

Expediting Interlocutory Appeals

At a recent meeting, the judges of the Court of Appeal decided to adopt certain procedures in an effort to expedite interlocutory appeals - particularly those appeals which may delay the hearing of a trial. The delays in these appeals are a matter of concern to the Court and it is hoped that some steps can be taken to speed up the hearing process if leave to appeal is granted.

The judges agreed that when granting leave, the chambers judge will give directions and set time limits for the filing of appeal books (the order may be that the motion book stand as the appeal book), set dates for the filing of the factums, and, if possible, set the hearing date for the appeal. The time allotted for hearing interlocutory appeals will ordinarily be set at no more than 1/2 day.

Counsel are urged to come prepared to discuss these matters at the hearing of leave applications.

This practice is effective immediately.

February 2, 2000

Chief Justice McEachern