

Holding Open Meetings

Date:	December 19, 2007
To:	Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged
From:	General Manager, Homes for the Aged
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

On January 1, 2008, new province-wide regulations related to the holding of open meetings come into effect. Under existing laws, the City of Toronto is already required to conduct all of its business in open meetings, with a narrow list of exceptions.

However, effective January 1, 2008, anyone who believes that a meeting has been improperly closed may ask for an investigation. If the investigator verifies that the meeting was improperly closed, then this must be publicly reported. Investigations must be conducted by an investigator appointed by the City, or if the City fails to appoint one, then by the Provincial Ombudsman.

If the investigator finds that the meeting, or part thereof, has been improperly closed, then the investigator is required to report to City Council, with recommendations.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

COMMENTS

In order to minimize concerns or complaints about closed meetings, the City Clerk has asked that all meeting participants review the Open Meeting Provisions of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*.

A summary of the requirements is attached for the information of members of the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged. It should be noted that this summary

confirms that these requirements are applicable to City Council and its Standing Committees, Special Committees, Community Councils, Advisory Committees and most local Boards.

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SIGNATURE

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