



COVID-19: MORE TIME TO PAY FINES, DEFAULT CONVICTIONS SUSPENDED

Friday, March 20, 2020 (Halifax, NS) – To help slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, effective immediately, Nova Scotians will have more time to pay their fines for summary offence convictions and no one will be automatically convicted for not dealing with their outstanding parking or driving offences.

Pamela Williams, Chief Judge of the Provincial and Family Courts, has directed all Staff Justices of the Peace to extend fine payment deadlines 90 days beyond the existing due dates.

Court officials have also been working with Service Nova Scotia and the Registry of Motor Vehicles to address default convictions for summary offence tickets and parking tickets. The Registry will suspend issuing certificates of default for a 60-day period, effective March 16, 2020. The situation will be re-evaluated at the end of the 60 days. Anyone with questions should contact the [Registry of Motor Vehicles](#).

Nova Scotia now has five confirmed cases and nine presumptive cases of the COVID-19 virus. Public health officials have directed people to practice social distancing, avoid public gatherings and to stay home, whenever possible.

These measures ensure no one is required to attend court or visit a courthouse to deal with a pending fine or summary offence matter during this evolving situation.

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Media Contact:

Jennifer Stairs
Communications Director
Nova Scotia Judiciary
902-221-5257
stairsjl@courts.ns.ca