

## **TIMELINE: DEVELOPMENT OF SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN SASKATCHEWAN**

**2004:** Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench rules that same-sex marriage is lawful in Saskatchewan. The Director of the Marriage Unit sends letters to all marriage commissioners, advising that marriage commissioners, as government officials, would be required to perform same-sex marriages.

**2005:** Parliament of Canada enacts the Civil Marriage Act, which makes same-sex marriage legally available throughout Canada.

**2006 - March:** Chief Commissioner of the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission dismisses the complaints filed by three marriage commissioners against the Government. The Chief Commissioner holds that the Government's position did not infringe The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code.

- **October:** The three marriage commissioners ask the Chair of the Saskatchewan Human Rights Tribunal to review the decision of the Chief Commissioner. The Chair of the Human Rights Tribunal agrees with the Chief Commissioner and dismisses the review requests.

**2008 - May:** Human Rights Tribunal rules that a marriage commissioner discriminated against a member of the public, contrary to The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code, by refusing to perform a same-sex marriage.

- **December:** Court of Queen's Bench hears the marriage commissioner's appeal and reserves decision.

**2009 - June:** Government initiates Reference to the Court of Appeal, asking if proposals to allow marriage commissioners to decline to perform same-sex marriage ceremonies would be constitutional.

- **July:** Court of Queen's Bench dismisses the marriage commissioner's appeal and upholds finding of the Tribunal that he discriminated against the member of the public, contrary to The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code.

**2011 - January:** Court of Appeal releases its decision on the Reference, ruling that allowing marriage commissioners to decline to perform same-sex marriages would be unconstitutional.