

Organization and holding of public meetings during an election period

Reference: *Election Act*, Section 404.12

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to establish the rules pertaining to the organization and holding of public meetings during the election period.

ACTIVITIES HELD BY NON-PARTISAN ORGANIZATIONS

The costs associated with activities held by non-partisan organizations (for instance, the Chamber of Commerce) are not considered election expenses if the following conditions are met:

- The organization and the holding of a public meeting must take place within the context of the regular activities of the organization.
- The invitation extended to the members of the organization and the general public must be made in the same way as is usually the case.
- No partisan publicity must be distributed or disseminated on the occasion of or during such an activity. The use of a partisan slogan or logo should not be tolerated in the invitation documents or outside or inside the premises where the meeting is being held.
- The meeting must not be organized directly or indirectly on behalf of a party or a candidate.

ACTIVITIES HELD BY PARTISAN ORGANIZATIONS

The cost of all activities held during the election period by partisan organizations (for instance, a party's youth commission) must be considered an election expense and be discharged by the official agent of a party or of a candidate.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Expenses incurred for the holding of meetings, including the rental of the hall and the invitation of participants, are not considered election expenses, provided that these meetings are not organized directly or indirectly on behalf of a candidate or a party and that the total of said expenses for the entire election period does not exceed \$200.