

not a good idea. And although the officiant shall not intentionally perform a ceremony for intoxicated people and the couple shall bear all costs associated with any delays as a result; Short and Sweet Ceremonies, Carmen Lane LLC, and the officiant shall bear no responsibility for a couple's or any individual's failure to remain sober for the wedding ceremony nor bear any responsibility for any challenges to the validity of the marriage. A wedding is an exciting and sometimes a stressful time for a couple. It can be an emotional rollercoaster. Feelings of butterflies in the stomach, pre-wedding jitters, and nervousness are completely normal. As your officiant, I am happy to take a moment to chat with you or give you a few moments to breathe and calm down and collect yourselves before beginning your ceremony. If we have already begun the ceremony and you want me to pause a moment or if you just need or a tension breaker to laugh, just whisper or signal to me and we will all take a nice deep breath and I can say something off the cuff and we will continue when you are ready. This is your day and I want to go at your pace. If you are nervous about not knowing what to say or do when the time comes, please don't worry. My job is to be attuned to you both, watching you closely, and guiding you step by step throughout your ceremony, so you know when to pass the flowers, when to hold hands, what to say, when to place the ring, when to kiss. I will do my best to help you any way I can.

21. **THE KISS:** After I pronounce you "married", I try to step aside to get out of the way of your family/friends or perhaps a hired wedding photographer who may be trying earnestly to capture your "first kiss". Photographers have approached me afterwards to personally thank me for getting out of their way. So now this is something I try to remember each time. A SUGGESTION: Practice your ceremonial kiss! When it is time to seal you seal your vows with a kiss, you may want to make it a "ceremonial kiss" – that is, a very gentle one held for 3-5 seconds. This helps increase chances of someone capturing the beautiful moment in a picture you can treasure for a lifetime. It's OK to smile, laugh, or even cry! Don't ever feel like you must hide these emotions. Tears of joy are an authentic, beautiful expression of love.
22. **PHOTOS OF OFFICIANT/PHOTOS OF YOU:** I am honored to be a part of your special day, but prefer not to be included in formal wedding photos. If you ask me to take a quick selfie with you, I may oblige or politely decline. I love snapping quick pics of wedding parties with my cellphone for use online or to promote my website. I like to post the best pictures and most fun pictures I have taken. If a couple objects, just let me know and I can remove. I appreciate the wedding photos I sometimes receive afterwards. However, I prefer to take my own candid snaps on my cellphone rather than posting your photographer's wedding pics online to avoid potential copyright issues or "stepping on the toes" of any photographer or the risk of misidentifying them in the blog or photo credit or not at all.
23. **COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS:** I am vaccinated, boosted, and intend to receive further boosters as needed. Use PPE as necessary.
24. **RATES, TERMS AND CONDITIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE:** Rates, terms and conditions shown on the website or in any written document by Short and Sweet Ceremonies or Carmen Lane LLC are subject to change without notice. Booking my officiant services constitutes full acceptance of all rates, terms, and conditions. The rate and terms in place at the time of booking confirmation are what we shall abide by. The goal: clear communication, no surprises, full transparency.

~ Carmen Lane, non-denominational wedding officiant, ordained ULC minister since 2008
Short and Sweet Ceremonies | Carmen Lane LLC | 360-280-0888