

— City of —
PICKERING

CIVIL MARRIAGE CEREMONY #3

Suggested Length: 5 minutes

Officiant:

We are gathered here today to witness and to celebrate the marriage of **Celebrant 1** and **Celebrant 2**, and to be with them as they pledge themselves to each other. Theirs is a partnership freely chosen and founded on love, friendship, trust and respect. It is a partnership that encourages not only self-expression, understanding and the development of wisdom through the sharing of knowledge, but also an enthusiasm for life and living.

By your presence, you celebrate with them the love they have discovered in each other and you support their decision to commit themselves to one another for the rest of their lives.

The Expression of Intent

Officiant to **Celebrant 1, please repeat after me:**

I do solemnly declare / that I do not know / of any lawful impediment / why I **Celebrant 1** / may not be joined / in matrimony to **Celebrant 2**.

Celebrant 1, You have chosen **Celebrant 2** to be your **life partner**. Will you love and respect her/**him**/**them**? Will you be honest with her/**him**/**them** always? Will you stand by her/**him**/**them** through whatever may come?

Celebrant 1: I will.

Officiant to **Celebrant 2, please repeat after me:**

I do solemnly declare / that I do not know / of any lawful impediment / why I **Celebrant 2** / may not be joined / in matrimony to **Celebrant 1**.

Celebrant 2, You have chosen **Celebrant 1** to be your **life partner**. Will you love and respect **her**/**him**/**them**? Will you be honest with **her**/**him**/**them** always? Will you stand by **her**/**him**/**them** through whatever may come?

Celebrant 2: I will.

Officiant:

Celebrant 1 & Celebrant 2, do you both promise to make the necessary adjustments in your personal lives in order that you may live in a harmonious relationship, together?

Celebrant 1 & Celebrant 2: We do.

The Vows

Officiant:

Celebrant 1 and **Celebrant 2**, now we come to your vows. May I remind you that saying your vows here today is one thing but nothing is more challenging than living them day by day.

Officiant: Celebrant 1, please repeat after me:

I call upon these persons / here present to witness / that I, **Celebrant 1**, do take you, **Celebrant 2**, / to be my lawful wedded **life partner**/ to have and to hold / from this day forward / for better and for worse, / for richer or for poorer, / in sickness and in health, / in joy and in sorrow, / to love and to cherish, / and to be faithful to you alone.

Officiant: Celebrant 2, please repeat after me:

I call upon these persons / here present to witness / that I, **Celebrant 2**, do take you, **Celebrant 1**, / to be my lawful wedded **life partner**/ to have and to hold / from this day forward / for better and for worse, / for richer or for poorer, / in sickness and in health, / in joy and in sorrow, / to love and to cherish, / and to be faithful to you alone.

The Rings

Officiant: Please present the rings

Officiant: **Celebrant 1**, please repeat after me:

Celebrant 2, I give you this ring / that you may wear it as a symbol / of the vows we have made this day. / I pledge you my love and respect, / my laughter and tears / and with all that I am, I honour you.

Officiant: **Celebrant 2**, please repeat after me:

Celebrant 1, I give you this ring / that you may wear it as a symbol / of the vows we have made this day. / I pledge you my love and respect, / my laughter and tears / and with all that I am, I honour you.

The Declaration

Officiant:

Now may those who wear these rings live in love all of their lives. Might the love which has brought you together continue to grow and enrich your lives and may you continue to meet with courage any problems that arise to challenge you. May your relationship always be one of love and trust and the happiness that you share today be with you always.

Celebrant 1 and **Celebrant 2**, we have heard your promise to share your lives in marriage. We recognize and respect the covenant you have made here this day before each one of us as witnesses. Therefore, in the honesty and sincerity of what you have said and done here today, I, **Officiant**, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the *Marriage Act*, do hereby pronounce you **Celebrant 1** and **Celebrant 2** to be married and partners in life, for life.

You may now seal your vows with a kiss.