

Exceptional measures in the context of the Coronavirus pandemic

Dear fellow notaries,

The state of emergency declared by the government on Saturday, March 14th, 2020, demands the full collaboration of the Canadian population.

As professionals in daily contact with a diverse clientele, notaries and their staff are no exception to the rule and must participate in this effort. It is in this spirit that the Chambre des notaires du Québec makes the following recommendations to its members.

Québec notaries must take all reasonable measures to reduce attendance in their offices :

- Access to the workplace should be limited to staff and clients with an appointment ;
- Non-essential appointments should be postponed ;
- Meetings with several people in the same space should not be held; technological means of communication (videoconference or teleconference) should be favoured; and meetings with sellers and buyers for the purposes of a transaction should be held separately ;
- If a client calls your office for an appointment requiring immediate attention, assess and discuss the emergency level with him or her and decide whether or not to proceed ;
- Before making an appointment with a client, the following questions should be asked :
 1. Did he or she travel or was he or she in direct contact (less than two meters) with someone who has traveled outside of Canada in the past 14 days ?
 2. Does he or she suffer from symptoms identified by the Public Health Agency of Canada or has he or she been in direct contact (less than two meters) with a person presenting these symptoms ?

If any of these questions is answered in the affirmative, no meeting should take place.

I would like to thank you for your understanding and your usual cooperation during this time of need.

The President,



Handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'François Bibeau'.

François Bibeau, notaire