



**British Columbia Court of Appeal
Practice Directive (Civil)
Title: Hague Convention Appeals**

Issued: 11 July 2022

Effective: 18 July 2022

Cite as: *Hague Convention Appeals* (Civil Practice Directive, 18 July 2022)

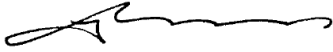
In recognition of the importance of fast-tracking appeals involving the inter-jurisdictional abduction of children, including international abductions which engage the *Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction*, 25 October 1980, Hague XXVIII (entered into force 1 December 1983), this Court has adopted the following protocol for expediting appeals raising this issue.

Any appellant who proposes to raise an issue regarding the inter-jurisdictional abduction of children, including international abductions engaging the *Hague Convention*, must immediately provide a letter to the registry when filing the Notice of Appeal, advising the Registrar that the appeal raises this issue and seeking directions.

If an appellant does not raise the issue and the respondent is of the view that the issue should be raised, then, on receiving the Notice of Appeal/Application for Leave to Appeal, the respondent is requested to file a letter with an appearance, advising of the issue, and asking for an expedited appeal.

Upon receiving such letter, the Registrar shall refer the matter to a justice for a pre-hearing conference. A pre-hearing conference with counsel (or with the parties, if unrepresented) will be scheduled without delay. The goals of the pre-hearing conference will be: to ensure an early hearing date; to arrange for the orderly filing and format of materials; and to make any ancillary orders required.

Every effort will be made to provide a hearing date not more than 3 weeks following the receipt of the letter requesting an expedited hearing.



Chief Justice R.J. Bauman
for the Court of Appeal of British Columbia

History:

Replaces the Civil Practice Directive titled *Hague Convention Appeals*, dated 19 September 2011, which replaced the Civil Practice Directive titled *Protocol for Appeals Regarding the Interjurisdictional Abduction of Children, including international abductions engaging The 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (the "Hague Convention")*, dated 21 July 2009.