



Timing of the Re-opening

The timing of the notice and accompanying administrative processes has been hurried and has not allowed for adequate time for preparation. The Memorandum was completely unexpected given the May 6, 2020 Notice stating that regular Court operations are suspended until July. Offices are still largely closed to the public, including at the Public Prosecution Service of Canada, Legal Services Board, and the Government of Nunavut. Additionally, the dockets are no longer posted online on the Nunavut Court of Justice website, and were disseminated to a limited number of Justice System participants at nearly 8:00pm on a Friday night for court at 9:30am on Monday morning.

Information for Self-Represented Litigants and the Media

There is no readily accessible information in the Memorandum or the Nunavut Court of Justice website for call-in numbers to court for self-represented litigants, the media, and the public. We would urge that this information be easily accessible to the public to ensure the open court principle.

Health Screenings and Privacy

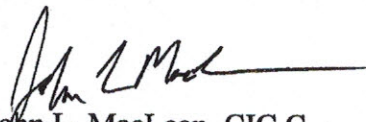
While we respect the Court's authority to make rules respecting access to the Courthouse, we are concerned that Sheriffs do not have the necessary training to conduct health screenings upon entry. Further, there is no place in the courthouse to conduct these screenings in private. We are concerned that Court Services Division does not have the statutory authority to collect personal health information pursuant to the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Any new collection, use, or disclosure of personal information requires a privacy impact assessment be completed; we are unaware of any such assessment being conducted.

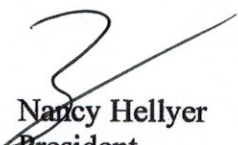
Future Consultations

As the Executive Committees representing the regulator and the advocate for the legal profession in Nunavut, we are disappointed that the Court did not consult with members of the public and private bars when developing its re-opening plan.

Moving forward, we respectfully request that the Court consult with the bench and bar committees (civil and criminal) and the Court Users Committee when developing its re-opening plans. Doing so would ensure that Justice System participants can have their concerns voiced prior to decisions being made.

Sincerely,


John L. MacLean, C.I.C.C.
President
Law Society of Nunavut


Nancy Hellyer
President
Canadian Bar Association Nunavut Branch

CC. Chief Justice Neil Sharkey