



## The Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories

### NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION

#### **LENGTHY CHAMBERS APPLICATIONS (CIVIL AND CRIMINAL)**

Counsel involved on any Chambers application that is contested and is likely to take longer than 30 minutes are required to seek a special Chambers date pursuant to Rule 387. This Rule was enacted not only to streamline the Court's proceedings generally, but also to extend courtesy and fairness to other counsel and litigants appearing in regular Chambers.

Representatives of the practising Bar have requested that this Rule be enforced more strictly. Accordingly, the Court will be increasingly vigilant with respect to breaches of the spirit of this Rule, and will, when deemed appropriate, interrupt counsel during lengthy argument in regular Chambers and adjourn the matter to a special Chambers date.

In recent months, the Court has instituted a regular criminal Chambers (at present, each Friday at 2:00 p.m.). This has successfully improved the processing of "routine" applications, e.g. bail hearings, brief summary conviction appeals, etc. However, any application on a criminal file that is contested and likely to take longer than 30 minutes will be scheduled not for regular criminal Chambers but for a special Chambers date.

ISSUED this 23rd day of June 1997 by direction of the judges of the Supreme Court.

Justice J.E. Richard  
Justice J.Z. Vertes  
Justice V.A. Schuler