



CITY OF STRATFORD MARRIAGE LICENCE REQUIREMENTS

1. When completing the application, state all given names. Both persons must complete the marriage licence application form in ink and sign and date the form.
 2. Both persons must be at least 18 years of age. The consent of parents or guardians must be obtained before the licence can be issued to anyone who is 17 years of age.
 3. Before issuing a marriage licence, proof of legal name of each applicant is required. The Province of Ontario requires that two (2) pieces of government-issued identification for each person getting married must be presented at the time of purchasing the licence. One piece of identification must include your photo. All identification must be original. Photocopies will not be accepted. Examples of government-issued identification:
 - Government-issued birth certificate, including any change of name certificates;
 - Valid passport;
 - Valid Driver's Licence;
 - Valid Ontario Photo Card;
 - Record of Immigrant Landing;
 - Canadian Citizenship Card.
- a) If you were born in Ontario and do not have an original birth certificate, one can be obtained from the Province of Ontario, 1-800-461-2156. Application forms are available online at www.cbs.gov.on.ca or from City Hall. They are also available at any Ontario Land Registry Office.
- b) If you were born outside of Ontario and do not have an original birth certificate or current passport, you must apply to your Province of Birth for an original birth certificate, or if you were born outside of Canada, you must provide the City with a current Passport, or a Canadian Citizenship Card, or Landed Immigrant papers.

- c) If you were born outside of Canada and your birth certificate or current passport is in a foreign language, a written translation of the birth certificate or current passport is required. This can be done by a person who is fluent in the language and is not related to either person applying for the marriage licence, or by a company that provides translation services. A list of such companies can be found in the yellow pages of the telephone book under "Translators & Interpreters." The person providing the translation must complete an Affidavit that is sworn before a Commissioner of Oaths or Notary Public proving the authenticity of the translation.

4. If you have been divorced within Canada, the original Certificate of Divorce or Decree Absolute, or a Court-certified copy of the same from the Court in which the divorce was granted is required. The Certificate of Divorce or Decree Absolute will be returned to the applicant once the application has been processed

5. If you have been divorced outside of Canada, please check with this office for further instructions, as additional steps are required to be taken prior to submitting the marriage licence application for processing.

6. If you are a widow or widower, the City does not require proof of death of your spouse.

7. If you are being married in a rural municipality, you must indicate on the application the place, township and county where the ceremony is taking place.

8. Licence Fee: \$125.00 cash, Interac, VISA, Mastercard, money order, or certified cheque.

9. Marriage Licences are issued Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., excluding holidays. Applicants must be at the Clerk's Office by 4:00 p.m. in order to allow at least 30 minutes to process the application. The applicant(s) must be able to remain at our office while the application is processed.

10. The marriage licence is valid anywhere in Ontario for three (3) months from the date of issue of the marriage licence.

City Clerk's Office
City Hall, Stratford, Ontario
(519) 271-0250, Ext. 237