

The Corporation of the
County of Prince Edward



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NEWS RELEASE

Changes at Prince Edward County Council and Standing Committees

Picton, ON - Changes to Council's Procedure By-law will make it easier for people who want to speak at either a Council or a Standing Committee meeting. Anyone present at a meeting may now speak to any item on the agenda without having to go through the process of registering in writing and being listed on the agenda as a deputation.

Council and Committees will also be implementing a 'consent agenda' process which will result in several matters being adopted in a single motion. This tool is frequently used by municipalities to reduce time spent on common and non-controversial matters and allow more time to focus on important items.

The Council Agenda is also being provided to Non-Profit Organizations to promote up-coming events under a new section called 'Announcements'. As the Agenda is posted on the County website, it provides another opportunity for exposure for local groups.

"These are fairly significant changes to the way we conduct meetings," said Mayor Leo P. Finnegan. "Our goal is to make it easier for people to ask a question or provide us with information. It is all about spending more time listening and dealing with the big issues and less time on routine matters."

Deputations for items not listed on the agenda will still be listed on the agenda and will require registration in writing. Such items will be automatically referred to staff for a report, or received if no action is to be taken.

Directions for the public will be available at the meetings on sheets entitled "Speaking at Council" and "Speaking at Standing Committee" as well as on the County website www.pecounty.on.ca. The Council Procedure By-law provides full details of procedures in Council and Committees, and is also listed on the website. The By-law and/or assistance on addressing Council or a Committee can be obtained by calling the Clerk's office at 613-476-2148.

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For further information please contact Mayor Leo P. Finnegan at 613-476-2148.