

History of Notice to the Profession and Public

- Original Notice to the Profession and Public effective on May 07, 2020.
- Amended Notice to the Profession and Public effective on July 13, 2020 (housekeeping amendments consequential to NP 19 COVID 19: Resumption of Court Operations – July 13, 2020).
- Amended Notice to the Profession and Public effective on July 29, 2020 (revised section on how to address counsel and parties).
- Amended Notice to the Profession and Public effective October 07, 2020 (adds “Media and the Public” section under “Virtual Proceeding Etiquette”; housekeeping changes, including references to “remote” changed to “virtual”).
- Amended Notice to the Profession and Public effective December 16, 2020 (revised section I(1)(e) on how to address counsel and parties consequential to NP 1 Form of Address for Parties and Lawyers).
- Amended Notice to the Profession and Public effective February 01, 2021 (adds no photographs or screenshots of virtual proceedings to ss. I.1.a. and II.b.; adds ss. I.1.b. and II.c. regarding no publishing etc. of virtual proceedings; adds cross-references to Access to Court Proceedings Policy; updates s. I.1.j. regarding time limits; and housekeeping changes).
- July 2, 2021: Changes title from “Guide to Virtual Proceedings”; adds s. I.1.a. requiring counsel to use cameras for videoconference proceedings and encouraging self-represented parties, witnesses, and other court participants to do the same; clarifies for counsel manner of dress and location required for appearance; and housekeeping changes.
- July 15, 2021: Changes title from “Virtual Proceedings in the Provincial Court”; and adds definitions of “virtual(ly)” and “remote(ly)” under Purpose; references to attending virtual or in-person court proceedings remotely, “Inappropriate profiles or background images must not be used” to s. I.1.b., s. I.1.i re enabling landscape mode when using a Smartphone and no smoking or vaping to s. 1.2.l.
- November 30, 2021: Words “sharing, making available” added to sections I.2.b. and II.c; “neutral backgrounds can be especially important when there are security concerns for a party or witness” added to s. I.1.b; and housekeeping changes.
- January 19, 2022: Removed Appendix A “Guide for Appearing in the Provincial Court via Microsoft Teams” as that is now a stand-alone document.
- July 18, 2022: Remove references to “virtual proceedings” and updates requirements for counsel regarding use of cameras in s. I.1.a.

By Direction of Chief Judge Melissa Gillespie
Provincial Court of British Columbia