



***CIVIL MARRIAGE
CEREMONY
AND
OTHER RELATED
SERVICES***

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Marriage Ceremony Applicant's Check List

- Review Civil Marriage Ceremony Guidelines (pages 2 to 4)
- Contact Municipal Office to schedule a pre-ceremony meeting with the officiant
- Obtain a valid marriage licence in Ontario.
- Complete the Civil Marriage Ceremony Form / or the Commitment or Renewal of Vows Ceremony Form for review with the officiant (pages 24 or 25)
- Pay all required fees in accordance with this package (pages 5 & 6)
- Choose vows for your civil marriage ceremony (pages 9 - 23)
- Determine a location for the ceremony
- Make arrangements for two witnesses
- If required, please make arrangements for an interpreter for the ceremony
- Arrange for any music, videographer, photographer and decorations
- For more Frequently Asked Questions (pages 7 & 8)

Reminder:

It is recommended that you complete an application form for a marriage certificate approximately three (3) months following the date of marriage. Forms will be included with your marriage licence or can be obtained on-line at <http://www.canadacertificates.com/marriage-ontario.html>

**To schedule an appointment or for more
information contact the Municipal Office at:**

229 Parkhill Main Street,
Parkhill, ON N0M 2K0
519-294-6244



GUIDELINES FOR THE PROVISION OF CIVIL MARRIAGE CEREMONIES OR OTHER RELATED SERVICES

1. **Civil marriage ceremonies** will be conducted by the Clerk or designate in the Shared Services Centre Council Chambers at 229 Parkhill Main Street in Parkhill during Municipality of North Middlesex regular business hours weekdays from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (holidays excluded) for a fee of \$200.00.
2. Arrangements for **civil marriage ceremonies** outside of the Shared Services Centre anywhere in Ontario and/or outside regular business hours can be arranged with the Clerk or designate for a fee of \$400.00.
3. For couples who legally marry in another country and within six (6) months of their wedding date wish to have a **pledge or commitment ceremony** before family and friends in a location within Ontario, such ceremonies may be conducted for a fee of \$200.00 if held on-site in the Council Chambers during regular Municipality of North Middlesex business hours or for \$400.00 in the Council Chambers outside regular business hours or off-site at any time.
4. For couples who are legally married and wish to renew their vows after five (5) years in the Council Chambers or at an outside venue at any time, such **ceremonial renewal of vows** may be conducted at a fee of \$150.00 to be paid in full at scheduling.
5. Fee: cash, money order, cheque or debit to be paid to the Municipality of North Middlesex a minimum of five (5) business days prior to the ceremony date. In addition, other deposits or fees may apply:
 - o A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required at the time of scheduling for any ceremony.
 - o Rehearsal Fee and Renewal of Vows Fee of \$150.00 to be paid in full at scheduling.
 - o A \$20.00 per employee witness fee if no witnesses are brought forward and the ceremony is held in the Council Chambers during Municipality of North Middlesex regular business hours.
 - o No other gratuities required.

The Rehearsal Fee and fee for Ceremonial Renewal of Vows are non-refundable if cancelled the day before the event or on the event day.

6. A request for a ceremony should be received at least five days prior to the date of the ceremony; special circumstances may permit ceremonies to be held within two hours of a request as determined by the Officiant.



FEES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGE AND OTHER RELATED SERVICES

Civil Marriage Ceremony

- ◆ \$200.00 if held in the Council Chambers during regular Municipality of North Middlesex business hours.
- \$400.00 if held in the Council Chambers outside of regular business hours or held off-site within or outside of the Municipality – depending on the location, may require additional expenses for mileage and/or accommodations (see note#1 below)

Witness Fee

- ◆ \$20.00 per employee if ceremony held in the Council Chambers during Municipality of North Middlesex regular business hours.

Pledge or Commitment Ceremony

- ◆ For couples who legally marry in another country and within six (6) months of their wedding date wish to have a pledge or commitment ceremony before family and friends in Ontario; \$200.00 if held in the Council Chambers during regular Municipality of North Middlesex business hours.
- \$400.00 if held in the Council Chambers outside of regular business hours or held off-site within or outside of the Municipality – depending on the location, may require additional expenses for mileage and/or accommodations (see note#1 below)

Renewal of Vows

- \$150.00 plus may require additional expenses for mileage and/or accommodations (see note #1 below).

Rehearsal Fee

- \$150.00 plus may require additional expenses for mileage and/or accommodations (see note #1 below).

NOTES:

1. Ceremonies held at venues outside of one (1) hour or 100 km drive of the boundaries of the Municipality of North Middlesex and/or during inclement weather may be subject to an additional fee to cover accommodations and travel expenses of the Officiant.
2. Additional rental fees apply to other municipal and private facilities. Arrangements for booking of these facilities will need to be made by the couple.
3. All fees, with the exception of the on-site civil marriage ceremony held during regular business hours in the Council Chambers and the witness fee, are shared equally between the Municipality and the Officiant to cover costs including salary and mileage.
4. A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required at the time of scheduling for any civil marriage ceremony or pledge or commitment ceremony. All fees for rehearsals and renewal of vow ceremonies are to be paid in full at scheduling. These are non-refundable if cancelled on the day before or the day of the event unless for unforeseen circumstances at the discretion of the Officiant.
5. No other gratuities required.

7. A pre-ceremony consultation meeting with both applicants (approximately 30 minutes) is mandatory;
 - Both applicants must be in attendance and provide photo identification;
 - To be scheduled a minimum of five business days prior to the ceremony unless changed at the discretion of the Clerk or designate;
 - Fees to be paid in full, estimated additional costs will be given at this meeting;
 - Ceremony information form to be completed;
 - Marriage License to be presented and left with the Officiant (date issued to be within three (3) months prior ceremony) if prepared by the Town;
 - To discuss other municipal locations for the ceremony;
 - Standard vows are available or personalized vows to be provided the day of the pre-ceremony meeting;
 - Music selection (if any), will be discussed; and,
 - To discuss photo opportunities during the ceremony.
8. Changes to date and/or time are allowed at no additional charge provided that the location and Officiant are available. The \$50.00 non-refundable deposit will be charged if the ceremony is cancelled prior to the scheduled date. No refund will be issued if the ceremony is cancelled the day of the ceremony, or the applicant(s) and witnesses do not show up for the ceremony.
9. The ceremony can take between 10 to 20 minutes depending on the details. Please plan to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the ceremony to allow time to review final details.
10. Depending on the location, additional expenses for mileage and/or accommodation may be requested (see notes).
11. Alcohol or stimulants are not to be used by the celebrants or their witnesses prior to the ceremony. If the Officiant believes that alcohol or other stimulants have been used, the ceremony may be cancelled at the discretion of the Officiant.
12. Music will be permitted before and after the ceremony (applicants to provide their own equipment). When selecting the type of music, consideration should be given to its appropriateness and contribution to the dignity of the occasion.
13. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide an interpreter if they do not speak English and/or require language assistance. The interpreter cannot be one of the witnesses. The interpreter will be required to sign a form that he/she has interpreted the wedding ceremony as per requirements.
14. Absolutely no confetti, rice, bird seed etc. is allowed in the Shared Services Centre or on the grounds of the municipal offices or property. Couples may be charged with the cost of cleanup should any be found.
15. Guests will be reminded to turn off all electronic equipment prior to the commencement of the ceremony and to remain off until all documents are signed.

NOTES:

1. There is no minimum age requirement for a witness, however, it is suggested they should be at least sixteen years of age to be able to understand and appreciate what is taking place and if necessary, give evidence of such at a later date, if required.
2. The Record of Solemnization of Marriage given at the ceremony is not a legal record. Approximately 12 weeks after the ceremony, you may apply to the Office of the Registrar General to obtain an official Certificate of Marriage.
3. Additional rental fees apply to other municipal facilities. Bookings for these facilities will need to be made through the appropriate Department or organization. Arrangements at private facilities are the responsibility of the couple.
4. Ceremonies held at venues outside of one (1) hour or 100 km drive of the boundaries of the Municipality of North Middlesex and/or during inclement weather may be subject to an additional fee to cover accommodations and mileage of the Officiant.
5. If personal vows are to be made, they are to be reviewed by the Officiant at least five (5) days prior to the ceremony. It would be appreciated if a written copy of the personal vows is brought to the pre-ceremony meeting.
6. The Officiant is only responsible for performing the ceremony and therefore not responsible for other activities for the ceremony (i.e. photography, wedding planning, and organizing).
7. In the event that the fees within this document do not reflect the current North Middlesex Fees and Charges by-law, the amount listed within the Fees and Charges by-law shall prevail.



Frequently Asked Questions

1. What documents are needed for a civil marriage service?

Before meeting with the marriage officiant you should have completed the Civil Marriage Ceremony Form included in this package. Also, you will be required to obtain your Ontario marriage licence (valid for three (3) months following its date of issue), which you will need to show the officiant.

2. Who may officiate the wedding?

In the Municipality of North Middlesex, the Clerk and Deputy Clerk, are appointed officiants and may perform wedding ceremonies.

3. Where will the wedding be located?

The ceremony takes place in the Council Chambers, which is located in the Shared Services Centre, 229 Parkhill Main Street, Parkhill, ON. Please inquire with the Municipal Office for more information.

4. Can we get married on Saturday?

Generally, Weddings may take place in the Council Chambers from Monday to Friday during business hours. Officiants may conduct ceremonies outside of regular hours if available. When the ceremony is held outside of business hours a location must be provided.

5. Does the Municipality offer "same day service" for a ceremony?

The Municipality does not offer same day ceremonies. Requests must be made and a pre-ceremony meeting must be conducted a minimum of five (5) days prior to the ceremony.

6. Do we have to purchase our Ontario Licence in the Municipality of North Middlesex to be married in the Municipality of North Middlesex?

No, an Ontario Marriage Licence may be purchased anywhere in the Province of Ontario to be married anywhere in the Province.

7. Are witnesses required for a civil marriage ceremony?

Yes, all couples require two witnesses present during the ceremony. Witnesses must be at least 14 years old and speak English, or have a translator present. If no witnesses are available the Municipality of North Middlesex may supply them upon request. The cost is \$20 per witness if required and this is only available for ceremonies conducted in the Council Chambers.

8. May we include readings from the Bible or have a Blessing at our ceremony?

The marriage officiant may not perform any type of religious ceremony in keeping with the spirit of the Ontario Marriage Act which requires civil ceremonies to be “non-denominational”. The couple may have someone other than the officiant provide a reading or a blessing.

9. Who registers our civil marriage?

After the ceremony all parties must sign the Record of Solemnization (to be retained by the couple) and the Statement of Marriage, both are included on the licence. The marriage officiant will ensure all documentation is forwarded to the Office of the Registrar General in Thunder Bay within two (2) business days to register your marriage with the Province of Ontario.



MARRIAGE CEREMONY OPTION # 1

PURPOSE

We are gathered at this place for the purpose of joining in the legal state of matrimony (this man and this woman/these two people), under the authority given and provided by the Government of the Province of Ontario.

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 any one 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.

Officiant to 1st person: Please repeat after me:

REPEAT (Person #1)

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

Officiant to 2st person: Please repeat after me:

REPEAT (Person #2)

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

DECLARATION OF INTENT AND VOWS

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

REPEAT (Person #1)

I call upon these persons here present, to witness that I _____, do take you _____, to be my lawful wedded (husband/wife/spouse/partner). *

REPEAT (Person #2)

I call upon these persons here present, to witness that I _____, do take you _____, to be my lawful wedded (husband/wife/spouse/partner). *

EXCHANGE OF RINGS

(Make provision for ring bearer)

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

REPEAT (Person #1)

Please place the 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.

REPEAT (Person #2)

Please place the 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.

PRONOUNCEMENT

_____and_____have pledged themselves to each other and have declared this symbolically by their vows and the exchange of rings.

I _____, by the virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you _____and_____to be (husband and wife/married as partners in life). *

You may now exchange a kiss as a token of your love.

SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

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

May I introduce to you Mr. and Mrs. _____.

*** These lines must be spoken by officiant.**



MARRIAGE CEREMONY OPTION #2

PURPOSE

We are gathered at this place for the purpose of joining in the legal state of matrimony (this man and this woman/these two people), under the authority given and provided by the Government of the Province of Ontario.

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 any one 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: Please repeat after me:

REPEAT (Person #1)

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: Please repeat after me:

REPEAT (Person #2)

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 this relationship these two persons wish to have declared and celebrate.

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.

REPEAT (Person #1)

I call upon these persons here present, to witness that I _____, do take you _____, to be my lawful wedded (husband/wife/spouse/partner). * 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.

REPEAT (Person #2)

I call upon these persons here present, to witness that I _____, do take you _____, to be my lawful wedded (husband/wife/spouse/partner). *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

(Make provision for ring bearer)

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

REPEAT (Person #1)

Please place the ring on the third finger of _____'s left hand saying after me:
With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour and cherish thee and this ring is the symbol of my love.

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

REPEAT (Person #2)

Please place the ring on the third finger of _____'s left hand saying after me:
With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour and cherish thee and this ring is the symbol of my love.

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

PRONOUNCEMENT

_____and_____have pledged themselves to each other and have declared this symbolically by their vows and the exchange of rings.

I _____, by the virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you _____and_____to be (husband and wife/married as partners in life). *

You may now exchange a kiss as a token of your love.

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.

SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

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

May I introduce to you Mr. and Mrs._____.

*** These lines must be spoken by officiant.**



MARRIAGE CEREMONY OPTION #3

OPENING

We are gathered here today in the presence of friends and family, not to witness the beginning of what will be, but rather what already is. _____ and _____ are committing themselves to each other in marriage. Today's ceremony will be a continuation of that ceremony and will finalize their vows and make legal their marriage.

I first like to welcome and thank everyone for being here today. Your love and support surely means a lot to this new couple. I have been asked by _____ and _____ to thank their parents, _____ for the wonderful lives they have given them, for the hard work and guidance they have provided, for their everlasting love, support, and encouragement. It is from them that they have learned the true meaning of love, friendship and family. *** choose opening – don't need the two paragraphs

INTRO

The marriage between _____ and _____ is not the beginning of a new relationship; rather, it is an acknowledgement and celebration of a relationship that has been flourishing since they met.

Marriage has been described as living in love with your best friend – precisely the way _____ and _____ see their relationship. Love is one of the few constants in the universe. It is reality, affinity, and communication. Only love is capable of joining living beings by their deepest essence, uniting, completing, and fulfilling them.

You have chosen to walk through life together. There is no truer statement of love. The choice was not made by any one moment, but by being together you grew to realize that you belonged together and that you fulfilled each other's needs and desires. You have come to thrive upon each other's presence, loyalty and wisdom. The commitment you make today will be the foundation on which you will build your lives together.

_____ and _____ would you please face each other and join your hands.

VOWS:

_____, as I say these words, would you please repeat after me...

I love you _____. You are my best friend. Today I, _____, give myself to you, _____ in marriage. I promise to encourage and inspire you, to laugh with you, and to comfort you in times of sorrow and struggle. I promise to love you in good times and in bad, when life seems easy and when it seems hard, when our love is simple, and when it is an effort. I promise to cherish you, and to always respect you and our love. These things I promise you today, I promise with all of my heart.

_____ As I say these words, would you please repeat after me...

I love you _____. You are my best friend. Today I, _____, give myself to you, _____ in marriage. I promise to encourage and inspire you, to laugh with you, and to comfort you in times of sorrow and struggle. I promise to love you in good times and in bad, when life seems easy and when it seems hard, when our love is simple, and when it is an effort. I promise to cherish you, and to always respect you and our love. These things I promise you today, I promise with all of my heart.

In addition to the vows they just made to each other, _____ and _____ have prepared a few vows of their own.

_____ **VOWS**
_____ **VOWS**

THE RINGS

_____ and _____ your rings are intimately associated with your intent to honour and treasure the vows you have made today. By exchanging rings, you resolve to live your vows and not to let them drift in shallow promises. Believe and trust that the words you have spoken have the capacity to create the marriage, family and life of your dreams, and that the rings you exchange will have the power to return you to your vows.

_____ as you place this ring on _____ finger, please repeat after me.

_____, I give you this ring, as a sign of our marriage, and a lasting reminder, of the vows made between us today. I give you this ring, as a reminder that I will love, honour, and cherish you, in all times, in all places, and in all ways, forever.

_____, if you accept please say "I Do".

_____ as you place this ring on _____ finger please repeat after me.

_____, I give you this ring, as a sign of our marriage, and a lasting reminder, of the vows made between us today. I give you this ring, as a reminder that I will love, honour, and cherish you, in all times, in all places, and in all ways, forever.

_____, if you accept please say “I Do”.

HAND CEREMONY

As an expression that you are joined together in love – will you please hold each other’s hands, so you may feel the gift that you are to each other.

These are the hands of your best friend, young and strong and full of love for you, that are holding yours on your wedding day as you promise to love each other today, tomorrow, and during your lifetime of happiness.

These are the hands that will work alongside yours as together you build your future.
These are the hands that will comfort you in illness, and hold you when fear or grief engulfs your heart.

These are the hands that will wipe the tears from your eyes; tears of sorrow and tears of joy.

These are the hands that will give you strength when you need it.

These are the hands that will give you support as you follow your dreams.

These are the hands that will tenderly hold your children.

These are the hands that will create a loving home for your family.

And lastly, these are the hands that even when wrinkled and aged will still be reaching for yours, and still be true to the vows you made today.

COMMITMENT OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Ladies and Gentlemen, _____ and _____ have demonstrated in your presence today, their belief in their love, and their desire to live together in matrimony. If you also believe in their love, and wish to add your blessing on their marriage today, please respond now by saying WE DO.

And are you willing to sustain and strengthen their marriage, by giving _____ and _____ the commitment of your love and support, through all the ups and downs ahead of them.....If you are willing, please say..... WE ARE

PRONOUNCEMENT

I, _____, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you _____ and _____ to be husband and wife.

SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

At this time I would ask the bride, groom and their witnesses to please sign the Official Marriage Register.

Now that you have joined yourselves in marriage, may you strive always to meet this commitment with the same spirit and enthusiasm you are now shining.

By the powers invested in me by the Marriage Act of Ontario, I now pronounce you husband and wife. You may kiss the bride.

It is my pleasure to introduce to you Mr. and Mrs _____.



**MARRIAGE CEREMONY
OPTION #4**

We are gathered at this place to witness the formal joining in the legal state of matrimony of this couple, according to the order and the custom prevailing, and 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 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.

Marriage is therefore 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, and of the material, intellectual and emotional factors which will govern its fulfillment.

Municipal Clerk to: _____; 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 _____.

Municipal Clerk to: _____; 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 _____.

Municipal Clerk to: _____ Repeat after me, please:

"I call upon these person here present to witness that I, _____ do take you
_____ to be my lawful wedded wife.

To laugh with you in joy
To grieve with you in sorrow.
To grow with you in love
To be faithful to you alone.
As long as we both shall live.

Do you accept?

Municipal Clerk to: _____ . Repeat after me, please:

I call upon these person here present to witness that I, _____ do take you
_____ to be my lawful wedded husband.

To laugh with you in joy
To grieve with you in sorrow.
To grow with you in love
To be faithful to you alone.
As long as we both shall live.

Do you accept?

Municipal Clerk to: _____ . Please place the ring on the third finger of
_____ left hand, repeating after me:

“This ring is my precious gift to you as a measure of my love and as a sign that from this day forward
your every breath shall be surrounded by my love.”

Municipal Clerk to: _____ . Please place the ring on the third finger of
_____ left hand, repeating after me:

“This ring is my precious gift to you as a measure of my love and as a sign that from this day forward
our every breath shall be surrounded by my love.”

PRONOUNCEMENT

Now that you have joined yourselves in marriage, may you strive always to meet this
commitment with the same spirit and enthusiasm you are now shining.

I, _____, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby
pronounce you _____ and _____ to be husband and wife
(married).

SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

At this time I would ask the bride, groom and their witnesses to please come forward to sign the
Official Marriage Register

As you enter upon your marriage, consider that the honour of the nation and its people is based upon
the quality of its homes, and the future of the nation is in the hands of the issue of each home.

Let your home be as a haven of peace in the middle of a busy and business like world; let your relationship be one of complete truth and understanding between you both; respect the confidences of your partner in this marriage, and consider that as the work gives nothing freely, neither will your marriage yield you more than you give into it.

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.

You may kiss.

It is my pleasure to introduce to you Mr. and Mrs _____.



MARRIAGE CEREMONY OPTION #5

This couple has come here today to be joined in marriage. The essence of this commitment is the taking of another person in his or her entirety as a lover, companion and friend. It is therefore a decision not to be entered into lightly but rather with great consideration and respect for both the other person and oneself.

_____ and _____ have invited us to share in this celebration as they affirm their love before us, pledge their faith to one another and enter into the joys and privilege of marriage. Love is one of the highest experiences we human beings can have and it can add depth of meaning to our lives. The day-to-day companionship, the pleasure in doing things together or in doing separate things but exchanging experiences, is a continuous and central part of what two people who love each other can share.

Marriage was established that two people might have lifelong companionship, that natural instincts and affections might be fulfilled in mutual love, that children should enjoy the security of family life, love and home.

Marriage symbolizes the intimate sharing of two lives, yet this sharing must not diminish but enhance the individuality of each partner. A happy marriage is one which is continually developing while growing in understanding of the other person. By growing together in love, it is possible to share not only the joys of life but the burdens of sorrow as well. It offers you the hope and indeed the promise of a love that is true and mature. To attain such love, you will have to commit yourselves to each other freely and gladly for the sake of a richer and deeper life together.

If any person can show just cause why they may not be joined in marriage, let them speak now or forever hold their peace.

_____ and _____, I charge and require you both, according to the Marriage Act and in the presence of these witnesses, that if either of you know of any legal or moral impediment to this marriage, you do now reveal the same.

Turn to face one another: Municipal Clerk to: _____. Repeat after me, please

“I call upon these persons, here present to witness, that I, _____ do take you _____ to be my lawful wedded wife.”

Municipal Clerk to: _____. Repeat after me, please

"I call upon these persons, here present to witness, that I, _____ do take you _____ to be my lawful wedded husband."

Municipal Clerk: As for the rings?

These rings are a symbol of your marriage and a symbol of your life together.

Please place it on the third finger of _____ left hand, repeating after me:

"With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour and cherish thee and this ring shall be the symbol of my love."

Please place it on the third finger of _____ left hand, repeating after me:

"With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour and cherish thee and this ring shall be the symbol of my love."

PRONOUNCEMENT

Now that you have joined yourselves in marriage, may you strive always to meet this commitment with the same spirit and enthusiasm you are now shining.

SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

At this time I would ask the bride, groom and their witnesses to please sign the Official Marriage Register.

I, _____, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you _____ and _____ to be husband and wife.

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.

It is my pleasure to introduce to you Mr. and Mrs _____.



MARRIAGE CEREMONY OPTION #6

WELCOME

Officiant: Welcome, family, friends and loved ones. We gather here today to celebrate the wedding of _____ and _____. You have come here to share in this formal commitment they made to one another, to offer your love and support to this union, and to allow _____ and _____ to start their married life together surrounded by the people dearest and most important to them.

So, welcome to one and all, who have travelled from near and far. _____ & _____ thank you for your presence today and now ask for your blessing, encouragement, and lifelong support, for their decision to be married.

Definition of Marriage:

Officiant: Marriage is perhaps the greatest and most challenging adventure of human relationships. No ceremony can create your marriage; only you can do that through love and patience; dedication and perseverance; through talking and listening, helping and supporting and believing in each other; through tenderness and laughter; through learning to forgive, learning to appreciate your differences, and by learning to make the important things matter, and to let go of the rest. What this ceremony can do is to witness and affirm the choice you make to stand together as life mates and partners.

Declaration of Intent:

Officiant: Will you, _____ take _____ to be your wedded wife?
Groom: I will.

Officiant: Will you, _____ take _____ to be your wedded husband?
Bride: I will.

Support of Community:

Officiant: Two people in love do not live in isolation. Their love is a source of strength with which they may nourish not only each other but also the world around them. And in turn, we, their community of friends and family, have a responsibility to this couple. By our steadfast care, respect, and love, we can support their marriage and the new family they are creating today.

Will everyone please rise.

Will you who are present here today, surround _____ & _____ in love, offering them the joys of your friendship, and supporting them in their marriage?

All: We will.

Officiant: You may be seated.

Wedding Vows:

Officiant: We've come to the point of your ceremony where you're going to say your vows to one another. But before you do that, I ask you to remember that love- which is rooted in faith, trust, and acceptance- will be the foundation of an abiding and deepening relationship. No other ties are more tender, no other vows more sacred than those you now assume. If you are able to keep the vows you take here today, not because of any religious or civic law, but out of desire to love and be loved by another person fully, without limitation, then your life will have joy and the home you establish will be a place in which you both will find the direction of your growth, your freedom, and your responsibility.

Repeat after me:

I, _____ take you _____ to be my wife, my partner in life and my one true love. I will cherish our union and love you more each day than I did the day before. I will trust you and respect you, laugh with you and cry with you, loving you faithfully through good times and bad, regardless of the obstacles we may face together. I give you my hand, my heart, and my love, from this day forward for as long as we both shall live.

I, _____ take you, _____ to be my husband, my partner in life and my one true love. I will cherish our union and love you more each day than I did the day before. I will trust you and respect you, laugh with you and cry with you, loving you faithfully through good times and bad, regardless of the obstacles we may face together. I give you my hand, my heart, and my love, from this day forward for as long as we both shall live.

Officiant: May I have the rings, please?

Please repeat after me:

_____ I give you this ring, as a daily reminder of my love for you.

_____ I give you this ring, as a daily reminder of my love for you.

PRONOUNCEMENT

By the power of your love and commitment, and the power vested in me, provided by the Government of the Province of Ontario, I now pronounce you husband and wife! You may kiss each other!

SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

At this time I would ask the bride, groom and their witnesses to please sign the Official Marriage Register

It is my pleasure to introduce Mr. and Mrs. _____.



**MARRIAGE CEREMONY
OPTION #7**

Person 1: _____

Person 2: _____

We are gathered at this place to witness the formal joining in the legal state of matrimony of this couple, according to the order and the custom prevailing, and 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 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.

Marriage is therefore 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, and of the material, intellectual and emotional factors which will govern its fulfilment.

Marriage Officiate to: _____: 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 Officiate to: _____: 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 Officiate to: _____: Repeat after me, please.

"I call upon these person here to present to witness that I, _____ do take you _____ to be my lawful wedded (wife or husband or spouse or partner)."

Marriage Officiate to: _____: Repeat after me, please.

"I call upon these persons here to present to witness that I, _____ do take you _____ to be my lawful wedded (wife or husband or spouse or partner)."

**Marriage Officiate:
PRONOUNCEMENT**

I _____ by the virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act and the Province of Ontario, do hereby pronounce you _____ and _____ to be husband and wife.

SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

At this time I would ask the bride, groom and their witnesses to please sign the Official Marriage Register.

As you enter upon your marriage, consider that the honour of the nation and its people is based upon the quality of its homes, and the future of the nation is in the hands of the issue of each home.

Let your home be your haven of peace in the midst of a busy and businesslike work; let your relationship be one of complete truth and understanding between you both; respect the confidences of your partner in this marriage, and consider that as the world gives nothing freely, neither will your marriage yield you more than you give into it.

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

It is my pleasure to introduce to you Mr. and Mrs. _____.



Civil Marriage Ceremony Form

I have read the attached guidelines in pages 2 to 4 and agree that the Clerk or other delegated staff from North Middlesex, will conduct a civil marriage solemnization service on:

CEREMONY

Date of Ceremony: _____

Time of Ceremony: _____

Address of Ceremony: _____

APPLICANTS

Applicant # 1 Name: _____
(Please print clearly)

Applicant # 1 Signature: _____

Phone No. _____ E-mail: _____

Applicant # 2 Name: _____
(Please print clearly)

Applicant # 2 Signature: _____

Phone No. _____ E-mail: _____

WITNESSES

Witness # 1 Name: _____
(Please print clearly)

Address: _____

Witness # 2 Name: _____
(Please print clearly)

Address: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Marriage Licence Number: _____ Date Issued: _____

Note: Marriage licences are valid for 3 months from the date of issue only.

Deposit Received: yes no

Ceremony Fees paid: yes no Travel Fee paid (if required) yes no

Method of Payment: cash cheque debit

Are you reading your own vows: yes no

Ceremony Option _____

Exchange of Rings yes no

Rehearsal: Yes No If yes, date: _____

Music: yes no

Clerk or other delegated staff

Personal Information on this form is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act , 2001, as amended, and Regulation 285/04 under the Marriage Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended and will be used to perform a civil marriage ceremony. Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will only be used for the purposes of verifying applicant information.