

NOTICE

Further Update Regarding Online Booking for Civil and Family Matters

On **January 1, 2026**, the Court will be expanding the Court Online Booking System (COBS) to enable online booking for long chambers hearings in civil and family matters in **all court locations**.

More information about COBS and its expansion is available here.

Online Booking of Long Chambers Hearings

In the court locations listed below, parties and counsel will book long chambers hearings in the same way they book a CPC, JCC, or TMC: by logging into COBS, viewing the Court's available long chambers hearing dates, and selecting from those dates:

Interior: Revelstoke, Salmon Arm

Northern: Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Prince George, Prince Rupert,

Quesnel, Smithers, Terrace, Williams Lake

Vancouver Island Campbell River, Courtenay, Duncan, Nanaimo, Port Alberni,

& Powell River: Powell River

Online Booking of Long Chambers Hearings in Other Registries

In the court locations listed below, there will be a 'booking window' process for allocating newly released long chambers hearing dates, and an 'on-demand' booking system for previously released hearing dates that remain available:

Lower Mainland: Vancouver, New Westminster, Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Port

Coquitlam

Interior: Kamloops, Kelowna, Cranbrook, Nelson, Penticton, Rossland

and **Vernon**

Vancouver Island: Victoria

Booking Newly Released Hearing Dates

Commencing January 1, 2026, the process for booking newly released long chambers hearing dates will be as follows:

- 1) Parties and counsel will submit, within a booking window from the 1st to the 7th of each month, a ranked list of their preferred dates among the newly released long chambers hearing dates offered by the Court. COBS will be available 24 hours a day during the booking window.
- 2) Upon closing of the booking window, court time will be allocated among those who submitted booking requests within the booking window, so that all users have an equitable opportunity to secure newly available long chambers dates. Unsuccessful booking requests will be tracked in COBS, and priority assigned to subsequent requests.
- 3) After the booking window has closed, all parties and counsel who submitted requests within the booking window will receive an email confirming a hearing date or that their request was unsuccessful.

Booking Otherwise Available Long Chambers Hearing Dates

For long chambers hearing dates that are available but are no longer considered to be "newly released" (i.e. long chambers hearing dates that remain or become available after the 7-day booking window process has been concluded), parties and counsel will be able to log into COBS and select from the Court's available dates.

Supreme Court Scheduling Staff Remain Available to Assist

Online booking through COBS is intended to meet the needs of parties and counsel booking conferences, trials and long chambers hearings in civil and family matters in the normal course. Scheduling staff will remain available to assist individuals who, due to exceptional circumstances, are unable to meet their booking needs through COBS. Parties and counsel requiring special assistance may continue to telephone Supreme Court Scheduling staff in the relevant court location.

Accessing the Court Online Booking System

Parties and counsel will be able to access COBS by logging in using their BCeID. Parties and counsel who do not already have a BCeID will need to register for one in order to use COBS. Information about how to register for a BCeID is available here.

Lawyers who are in good standing with the Law Society of British Columbia will also have the option of using the digital credentials in their BC Wallet to log into COBS. More information for counsel on how to download the BC Wallet app, and add/use their digital credentials, is available here.

We encourage parties and counsel to take steps now to prepare for this transition.

Dated December 15, 2025 at Vancouver, British Columbia

By Direction of Chief Justice Ron A. Skolrood Supreme Court of British Columbia