

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THAMES CENTRE OPENS DOORS TO CIVIL MARRIAGE CEREMONIES

THAMES CENTRE - February 15, 2024 – Thames Centre is thrilled to announce a significant enhancement to its services as it prepares to authorize the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to perform Civil Marriages, in accordance with Regulation 285/04 under the Marriage Act. This exciting development is set to commence late March of this year, bringing greater convenience and accessibility to couples seeking to tie the knot.

With this authorization, Thames Centre aims to streamline the process for couples looking to solemnize their union, offering an affordable and convenient option for wedding ceremonies. Couples will have the flexibility to choose between holding their ceremony at the municipal office during regular work hours or opt for an off-site location, catering to their preferences and ensuring their special day is tailored to their desires, subject to staff and council chamber availability.

"We are delighted to extend our services to include Civil Marriage Ceremonies,"— *The Municipality of Thames Deputy Clerk Sara Henshaw* "This initiative underscores our commitment to providing accessible and inclusive services to our community members. We recognize the significance of marriage ceremonies and are dedicated to facilitating memorable experiences for couples in Thames Centre." – *The Municipality of Thames Clerk Jana Nethercott*

The inclusion of Civil Marriage Ceremonies reflects Thames Centre's ongoing efforts to adapt and evolve its services to meet the diverse needs of its residents. By empowering the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to officiate weddings, the municipality is taking proactive steps to enhance the overall experience for couples while ensuring compliance with regulatory standards.

Contact

Shannon Zylstra, Communications Coordinator The Municipality of Thames Centre szylstra@thamescentre.on.ca