

## PRACTICE DIRECTION

### COURT OF KING'S BENCH OF MANITOBA

#### RE: TRIAGE SCREENING LIST ADJOURNMENTS AND SCHEDULING TRIAGE CONFERENCES

##### **Introduction**

The purpose of this Practice Direction is to further the goal of providing timely and meaningful judicial intervention and assistance to families engaged in family disputes. It is to encourage the expeditious scheduling of a triage conference in family proceedings as is required by the Family Case Flow Scheduling Model.

Parties involved in a family proceeding are entitled to participate in a triage conference which provides the opportunity to resolve contentious matters in a timely manner. Timely access to early and meaningful judicial intervention is a cornerstone of the Family Case Flow Scheduling Model. To the extent that timely access is now being compromised by an increasing number of adjournments related to the Triage Screening List, this issue must be addressed.

##### **Triage Screening List Adjournments**

King's Bench Rule (KBR) 70.24(16) requires a party seeking a triage conference to file and serve a Request for Triage Conference (Form 70D.2), a Certificate of Prerequisite Completion (Form 70D.3) and a triage brief on the other party at least fourteen (14) days before the triage screening date. KBR 70.24(17) states that the responding party must file and serve their Certificate of Prerequisite Completion and triage brief no later than four (4) days before the triage screening date.

Where a responding party fails to file and serve their Certificate of Prerequisite Completion and triage brief four days before the triage screening date as is required, the family proceeding is adjourned on the Triage Screening List. There have been cases where a family proceeding has been adjourned repeatedly as a result of the failure of a responding party to file and serve the required documents.

The failure of a responding party to file and serve their triage documents may be the result of the parties wishing to focus on settlement discussions. Regrettably, the failure may also be due to a responding party attempting to delay the scheduling of a triage conference.

Counsel are reminded that in the event of unnecessary delay in setting the date of a triage conference, a moving party should seek an order from an associate judge forthwith. An associate judge will grant the appropriate order and cost award if requested, to ensure that a moving party is able to proceed to triage on a timely basis.

Effective **February 3, 2026**, where a proceeding appears on the Triage Screening List a third time, the required triage documents of the moving and the responding parties must be filed, failing which it will be struck off the List on a without prejudice basis. Only where the Associate Chief Justice has granted an adjournment, which will be granted only in exceptional circumstances, will the proceeding not be struck off the list.

A proceeding that has been struck off may be brought back on the Triage Screening List by filing a new Request for Triage Conference (Form 70D.2) and a requisition with payment of the filing fee.

## **Scheduling A Triage Conference**

The Triage Conference Co-ordinator advises counsel and/or the self-represented party(ies) by email when all applicable prerequisites in a family proceeding have been satisfied. The email sets out the available hearing dates for a triage conference and requests that counsel and/or the self-represented party(ies) confirm their availability by return email no later than **11:00 a.m.** on the Tuesday Triage Screening List.

Ms. Angie Tkachuk, Triage Conference Co-ordinator, presides over the Triage Screening List every Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. She may be contacted by email (angie.tkachuk@gov.mb.ca) or by teleconference (204-945-4209).

In the event that neither counsel nor the self-represented party(ies) respond to the email from the Triage Conference Co-ordinator, the proceeding will be struck off the Triage Screening List on a without prejudice basis.

The proceeding may be brought back on the Triage Screening List by filing a new Request for Triage Conference (Form 70D.2) and a requisition with payment of the requisite filing fee.

## **Coming into effect**

This Practice Direction comes into effect immediately.

### **ISSUED BY:**

***“Original signed by Associate Chief Justice Hatch”***

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**The Honourable Associate Chief Justice Gwen B. Hatch**  
**Court of King's Bench of Manitoba**

**DATE: January 20, 2026**