



Closed Meetings

**Caroline Hallsworth,
Executive Director, Administrative
Services**

Municipal Act

Section 239: A meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered is:

- **Security of property**
- **Personal matters about an identifiable individual**
- **Acquisition or disposition of land**
- **Labour relations or employee negotiations**
- **Litigation or potential litigation**
- **Advice subject to solicitor-client privilege**
- **Matters for which closed meetings may be held under another Act**
- **Education and training that does not advance decision making**

Closed Meetings

- **Reports prepared as public reports whenever possible**
- **When reports are required to be in Closed Session, reports will:**
 - **Clearly identify reason for being in Closed Session**
 - **Indicate if there is a date and circumstance when some or all of the information can be released to the public**

Request for Decision - Closed Session Committee of the Whole



Type of Decision

Meeting Date				Report Date			
Decision Requested		Yes	No	Priority		High	Low
Direction Only							

Applicable Category

A meeting or part of a meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered is pursuant to the Municipal Act, 2001. **Please indicate the applicable category:**

Security of Property	Litigation or Potential Litigation)
Personal Matters (Identifiable Individual)	Solicitor-Client Privilege
Acquisition or Disposition of Land	Education or Training
Labour Relations / Employee Negotiations	
Closed meeting under another Act - Specify Act:	



Closed Meetings

- **Resolution to Meet in Closed Session and Closed Session Agendas**
 - **Include the general nature of the subject matter**
- **Votes are taken in Open Session, except for:**
 - **Procedural matters**
 - **Giving directions/instructions to staff**



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In the News

January 2, 2008 - Ombudsman now has the power to investigate William Osler Health Centre

Ontario Ombudsman André Marin now has the jurisdiction to investigate complaints about William Osler Health Centre, following the provincial government's appointment of a supervisor for the institution.

[Press release](#)

January 1, 2008 - Ombudsman can investigate secrecy complaints in hundreds of municipalities
Changes take effect New Year's Day



Ontario Ombudsman André Marin will be able to investigate complaints about meetings that are closed to the public in most municipalities across the province after changes to the Municipal Act take effect on New Year's Day.

[Press release](#)

More info:
[FAQ on closed meetings](#)

MUNICIPAL MATTERS
NEW - January 2008

How to complain about closed municipal meetings



As of New Year's Day, 2008, the Municipal Act requires all meetings of

municipal councils, boards and committees to be held in public, with a few exceptions. You may lodge a formal complaint if a meeting is held behind closed doors after Jan. 1. The Ombudsman will handle complaints in all municipalities except those that have appointed their own investigators. The Ombudsman's services are free of charge and his findings and recommendations will be made public.



Thank You – Questions?

