



THE LAW COURTS  
800 SMITHE STREET  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
V6Z 2E1

## Notice to the Profession, the Public and the Media Regarding Criminal Proceedings

### COVID-19: METHOD OF ATTENDANCE FOR CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

COVID-19 Notice No. 51

Date: March 31, 2022

This notice replaces the following notice:

- [COVID-19 Notice No. 48](#)

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Due to the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic and the easing of public health restrictions, effective April 11, 2022, and until further notice, the Court is expanding the range of matters for which counsel and accused persons should appear in person in the courtroom.

#### II. DEFAULT METHOD OF APPEARANCE BY COUNSEL AND ACCUSED PERSONS

The following chart sets out the default method of appearance, **effective April 11, 2022**, for counsel and accused persons by hearing type unless otherwise ordered or directed. “Teams video” indicates that the appearance is by video using the Microsoft Teams platform. “Audio” indicates that the appearance is by audio only, also using the Microsoft Teams platform. Participants may join a Teams audio hearing using a telephone or other device, by dialing the conference call numbers provided:

Hearing Type	Default Method of Appearance
Trials	In Person
Sentencing hearings	In Person
<i>Voir dires</i> and pre-trial applications	In Person
Jury selections	In Person
Extradition hearings	In Person
Judgments	In Person
Summary conviction / traffic ticket appeals	In Person
Applications under s. 490 of the <i>Criminal Code</i>	In Person
Judicial interim release (bail) and bail review hearings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Counsel in person</li><li>• Accused by video</li></ul>

Detention review hearings under s. 525 of the <i>Criminal Code</i>	See <a href="#">CPD-4</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counsel in person</li> <li>• Accused by video</li> </ul>
Regular fix-date appearances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counsel by Teams video or audio</li> <li>• Accused who is required or wishes to attend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In custody: Video</li> <li>○ Out of custody: Teams video or audio</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Pre-trial conferences and case management conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counsel by Teams audio</li> <li>• Accused who is required or wishes to attend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In custody: Video</li> <li>○ Out of custody: Teams audio</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Scheduling hearings for s. 525 detention review hearings	See <a href="#">CPD-4</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counsel by Teams audio</li> <li>• Accused by video</li> </ul>
Any other types of criminal matter	Contact Supreme Court Scheduling

### III. ATTENDANCE BY OTHER THAN DEFAULT METHOD

Anyone seeking to attend a particular hearing by a method other than the default method of appearance listed above must take one of the following steps:

- If there is a scheduled court appearance prior to the hearing for which a participant wishes to change the method of appearance (e.g. a fix date appearance or pre-trial conference), the participant may apply to the court during the earlier appearance.
- If there is no earlier appearance, the participant may complete and submit the online application form available on the Supreme Court Scheduling webpage under the “Online Request Forms” heading, and [here](#). Anyone who is unable to access the online application form may obtain a hard copy of the form by visiting the Supreme Court Scheduling counter in the court registry or by telephoning Supreme Court Scheduling at the relevant court location.

### IV. JOINING A TEAMS VIDEO OR AUDIO HEARING

The court registry will send an email to participants at or around 8:45 a.m. on the date of the Teams video or audio hearing, with instructions on how to join the hearing, including the Teams video link and conference call numbers if the hearing is by audio, or in the event a participant is unable to connect by video.

The above-noted email will be sent to the email addresses provided to the Court by participants either when the proceedings were initiated or when the Teams video or audio hearing was scheduled. Counsel and self-represented accused persons should ensure to provide the court registry with their current email addresses to avoid any issues with receiving the Teams video link and conference call details. Counsel are responsible for forwarding the Teams video link or the conference call details to any co-

counsel who will be participating in the hearing. Defence counsel are responsible for forwarding the details to their accused client if the accused is out of custody.

Where in custody accused are attending an appearance by video, arrangements will be made for them to join the hearing.

For Teams video hearings, participants must use their cameras unless there is a technical or other reason why they are unable to do so (e.g., their computer does not have a camera). Cameras may be turned off when a participant is not speaking, unless the presiding judge requests that cameras remain on.

Participants who are unable to use video may alternatively dial in using the Teams conference call numbers provided and participate by audio only.

## **V. GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING TEAMS VIDEO HEARINGS**

Anyone participating in a hearing by Teams video must read and comply with the minimum technical standards and other directions in [COVID-19 Notice No. 47](#).

The [Policy on Use of Electronic Devices in Courtrooms](#) applies to all proceedings taking place by Teams video or audio. Any recording of a proceeding is prohibited unless expressly permitted under that Policy or by court order.

Questions regarding attendance at a Teams video or audio hearing should be directed to the registry contact in the court location where the proceeding is scheduled, as identified in the Appendix to this Notice.

Participants should not contact Supreme Court Scheduling with questions about connecting to a Teams video or audio hearing.

## **VI. ATTENDANCE BY MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC**

For information regarding attendance at Supreme Court proceedings by members of the media or public, refer to [COVID-19 Notice No. 49](#).

**THE FOREGOING IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ANY UPDATED DIRECTIONS WILL BE POSTED ON THE COURT'S WEBSITE.**

Dated March 31, 2022, Vancouver, British Columbia

By Direction of Associate Chief Justice Heather J. Holmes

## APPENDIX

### REGISTRY CONTACTS FOR HEARINGS BY TEAMS VIDEO OR AUDIO

Location	Contact
Abbotsford	Mark Williams <a href="mailto:Mark.S.Williams@gov.bc.ca">Mark.S.Williams@gov.bc.ca</a> 778-752-7445
Campbell River	Robyn Farmer <a href="mailto:Robyn.Farmer@gov.bc.ca">Robyn.Farmer@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-286-7510
Chilliwack	Deb Caswell <a href="mailto:chilliwacktechnology@gov.bc.ca">chilliwacktechnology@gov.bc.ca</a> 604-795-8341
Courtenay	Courtney Stoy <a href="mailto:Courtney.Stoy@gov.bc.ca">Courtney.Stoy@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-331-9969
Cranbrook	Kristin Gregory <a href="mailto:kristen.gregory@gov.bc.ca">kristen.gregory@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-420-6573
Dawson Creek	Colin Day <a href="mailto:Colin.Day@gov.bc.ca">Colin.Day@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-784-2278
Duncan	Kari Erickson <a href="mailto:Kari.Erickson@gov.bc.ca">Kari.Erickson@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-978-9731
Fort St. John	Kimberley Stephenson <a href="mailto:Kimberley.Stephenson@gov.bc.ca">Kimberley.Stephenson@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-787-3366
Golden	Raelene Colonna <a href="mailto:Raelene.Colonna@gov.bc.ca">Raelene.Colonna@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-344-7582
Kamloops	Shelley Ducharme <a href="mailto:Shelly.Ducharme@gov.bc.ca">Shelly.Ducharme@gov.bc.ca</a> 250 828-4365
Kelowna	Brenda Holtskog <a href="mailto:Kelowna.Chambersdesk@gov.bc.ca">Kelowna.Chambersdesk@gov.bc.ca</a>

	250 979 6778
Nanaimo	Kristin Hill kristin.hill@gov.bc.ca 250 716-5915
Nelson	Sarah Palik <a href="mailto:Sarah.Palik@gov.bc.ca">Sarah.Palik@gov.bc.ca</a> 778-671-2659
New Westminster	Caitlyn White <a href="mailto:Caitlyn.White@gov.bc.ca">Caitlyn.White@gov.bc.ca</a> 604-660-8515
Penticton	Jeanna Lantz <a href="mailto:Jeanna.lantz@gov.bc.ca">Jeanna.lantz@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-492-1231
Port Alberni	Kimberly Touchie <a href="mailto:Kimberly.Touchie@gov.bc.ca">Kimberly.Touchie@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-720-2424
Port Coquitlam	Samantha Steuernol <a href="mailto:Samantha.Steuernol@gov.bc.ca">Samantha.Steuernol@gov.bc.ca</a> 604-927-2109
Powell River	Joanne McRae <a href="mailto:Joanne.McRae@gov.bc.ca">Joanne.McRae@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-485-3630
Prince George	Denis Senecal <a href="mailto:Denis.Senecal@gov.bc.ca">Denis.Senecal@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-614-2703  <i>and</i>  Margherita Berardi <a href="mailto:Margherita.Berardi@gov.bc.c">Margherita.Berardi@gov.bc.c</a> 250-614-2754
Prince Rupert	Registry <a href="mailto:office15220@gov.bc.ca">office15220@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-624-7525
Quesnel	Jolene Shepherd <a href="mailto:Jolene.Shepherd@gov.bc.ca">Jolene.Shepherd@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-992-4272  Shelley Wiggins

	<p><u><a href="mailto:Shelley.Wiggins@gov.bc.ca">Shelley.Wiggins@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 250-992-4265</p> <p><i>and</i></p> <p>Alexandria Neilson <u><a href="mailto:Alexandria.Neilson@gov.bc.ca">Alexandria.Neilson@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 250-992-4271</p>
Revelstoke	<p>Tina Cannon <u><a href="mailto:TinaDoreen.Cannon@gov.bc.ca">TinaDoreen.Cannon@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 250 832-1609</p>
Rossland	<p>Gary Linn <u><a href="mailto:Gary.Linn@gov.bc.ca">Gary.Linn@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 250-362-9584</p> <p><i>and</i></p> <p>Teresa Mah <u><a href="mailto:Teresa.Mah@gov.bc.ca">Teresa.Mah@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 250-362-7368</p>
Salmon Arm	<p>Misty Bradbury <u><a href="mailto:Misty.Bradbury@gov.bc.ca">Misty.Bradbury@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 250-832-1645</p>
Smithers	<p>Melissa Bennett <u><a href="mailto:Melissa.Bennett@gov.bc.ca">Melissa.Bennett@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 250-876-7156</p>
Terrace	<p>Nicole Brown <u><a href="mailto:Nicole.Brown@gov.bc.ca">Nicole.Brown@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 250-638-2115</p> <p><i>and</i></p> <p>Nikki.Schafhauser <u><a href="mailto:Nikki.Schafhauser@gov.bc.ca">Nikki.Schafhauser@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 250-638-2104</p>
Vancouver	<p>Scott Kinloch <u><a href="mailto:Scott.Kinloch@gov.bc.ca">Scott.Kinloch@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 236-889-9754</p>
Vernon	<p>Aynsley Stuart <u><a href="mailto:aynsley.stuart@gov.bc.ca">aynsley.stuart@gov.bc.ca</a></u> 778-943-7154</p>
Victoria	<p>Tawnya Watson <u><a href="mailto:Tawnya.Watson@gov.bc.ca">Tawnya.Watson@gov.bc.ca</a></u></p>

	250-475-7431
Williams Lake	Jennifer Sangster <a href="mailto:Jennifer.Sangster@gov.bc.ca">Jennifer.Sangster@gov.bc.ca</a> 250-398-4307