



## **CIVIL MARRIAGE CEREMONY – OPTION 4**

Welcome one and all. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ would like to thank you for being here this afternoon/evening and for supporting them through everything that it has taken to make this day a reality.

It was once said, “Happiness sneaks in through a door you didn’t know you left open”. Perhaps this is the way love arrives. It happens when you didn’t realize you had left your heart open wide.

Today, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ will formally and publicly make their promises to one another and may this moment be remembered and cherished forever as we witness the celebration of this marriage.

*1<sup>st</sup> Person* - repeat after me please:

**“I \_\_\_\_\_ solemnly declare, that I do not know of any reason that would prevent me to be joined in marriage to \_\_\_\_\_.”**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Person* - repeat after me please:

**“I \_\_\_\_\_ solemnly declare, that I do not know of any reason that would prevent me to be joined in marriage to \_\_\_\_\_.”**

Marriage is more than any one single event or promise. It is a series of decisions that are made and that continue to be made over and over again - always with the intent of pleasing and caring for the person to whom you love most.

## **DECLARATION OF INTENT AND VOWS**

Would you please face each other, join hands and repeat after me.

*1<sup>st</sup> person, please repeat after me:*

**“I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, \_\_\_\_\_, do take you, \_\_\_\_\_, to be my lawful wedded (wife/husband/spouse/partner).”**

*Officiant to 2<sup>nd</sup> person:*

**“I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, \_\_\_\_\_, do take you, \_\_\_\_\_, to be my lawful wedded (wife/husband/spouse/partner).”**

Marriage was further established so that two people might have life-long companionship, and that natural instincts and affections might be fulfilled in mutual affection.

Marriage further symbolizes the intimate sharing of two lives. Yet this sharing must not diminish, but enhance the individuality of each partner. A happy marriage is one which is continually developing, while growing in understanding of the other person. By growing together in love, it is possible to share not only the joys of life but the burdens of sorrow as well. As the two of you come into this marriage uniting you as legal partners and as you this day affirm your faith and love for one another, we ask that you always remember to cherish each other as special and unique individuals.

## **EXCHANGE OF RINGS**

*1<sup>st</sup> Person:*

Please place this ring on the third finger of \_\_\_\_\_'s left hand, saying after me:

“I give you this ring as a symbol of our vows and with all that I am, and all that I have. I honour you before these people here and take you as my spouse for as long as we both shall live.”

Please place this ring on the third finger of \_\_\_\_\_'s left hand, saying after me:

“I give you this ring as a symbol of our vows and with all that I am, and all that I have. I honour you before these people here and take you as my spouse for as long as we both shall live.”

## **PRONOUNCEMENT**

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have pledged themselves to each other and have declared this symbolically by their vows and the exchange of rings.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the *Ontario Marriage Act*, do hereby pronounce you, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, to be (husband and wife, partners in life, married).

You may exchange a kiss as a token of your joy

## **SIGNING OF THE REGISTER**

Now, the wedded parties and their witnesses will sign the Official Marriage Register.

## **SERVICE CONCLUSION**

Respect the thoughts, ideas and suggestions of one another. Be able to forgive, and live each day that you may share them together, as from this day forward you should be each other's home, comfort and safety, your marriage strengthened by your love and respect for each other.

Remember as well that your marriage should be the most important commitment in your lives, and you are the most important person to each other.

*Officiant:* "May I introduce to you the married couple."

**NOTE: Bolded text is mandatory for the ceremony.**