



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

**NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION**

**September 8, 2020**

**Re: Use of Masks**

Based upon the current approach taken by Manitoba's Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Brent Roussin, and given that there is already in place a well-understood requirement to social distance, the Courts had not mandated the use of masks. That approach has now evolved somewhat, first with the Code Orange in the Prairie Mountain Health Region and then this past weekend, with the identification of a positive COVID-19 case at the Winnipeg Law Courts Complex.

In light of some of the challenges in respect of social distancing that present in some of the smaller courthouses and complexes across Manitoba, the three Chiefs have determined the Use of Mask policy as set out in the Notice to Profession issued September 7, 2020, will apply province-wide as of September 10, 2020. While people are expected to supply their own masks, the court will have a limited supply available at all affected court facilities.

Also note, as per Public Health Orders, masks are not required in certain circumstances, including, for, a child who is under five years of age; or a person with a medical condition that is unrelated to COVID-19, including breathing or cognitive difficulties.

Richard Chartier  
Chief Justice of Manitoba

Glenn D. Joyal  
Chief Justice  
Court of Queen's Bench

Margaret Wiebe  
Chief Judge  
Provincial Court

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