

Introductions

THE PURPOSE

We are gathered here today to witness the formal joining in the legal state of matrimony of this couple, under the authority given and provided by the Government of the Province of Ontario.

The state of matrimony, as understood by us, is a state ennobled and enriched by a long and honourable tradition of devotion, set in the basis of the law of the land, assuring each participant an equality before the law, and supporting the common rights of each party to the marriage.

Both of you understand that marriage is not to be entered upon thoughtlessly, or irresponsibly, but with a due and serious understanding and appreciation of the ends for which it is contracted. Therefore, if there is anyone present who can show just cause why these two persons may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, they should now declare it or hereafter remain silent.

_____ and _____ you have made it known that you want to be joined in marriage and no one has shown any valid reason why you may not. If either of you know of any lawful impediment why you should not be married, you are now to declare it.

Officiant to 1st person: Repeat after me please:

"I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, _____, may not be joined in matrimony to _____".

Officiant to 2nd person: Repeat after me please:

"I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, _____, may not be joined in matrimony to _____".

Marriage is not a single event but, rather, a developing process. Marriage is the faithful union between two persons the result of which is the formation of a family unit whose members shall help, support and enjoy each other in good times and in bad times. It is the relationship these two persons wish to have declared and celebrated.

If either person is escorted forward, Officiant states:

"Who is it that gives this _____ (man/woman/these individuals) in marriage?"

Answer "I/we do". (father, mother, children, relatives, etc.)

DECLARATION OF INTENT AND VOWS

“Would you please face each other, join hands and repeat after me.”

Officiant to the 1st person:

“I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, _____ do take you, _____, to be my lawful wedded (wife/husband/spouse/partner). To have and hold, from this day forward. For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health. To love and to cherish, so long as we both shall live.”

Officiant to the 2nd person:

“I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, _____ do take you, _____, to be my lawful wedded (wife/husband/spouse/partner). To have and hold, from this day forward. For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health. To love and to cherish, so long as we both shall live.”

EXCHANGE OF RINGS

“This ring is a symbol of your marriage and a symbol of your love and life together.”

Officiant to the 1st person:

Please place this ring on the third finger of _____’s left hand saying after me:

“This ring I give you in token of the covenant made this day between us.”

This ring is a symbol of your marriage and a symbol of your love and life together.

Officiant to the 2nd person:

Please place this ring on the third finger of _____’s left hand saying after me:

“This ring I give you in token of the covenant made this day between us.”

As you wear these rings may you find them reminders of an endless love which may grow more meaningful with each passing day.

Civil Marriage Ceremony
Option #3

PRONOUNCEMENT

_____ and _____ have pledged themselves to each other and have declared this symbolically by their vows and the exchange of rings. I, _____, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the *Marriage Act*, do hereby pronounce you _____ and _____ to be (husband and wife/partners in life/married).

You may exchange a kiss as a token of your joy.

SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

At this time, the wedded parties and their witnesses will sign the Official Marriage Register.

SERVICE CONCLUSION

May you enjoy length of days, fulfillment of hopes and peace and contentment of mind as you day by day live and fulfill the terms of this covenant you have made with one another.

I wish you happiness and prosperity and may the vows you made to each other today, sustain you forever.

Officiant: May I introduce to you the married couple.