

# Application for Marriage in the Church

(when a former spouse is living)

Diocese of Fredericton

## Part ONE: Couple's Information

Please print.

Bride	Bridegroom
<b>Surname</b> <i>Current legal surname</i>	<b>Surname</b> <i>Current legal surname</i>
<b>Given names</b> <i>All given names in full</i>	<b>Given names</b> <i>All given names in full</i>
<b>Marital Status</b> <i>Never married / divorced / widowed</i>	<b>Marital Status</b> <i>Never married / divorced / widowed</i>
<b>Denomination</b>	<b>Denomination</b>
<b>Birth date</b> <i>Day / Month by name / Year</i>	<b>Birth date</b> <i>Day / Month by name / Year</i>
<b>Birthplace</b> <i>City / Province / Country</i>	<b>Birthplace</b> <i>City / Province / Country</i>
<b>Address</b> <i>Street address, city, province and postal code</i>	<b>Address</b> <i>Street address, city, province and postal code</i>
<b>Telephone / E-mail</b>	<b>Telephone / E-mail</b>
<b>Current Occupation</b>	<b>Current Occupation</b>

We wish to be married in

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of parish and location*

And since I/we are divorced with a former spouse still living, hereby apply for permission to be married according to the rites of the Anglican Church of Canada through the Parish of

\_\_\_\_\_ by the officiant \_\_\_\_\_

under the authority of the Bishop of Fredericton.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of the Bride*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of the Bridegroom*

## Part TWO: Regarding the Former Marriage(s)

To be completed by each divorced applicant for each previous marriage

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ *Name of applicant*

Which previous marriage is described here?

\_\_\_\_\_ *(e.g. first, second, etc)*

I was married on \_\_\_\_\_ *Date of marriage*

at the age of \_\_\_\_\_ years, to

\_\_\_\_\_ *Full name of former spouse*

who was \_\_\_\_\_ years of age.

We were married in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. *Name of church or other location, including municipality and province*

The officiant at the wedding was

\_\_\_\_\_. *Name, if known*

My marital status at the time of the wedding was

\_\_\_\_\_. *(never married, previous common-law, widowed, divorced)*

My partner's marital status at the that time was

\_\_\_\_\_. *(never married, previous common-law, widowed, divorced)*

We separated permanently on \_\_\_\_\_ *Date of legal separation*

The Marriage was ended by legal declaration dated \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

*The following questions are intended to provide guidance for the minister in helping you to enter into your new marriage. You are encouraged to answer them as fully as you can, on (a) separate sheet(s) of paper. Your answers will be shared between the minister, you and your fiancé(e) in a future session. If there have been long-term common-law relationships, please answer separately for each one.*

1. Please describe the circumstances and events that led to the disintegration of this marriage.
2. When did you first become aware that this marriage was disintegrating? What did you do in response to this awareness?
3. What do you feel now, was your contribution to the disintegration of this marriage?
4. Please describe how often you now have contact with your previous partner of this marriage. What are these contacts like?
5. Please add any other details you wish.

### **Part THREE: The Current Relationship of the Couple Seeking Marriage**

*The following questions should be answered by both applicants, separately.*

*The answers will be shared with the minister and your fiancé(e) in a future session.*

1. How long have you known each other? Under what circumstances did you meet?
2. Why do you wish to be married to your present fiancé(e)?
3. Why are you requesting your marriage be the Sacrament of Marriage and celebrated in the Church?
4. What positive gifts of life experience do you bring into this marriage relationship?
5. What wounds or difficult patterns of behaviour or negative expectations do you bring into this marriage relationship?
6. On the basis of what you know of each other right now, describe some of the challenges you will be facing in your life together.
7. How do you anticipate overcoming these challenges, and sustaining and strengthening your new married life?

## **Part FOUR: Regarding Children of Previous Relationships**

*To be answered by each partner who has children  
and shared with the minister, you and your partner in a future session.*

Please give the names, ages, and addresses of any children born to your previous relationship(s).

1. What is the relationship each child has currently formed with you as a couple?
2. In what ways do you foresee the child's relationship with you evolving?
3. If there are children of two previous marriages (i.e. his and hers) describe the relationships that are developing at this time between these children, whether or not they live with you.

The following questions apply only to those with children who are minors and/or still residing with you:

1. Describe the legal arrangements as ordered by the court with respect to custody, access, and financial support for each minor child.
2. Describe the actual care and living arrangements provided for each child, including contacts with siblings, grandparents, and non-custodial parents.

Please add any details you wish.

## Part FIVE: In the Case of an Applicant Previously Widowed

*Though the Anglican Church has never seen any impediment to the marriage of a widowed person, there are special dynamics which might affect any subsequent marriage. These questions are optional, but may be helpful for both candidates to consider and discuss with the minister preparing them for marriage.*

I was married, at the age of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

who was \_\_\_\_\_ years of age, on \_\_\_\_\_

by \_\_\_\_\_.

My spouse died on \_\_\_\_\_ and the funeral was conducted at

\_\_\_\_\_

by \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Please describe some of the strengths of that relationship.
  
2. What were some of the challenges the two of you faced, and how did you deal with them?
  
3. Looking back, are there things you might have done differently to make that relationship better than it was?
  
4. What gifts and what challenges do you bring into your new relationship as a result of your former partner's death?
  
5. Describe your present relationship with your deceased partner's parents / siblings / relatives, and their response to your proposed marriage.
  
6. If you and your deceased partner had children,
  - a) describe how they have come to terms with the death of a parent.
  - b) describe how they are responding to your proposed marriage.

Please add any other details you wish.

**Part SIX: Declaration by the Applicants**

**Schedule A (Canon XXI)**

**DECLARATION**

We, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_,

hereby declare that we intend to enter into marriage which we acknowledge to be a union in faithful love, to the exclusion of all others on either side, for better or for worse, until we are separated by death.

We undertake to prepare ourselves for the exchange of vows at our wedding, recognizing that by this mutual exchange our union in marriage will be established.

We intend to strive thereafter to fulfill the purposes of marriage: the mutual fellowship, support, and comfort of one another, the procreation (if it may be) and the nurture of children, and the creation of a relationship in which sexuality may serve personal fulfilment in a community of faithful love.

\_\_\_\_\_

*Man*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Woman*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Incumbent*

**Report of the Incumbent**  
or the minister preparing for marriage

1. How long and in what circumstances have you known the applicants?

2. What is your understanding of the causes of the disintegration of the former marriage(s)?

3. What concerns are raised as a result of your conversations with this couple?

4. What do you feel this couple brings to their marriage which will contribute to the formation of a healthy marriage?

Permission **has** been granted.       Permission **has not** been granted.

In the case of the incumbent granting permission:

5. What rationale would you offer for the Church's granting of permission for this marriage?

In the case of refusal to grant permission:

6. List and explain the reasons why you believe the Church should not give permission for this marriage to be solemnized according to the rites of the Church.

7. List the options you have discussed with this couple and any recommendations you have made for their ongoing growth and healing.

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<b>Parish or Congregation</b> _____
<b>Date of Marriage</b> _____
<b>Date of sharing decision</b> <i>Day   Month   Year</i>

**SIGNATURE**

<b>SIGN HERE</b>	<b>Date signed</b> <i>Day   Month   Year</i>
X	_____
<b>Name</b> <i>(print)</i>	

*This report is to be **forwarded to the Bishop within five office days** of the meeting at which the decision is shared with the couple.*

23 July 2008

*Incumbent's Report 3*