

City of Oshawa Civil Marriage Ceremony – Script 3

Welcome

Officiant: On behalf of _____ and _____, we welcome and thank you for being here on their special day. 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. Today we are here to celebrate love. We come together to witness and proclaim the joining together of these two people in a marriage based on love.

Declaration of Commitment

This is an important and joyous occasion for _____ and _____ who will today make a commitment to each other before witnesses, to pledge themselves by mutual consent to a union in friendship and life.

Marriage is not to be entered upon thoughtlessly or irresponsibly but with a due and serious understanding and appreciation of the ends for which it is contracted.

_____ and _____, you have made it known that you want to be joined in marriage. If either of you know of any lawful impediment why you should not be married, you are now to declare it.

Officiant to the 1st person: Repeat after me please.

“I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, _____, may not be joined in matrimony to _____.”

Officiant to the 2nd person: Repeat after me please.

“I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, _____, may not be joined in matrimony to _____.”

Declaration of Vows

Please face each other to repeat your vows.

Officiant to the 1st person: Repeat after me please.

“I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, _____ do take you, _____, to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, or partner). To laugh with you in joy, to grieve with you in sorrow, to grow with you in love and to be faithful to you alone; as long as we both shall live.”

Officiant to the 2nd person: Repeat after me please.

“I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, _____ do take you, _____, to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, or partner). To laugh with you in joy, to grieve with you in sorrow, to grow with you in love and to be faithful to you alone, as long as we both shall live.”

Exchange of Rings

Please place the ring on the 3rd finger of the left hand.

Wedding rings are an ancient symbol that two people have committed themselves to each other. They will be a sign to you both of the vows you have exchanged, reminding you that your love is valuable and has no real beginning or end.

Officiant to the 1st person: Repeat after me please.

“Receive this ring as a symbol of my vows to you. Whenever you look at it know that I love, honour and cherish you above all others.”

Officiant to the 2nd person: Repeat after me please.

“Receive this ring as a symbol of my vows to you. Whenever you look at it know that I love, honour and cherish you above all others.”

Signing of the Register

At this time, the couple and their witnesses will sign the Official Marriage Register.

Ceremony Conclusion

I, [Name of Officiant], by virtue of the powers vested in me by the *Marriage Act*, do hereby pronounce you _____ and _____ to be married.

You may exchange a kiss as a token of your joy.

I wish you a long life, happiness and prosperity. May the vows you made to one another today sustain you forever.

It is my pleasure to introduce to you, the newly married couple.