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MEMO

From: The Honourable Madam Justice K. Bingham

Date: November 18, 2026

Re: Notice to the Public & Profession regarding changes to Case and Settlement Conferences in Family Court, St. Catharines

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This notice applies to proceedings in the Superior Court of Justice, Family Court Branch, St. Catharines, Ontario.

Effective April 13, 2027, case and settlement conferences will be scheduled at 10:00 a.m. or 2:15 p.m., with three conferences scheduled at 10:00 a.m. and two conferences scheduled at 2:15 p.m.

Counsel and parties must attend at the commencement of the conference block for check-in and are expected to remain available until their matter has been addressed. Matters will be called individually during the scheduled block. Counsel and parties should expect to be in and out of court throughout the conference block.

The purpose of the change is to have more effective conferences with increased judicial input and time for settlement discussions on contested issues. Counsel and parties should come to conferences prepared with the necessary information to have productive settlement discussions. A second settlement conference will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances.

Justice K. Bingham