

## Directive from the Chief Judge of the Court of Québec on wearing medical masks in courtrooms

The decisions and actions of the Court of Québec since the beginning of the pandemic have had two main objectives:

- Maintain judicial services for litigants.
- Protect the health of judicial services staff and everyone who must be present in a courtroom, for whatever reason.

The Court closely monitors the changing recommendations released by public authorities, especially Institut national de santé publique du Québec (INSPQ) and Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail (CNESST).

In light of the latest announcements on these rules, the Court of Québec has issued a new directive replacing the one dated April 12, 2021, June 8, 2021, January 7, 2022 and February 24, 2022.

**Therefore, as of March 7, 2022**, it is no longer required to wear a medical mask at all times in a courtroom where there is either a physical barrier or a minimum distance of one metre between persons.

However, it is still mandatory to wear a mask when moving within the courtroom.

Chief Judge,

(s) Lucie Rondeau

Lucie Rondeau

March 7, 2022