

PRACTICE DIRECTIVE

FORMS OF ADDRESS FOR PARTIES AND COUNSEL IN THE PROVINCIAL COURT OF MANITOBA

This Practice Directive clarifies how parties and/or counsel can advise the Court, other parties, and counsel of their pronouns and form of address. This Practice Directive reflects the Provincial Court of Manitoba's ongoing and evolving efforts to treat all court participants with equal dignity and respect.

Direction

1. At the beginning of any in-person or virtual proceeding when parties or counsel are introducing themselves, their client, a witness, or another person, they should provide the judge or justice with each person's name, title (e.g. "Mr./Ms./Mx./Counsel Jones") and the correct pronouns to be used in the proceeding.
2. If a party or counsel do not provide this information in their introduction, they will be prompted by the court clerk to provide this information. For proceedings without court clerks they may be prompted by the judge or justice to provide this information.

Coming into effect

This Practice Directive will come into effect on September 13, 2021.

PRACTICE DIRECTION
COURT OF QUEEN’S BENCH OF MANITOBA

**RE: FORMS OF ADDRESS FOR PARTIES, COUNSEL AND THE
JUDICIARY OF THE COURT OF QUEEN’S BENCH**

This Practice Direction clarifies how parties and/or counsel can advise the Court, other parties, and counsel of their pronouns and form of address. This Practice Direction reflects the Court of Queen’s Bench’s ongoing and evolving efforts to treat all court participants with equal dignity and respect.

Direction

1. At the beginning of any in-person or virtual proceeding when parties or counsel are introducing themselves, their client, a witness, or another person, they should provide the judge or justice with each person’s name, title (e.g. “Mr./Ms./Mx./Counsel Jones”) and the correct pronouns to be used in the proceeding.
2. If a party or counsel do not provide this information in their introduction, they will be prompted by the court clerk to provide this information.
3. When addressing a judge at a hearing, counsel or self-represented parties may now use, in addition to the appellations currently in place, “Justice”, “Mr. Justice”, “Madam Justice”.

Coming into effect

This Practice Direction comes into effect on September 13, 2021.

ISSUED BY:

“Original signed by Chief Justice Glenn D. Joyal”

**The Honourable Chief Justice Glenn D. Joyal
Court of Queen’s Bench (Manitoba)**

DATE: June 17, 2021

PRACTICE DIRECTION

MANITOBA COURT OF APPEAL

FORMS OF ADDRESS AND PRONOUNS

Forms of address and pronouns are two ways in which genders are expressed and how others perceive gender. The purpose of this Practice Direction is to better ensure that forms of address and pronouns align with a person's gender identity.

Before the judges enter the courtroom, the court clerk will ask the appellant(s) and the respondent(s) or their respective counsel for their names and the party they represent. At that time, they may also provide the court clerk with their manner of address (e.g. "Mr./Ms./Mx./Counsel Jones") for themselves and/or their client(s) and the pronouns that they wish to be associated with their respective names. The court clerk will then place that information on the dais, where the judges sit.

When addressing a judge at a hearing, counsel or self-represented parties may use either "Justice", "Mr. Justice", "Madam Justice", "My Lord", "My Lady", "Your Lordship", or "Your Ladyship", as the case may be.

ISSUED BY:

The Honourable Richard J. Chartier
Chief Justice of Manitoba

DATE: May 27, 2021