



Organization and holding of public meetings during an election period

Reference: Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities (s. 453(8))

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to establish the rules governing 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 example: 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 given to the members of the organization and the general public must be made in the same way as is customarily the case.
- No partisan publicity shall 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, just as it should not be tolerated 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 every activity held during the election period by partisan organizations (for example: Youth wing of a party) must be considered an election expense and be paid by the official agent of a party or of an authorized independent candidate.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The expenses incurred to hold meetings, including the rental of the room and the invitation to participants, are not considered election expenses, provided that these meetings are not organized directly or indirectly on behalf of an authorized independent candidate or a party and that the total expenses for the entire election period do not exceed \$200.