

# **Notice to the Profession and the Public re: Criminal Trials and Preliminary Inquiries and Family Trials, Summary Judgment Motions and other In-Person Family Matters Resuming in the Ontario Court of Justice at Guelph on July 7, 2020**

## **(Published July 6, 2020)**

On July 4, 2020 the Ontario Court of Justice announced that the resumption of criminal trials and preliminary inquiries, and of family trials, summary judgment hearings and other in-person family matters in the Guelph courthouses, originally scheduled for July 6, 2020, would be delayed.

The Ministry has now advised that it is satisfied that all of the necessary health and safety measures are in place in the Guelph courthouses to allow in-person proceedings to resume. **As a result, the Ontario Court of Justice will resume hearing in-person criminal trials and preliminary inquiries, and in-person family trials, summary judgment motions and other in-person family matters in the Guelph courthouses on July 7, 2020.**

For more information about the resumption of criminal trials and preliminary inquiries , see [Notice to the Profession and the Public re: Resumption of Criminal Trials and Preliminary Hearings as of July 6, 2020](#) (published June 17,2020).

For more information about the resumption of in-person family trials, summary judgment motions and other in-person family matters, see [COVID-19: Scheduling of Family Matters in the Ontario Court of Justice](#) (published June 17, 2020)

As part of the return to operations plan, the Ministry has committed to implementing health and safety measures in each courthouse. More information about the precautionary health and safety measures at courthouses implemented by the Ministry is available on the following website: [COVID-19: Reopening courtrooms](#).

**Do not attend the courthouse if you are experiencing signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or have been advised by a public health official, a physician or the [Ontario Ministry of Health](#) website to self-isolate.** Please contact your lawyer or, if you do not have a lawyer, please contact the courthouse by [email](#) or [telephone](#) to seek direction.

### Background

The resumption of in-person hearings in the Guelph courthouse was part of the first phase (Phase One) of an incremental plan established by the Ministry of the Attorney General, which is responsible for courts administration and courthouse facilities, to facilitate the return to full court operations across Ontario.

As part of the return to operations plan, the Ministry has committed to implementing health and safety measures in each courthouse. For the Phase One locations, the Ministry undertook that site assessments would be completed, and that all necessary health and safety precautions, based on public health expert advice, would be implemented for the protection of all court users, including judicial officers, lawyers, litigants, witnesses, staff and members of the public.

The Ministry advised that it would not re-open a Phase One site on July 6, 2020 unless it was satisfied that the health and safety of courthouse participants would be adequately protected.

On July 4, 2020, the Ministry advised that it is not satisfied that all of the necessary health and safety measures were in place in the College Park (Toronto) and Guelph courthouses to allow in-person proceedings to resume as of July 6, 2020. As a result, the Ontario Court of Justice announced that it will not resume hearing in-person trials, preliminary inquiries, summary judgment motions and other in-person matters at the College Park and Guelph courthouses on July 6, 2020.

The Ministry has now advised that the necessary health and safety measures are in place in the Guelph courthouses to allow in-person hearings to resume. As a result, the Ontario Court of Justice will resume hearing in-person criminal trials and preliminary inquiries, and in-person family trials, summary judgment motions and other in-person family matters at the Guelph courthouses on July 7, 2020.

For more information, see the previous notices issued by the Ontario Court of Justice:

### **Criminal**

[Notice to the Profession and the Public re: Resumption of Criminal Trials and Preliminary Hearings as of July 6, 2020](#) (Published June 17, 2020)

[Notice to the Profession and the Public re Criminal Case Management Appearances and Setting Trial and Preliminary Inquiry Dates](#) (Published July 2, 2020)

[Notice to the Profession and the Public re: Delay in Resuming Criminal Trials and Preliminary Inquiries in the Ontario Court of Justice at College Park and Guelph](#) (Published July 4, 2020)

### **Family**

[COVID-19: Scheduling of Family Matters in the Ontario Court of Justice](#) (June 17, 2020)