

Township of Huron-Kinloss

Marriage Commissioners Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the difference between a Marriage Commissioner and a Minister?

Under Ontario Regulation 285/04, the Clerk of a municipality may solemnize marriages in Ontario. In Huron-Kinloss, the Clerk has chosen to delegate this authority to Marriage Commissioners. A Marriage Commissioner conducts a civil marriage ceremony which generally includes no religious connotations. All weddings performed by an authorized/licensed officiant, either a Minister or a Marriage Commissioner are equally legal.

2. Where can I be married?

Marriage Commissioners perform ceremonies in many different venues including backyards, parks, on the beach or in other suitable locations. Huron-Kinloss has many beautiful locations for a wedding. A Marriage Commissioner from Huron-Kinloss may officiate at a ceremony anywhere in Ontario.

3. How do I obtain a Marriage Licence?

The Township of Huron-Kinloss issues marriage licences that can be used to marry anywhere in Ontario. To obtain a marriage licence, an [application form](#) must be filled out and signed by both parties. Original pieces of identification will need to be presented. A marriage licence is good for 90 days once issued. The fee for the licence at the Huron-Kinloss office is \$125.00

If either of the applicants is divorced, the original certificate of divorce must be presented to the Clerk when applying for the licence. If the

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divorce was outside of Canada, please contact the township office for the paperwork required. Please note that this can be a lengthy process so allow for extra processing time.

If you would like to obtain a marriage licence from the Township of Huron-Kinloss, please contact the office to set up an appointment time.

Phone: 519-395-3735

Fax: 519-395-4107

Email: info@huronkinloss.com

Address: 21 Queen Street, P.O. Box 130, Ripley ON N0G 2R0

4. How do I get my Marriage Certificate?

The signed Record of Solemnization of Marriage you will receive after your ceremony. This document is not a legal record. You will need an official Marriage Certificate to prove that you were married. In order to obtain an official Certificate of Marriage, you must apply to the Office of the Registrar General approximately three (3) months after your ceremony. This certificate is not automatically mailed to you so it is important to remember to apply for it. There is a small fee payable to the Registrar General in order to get a Marriage Certificate. You may find more information and a link to apply for your Marriage Certificate online at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-get-copy-ontario-marriage-certificate-online>. An official Marriage Certificate is required for any name changes on official government documents.

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5. Do we have to purchase our Marriage Licence in Huron-Kinloss to be married in Huron-Kinloss?

No. You may purchase an Ontario Marriage Licence from any municipal office in the province of Ontario. The Licence is valid for 90 days from the date of issue and it allows you to be married anywhere in the province. You must have a Marriage Licence before you may be married.

6. After the wedding, who registers our marriage?

After the ceremony, you will receive the signed Record of Solemnization. This is not an official document. Your Marriage Commissioner will ensure that the signed Record of Solemnization is delivered to the Municipal Office following the ceremony so it can be forwarded to the Office of the Registrar General in Thunder Bay within two (2) business days. The Province of Ontario will then register your marriage. Within 10-12 weeks after the Record of Solemnization has been sent to the Office of the Registrar, you may apply for your official Marriage Certificate by contacting the Registrar.

7. How do I officially book a Marriage Commissioner?

When you have selected a marriage commissioner, you will complete and submit the online marriage commissioner booking form found on the Township's website (<http://www.huronkinloss.com/marriage-commissioner-booking.cfm>). You will then be contacted to confirm your booking.

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PLEASE NOTE: If you have not received a confirmation from our office within 2 business days of submission, please contact us at 519-395-3735 ext. 124 or email us at info@huronkinloss.com

8. What are the fees and how do I pay?

All bookings and payments for Marriage Commissioner services are administered through the Township of Huron-Kinloss. The cost of a ceremony is \$350.00. A deposit of \$100.00 must be paid in order for the booking to be confirmed. The remainder of the fee is due two weeks before your wedding. Should there be a cancellation, notice must be received a minimum of 30 days prior to the date of the wedding to receive a refund of \$250.00. We accept cash, cheque, debit, Mastercard, Visa, on-line banking and e-transfers. Email for more information at info@huronkinloss.com.

Any rehearsal fees or mileage fees (if applicable) are paid directly to the Marriage Commissioner.

9. Where can I find information about getting married in Ontario?

The Service Ontario, Getting Married should answer any questions you may have. <https://www.ontario.ca/page/getting-married>

10. What about a wedding rehearsal and is it necessary?

This is the “walk-through” of the ceremony and usually includes the Bride, Groom, Bridesmaids, Groomsmen, Flower Girls, Ring Bearer, Officiant, and others in the wedding party. Rehearsals usually last about 30 minutes. The purpose of a wedding rehearsal is to show

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people where they fit in during the ceremony so they will feel more confident about their roles on the actual wedding day. Rehearsals are not necessary for everyone. A rehearsal fee will apply and additional fees may be applicable depending on location. Please check with your officiant to see if this may be of interest to you.

11. Do I need to meet with my Marriage Commissioner before the wedding?

While it is sometimes nice to meet ahead of time to discuss the ceremony and to ask questions, it is not necessary. The ceremony can be planned quite easily through correspondence at the couple's convenience.

12. When should I book a Marriage Commissioner?

To avoid disappointment, we recommend that you book your Marriage Commissioner early. Many couples book their officiant 6-8 months in advance. Officiants will take bookings a year ahead.