



## Scripts for Civil Marriage Ceremonies at City Hall

### CEREMONY #3

Marriage Officer: This couple has come here today to be joined in marriage. Marriage is the promise between two people who love each other, who honor one another in their partnership, and who wish to spend the rest of their lives together. It enables the two separate souls to share their desires, longings, dreams, and memories, their joys and sorrows, and to help each other through the uncertainties of life. A strong marriage nurtures each of you as separate individuals and allows you to maintain your unique identity and grow in your own way through the years ahead. It is 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. They are adding to their lives not only the affection of each other, but also the companionship and security of a deep trust. They are agreeing to share strength and responsibilities. To make this relationship work it will take more than just love. It takes trust, to know in your hearts that you want only the best for each other. It takes dedication, to stay open to one another, to learn and grow, even when it is difficult to do so. And it takes faith, to go forward together without knowing what the future holds for you both.

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; through 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.

#### Declaration of Intent and Vows

*Turn to 1<sup>st</sup> person:*

\_\_\_\_\_, please repeat after me. **“I do solemnly declare / that I do not know of any lawful impediment /why I, \_\_\_\_\_ /may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_\_.”**

*Turn to 2<sup>nd</sup> person:*

\_\_\_\_\_, please repeat after me. **“I do solemnly declare / that I do not know of any lawful impediment /why I, \_\_\_\_\_ /may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_\_.”**

Please face each other to repeat your vows.

*Turn to 1<sup>st</sup> person:*

Please repeat after me. **“I call upon these persons here present /to witness that I, \_\_\_\_\_, /do take you, \_\_\_\_\_, /to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, partner).”**

*Turn to 2<sup>nd</sup> person:*

Please repeat after me. **“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

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

*Turn to 1<sup>st</sup> person:*

Please place the ring on the 3<sup>rd</sup> finger of \_\_\_\_\_’s left hand and repeat after me. **“With this ring, I thee wed. /I shall love, honour and cherish thee, /and this ring is the symbol of my love.”**

*Turn to 2<sup>nd</sup> person:*



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### Signing of the Register

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

### Pronouncement

I, (Marriage Official's name), by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, and the Province of Manitoba, do hereby pronounce you, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, to be married.

May you enjoy the fulfillment of hopes and contentment of mind, as you day by day live and fulfill the promises you have made to one another. I wish you long life, happiness and prosperity, and may the vows you made to each other today, sustain you forever. You may celebrate your marriage with a kiss.