

Closed meetings: What is a 'meeting'?

As of **January 1, 2018**, the *Municipal Act, 2001* includes this definition of "meeting" under s. 238(1):

"meeting" means any regular, special or other meeting of a council, of a local board or of a committee of either of them, where,

(a) a quorum of members is present, and

(b) members discuss or otherwise deal with any matter in a way that materially advances the business or decision-making of the council, local board or committee.

Every municipality and local board must pass a procedure by-law governing the calling, place and proceedings of meetings, and providing for public notice of meetings.

Meetings must be open to the public, unless they fall within the 14 narrow exceptions in s. 239 of the Act.

Questions? info@ombudsman.on.ca

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