



Keep in Mind Some Important Things to Visiting a Public Notary



A notary public or **public notary** is an official person who is legal authorization to perform a variety of acts, including witnessing, and verifying the signing of documents, administering oaths and affirmations, and certifying true copies of documents. Notaries are appointed by state governments and are commissioned to serve for a term of years.

In addition, notaries are authorized to deliver solemn affirmations, oaths, and declarations that are utilized in **statutory declarations** and [affidavits](#). Please be aware that notaries cannot notarize your signature unless you sign in person.

When visiting a notary public or **commissioner of oaths**, there are a few things you should keep in mind to ensure that the notary or commissioner is able to serve you fully and effectively.

Here are some important things to consider, regardless of whether you need a commissioned statutory statement or a notarized document:

1. Carefully examine the document you wish to have notarized or commissioned and follow the instructions.
2. Does your document require a witness as well as a notary public? If so, arrange to have someone come with you to serve as a witness. (Sometimes you may even need two)

3. Who needs to sign the document? If your signature is required, be sure you attend in person at the notary's office, (no – your assistant can't do this one for you). If more than one person needs to sign your document, everyone must appear before the notary. The [public notary](#) or commissioner can only witness the signatures of people who are there.
4. Do not sign your document in advance. The notary or commissioner will need to witness your signature in person.
5. Everyone signing the document (including your witnesses, if applicable) must bring proper identification. One piece of non-expired, government-issued photo ID will be required, such as a driver's license or passport. A secondary piece of ID is also great to have, like your birth certificate.
6. Please note that **notaries public** and **oaths commissioners** do not provide legal advice. If you require legal advice, please seek the assistance of a licensed lawyer or paralegal.

By keeping these tips in mind, your experience with a **public notary** or commissioner of oaths will be a pleasant one, and you will help us to serve you better.

Are you searching **public notary** near you or a place to have your documents notarized? **Red Seal Notary** has locations across Canada to make your search easy. We have staffed by a team of highly qualified and experienced lawyers, notaries public, commissioners of oaths and legal assistants. Red Seal Notary has over 100 locations across Canada, including walk-in locations in Toronto, Mississauga, North York, and Ottawa.