

**This is your civil ceremony that I do.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

We are gathered here today to witness the formal joining of (Groom) and (Bride) in the legal State of matrimony. You are to be married according to the orders, customs, and the authority Granted by the government of the Province of Alberta.

Matrimony, as understood by us, is a state enriched by a long and honorable tradition of devotion. According to the law, each participant is equal and supports the common rights of one another to the marriage.

Marriage is not just a ceremony here today. It is a commitment for life. Therefore, it is not to be entered into thoughtlessly or irresponsibly.

There must be a desire for lifelong companionship. Couples will support and comfort each other through the changing experiences of life. May you laugh together in joy, grieve together in sorrow, and grow together in love.

Marriage means caring as much about the welfare and happiness of your marriage partner as about your own selfbeing. Marriage also means working together to create and sustain a home in which the marriage may flourish.

With this understanding (Groom and (Bride) wish to be joined in marriage.

Therefore, if any person can show just and sufficient reason why these two persons may not be joined in matrimony let them now declare reasons, or else from this time forward, keep their peace.

This part must stay:

Let the Bride say:

I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, (Bride) may not be joined in matrimony to (Groom).

Let the Groom say:

I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I (Groom) may not be joined in Matrimony to (Bride)

As no impediment was declared or admitted, I require you to give answers to these questions”

Do you (Groom) promise to give to (Bride) the love of your person, the comfort of your companionship, and the patience of your understanding? Will you share with her equally the necessities of life as they may be earned or enjoyed by yourself, and to respect the dignity of her own personal rights?

Answer: I do

Do you (Bride) promise to give to (Groom) the love of your person, the comfort of your companionship, and the patience of your understanding? Will you share with him equally the necessities of life as they may be earned or enjoyed by yourself, and to respect the dignity of his own personal rights?

Answer: I do.

## **THE MARRIAGE VOWS**

This part must stay:

Groom:

I call upon those persons present to witness that I (Groom) do take thee (Bride) to be my lawful wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, in whatever circumstances or experiences life may hold for us.

Bride:

I call upon those persons present to witness that I (Bride) do take thee (Groom) to be my lawful wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, in whatever circumstances or experience life may hold for us.

## **THE RING EXCHANGE**

Having declared these marriage vows, let the groom place the ring on the third finger of the bride's left hand, repeating after me:

(Bride), I give you this ring that you may wear it as a lasting reminder of our marriage vows and as a symbol of my love and commitment to you.

Bride says:

I accept this ring, as a symbol, of your love and commitment.

The Bride places the ring on the third finger of the groom's left hand, repeating after me:

(Groom), I give you this ring that you may wear it as a lasting reminder of our marriage vows and as a symbol of my love and commitment to you.

Groom says:

I accept this ring, as a symbol, of your love and commitment.

## **THE DECLARATION**

(Groom) and (Bride) you have consented in marriage and have declared your solemn intention in this company, before these witnesses, and in my presence. You have exchanged these rings as the pledge of your love to each other; you have joined your hands to accept one another.

As you begin your marriage, let your home be a haven of peace in the midst of a busy and changing world; let your relationship be one of complete truth, love, and understanding between you both. Respect the confidences of your partner in this marriage, and consider that your marriage will yield what you give to it.

May you enjoy a long life, fulfil your hopes, feel content as you live day by day, and keep your promises to one another.

Now, upon the authority vested in me by the Province of Alberta, I pronounce you "Husband" and "Wife".

Commitment may be sealed with a kiss