This involves broad access to court proceedings by members of the public and media. Restrictions on access due to COVID are limited to those considered necessary to ensure a safe environment for all persons who are necessarily involved in the court process. Since March, courts administration has permitted fewer individuals into the courthouses and courtrooms and has required participants to provide personal contact information in order to accommodate CPHO COVID requirements.

For this purpose, the courts adopted a process whereby when a party, witness, lawyer or other person who is to attend court is to advise the court clerk in advance the names and contact information for all individuals who will attend court.

However, while most participants have tried to be compliant, some gaps are being experienced so that courts do not always receive requests and contact information in advance of court proceedings. This results in log-jams at court entrances. Delays are experienced by all, to await Sheriff screening and court approval for attendance.

Therefore, for clarification and going forward, if a party or lawyer is aware that other persons may plan or wish to attend court proceedings – such as a witness or support person or other member of the public or the media – the party or lawyer is requested to inform court administration and seek prior approval. They should indicate the number and names of individuals, contact information, and their role in the proceeding. This will enable court administration or the presiding judge, as applicable, to make a determination regarding access for additional persons and safe accommodation for all.

The courts strive to ensure that CPHO and court guidelines regarding COVID-19 are followed in order to minimize health risks for all persons who attend at the courthouses and court proceedings.

Requests and arrangements should be made by contacting:

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Court of Appeal: Sheila Gallant, Deputy Registrar, at sfgallant@gov.pe.ca or 902-368-6024
(See also COVID-19 Court of Appeal protocol for “COVID-19: Electronic hearings by Telephone and Video Conference” issued May 1, 2020, Court of Appeal Practice Direction 7(c)).

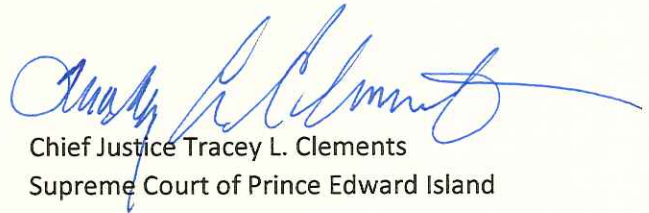
Supreme Court: Trial Coordinator, Shelley Young Brennan at sdyoung@gov.pe.ca or 902-368-6023

Provincial Court:

Charlottetown – 902-368-6693; Georgetown 902-652-8990; Summerside -902-888-8190



Chief Justice David H. Jenkins
Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal



Chief Justice Tracey L. Clements
Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island



Chief Judge Jeffrey E. Lantz
Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island