



## Marriage – Change of Name Act

Any couple that becomes married within Ontario can assume either partner's name, maintain their own name, or use a combination of both names.

**The Record of Marriage** (bottom portion of the Marriage License that the married couple retains after the ceremony) **is not an official certificate**. If you require legal proof of your marriage, you must apply to ServiceOntario for a Marriage Certificate. This can be done via the hard copy contained in your marriage licence package received from the Township of Uxbridge, or online via <https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-get-copy-ontario-marriage-certificate-online>.

If you assume the name of your spouse, it is considered an "alias". Your legal name is the name that is found on your Birth Certificate.

Married parties have three basic options following marriage:

**OPTION # 1**                      Continue to use their last name

Under this course of action, the spouse, who wishes to continue to use his/her current last name, needs to take no action.

**OPTION #2**                      "Assume" the use of the Spouse's last name

Spouses may "take" the other spouse's last name, and use it, as a result of their marriage. Most government organizations, credit card firms, etc., will accept a copy of the formal marriage certificate by the Office of the Registrar General as proof of the marriage, and issue revised identification for the spouse in their new last name.

**OPTION #3**                      Legally change their last name

In this instance, the spouse elects the option under the Change of Name Act, completes the appropriate forms, and submits them to the Office of the Registrar General. These application forms are available at the Office of the Registrar General.

Contact the Division Registrar's office at 1-807-343- 7492 for more information.