

The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss



BY-LAW

2019-142

Being a By-Law to Adopt a Decorum Policy for Public Meetings
for the Township of Huron-Kinloss

WHEREAS The Council for The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss deems it expedient to establish policies;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c 25, Section 5(3), as amended provides that a municipal power, including a municipality's capacity rights, powers and privileges under Section 9, shall be exercised by by-law;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss enacts as follows:

- 1.0 That the Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council hereby adopts a Decorum Policy for Public Meetings as contained in the attached Schedule "A" to this by-law.
- 2.0 This by-law shall come into full force and effect upon final passage.
- 3.0 This by-law may be cited as the "Decorum Policy By-Law"

READ a FIRST and SECOND TIME this 18th day of November, 2019.

READ a THIRD TIME and FINALLY PASSED this 18th day of November, 2019



Don Murray, Deputy Mayor
Mitch Twolan, Mayor



Emily Dance, Clerk



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Policy

Section: 5.0 General

Policy: Decorum Policy for Public Meetings

By-Law: 2019-142

Date: 19 November 2019

Revision: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Coverage:

This policy applies to all attendees at all meetings, including public meetings, and includes Members of Council, staff and the public.

Policy Statement:

The purpose of the policy is to establish a common understanding of standards and behaviours expected when attending Council meetings, Committee Meetings, Public meetings and other Township events to ensure Council, Staff and the public are free from harassment, interruption, fear and intimidation while in attendance.

Legislative Authority:

Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25

Contents:

Public meeting decorum consists of: -

- Persons in the audience shall refrain from behaviour which, in the opinion of the chair will disrupt the meeting. This includes making loud noises, clapping, shouting, booing, hissing or engaging in any other activity in a manner that disturbs, disrupts or impedes the orderly conduct and decorum of the meeting;
- Persons in attendance shall refrain from creating, provoking or participating in any type of disturbance involving physical contact of any kind;
- No one may speak out from the gallery (audience area) without first being recognized by the Chair of the meeting and when recognized, will not use disrespectful language, gestures or offensive words;
- Turn cell phones to silent/vibrate and leave the meeting in order to take a call or to conduct a conversation;
- Photos and/or recordings are not permitted without prior approval
- Removal of hats, with the exception of religious or ceremonial head-gear, during the playing of the national anthem;

- All personal belongings may be subject to search at the request of the Township
- Objects and symbolic materials, such as signs shall not be allowed within the meeting area unless used for formal presentation purposes;
- Speakers addressing the meeting must discuss topics related to business on the agenda;
- Persons in the audience and speakers may not enter the formal Council and staff area at any time, while in session or not, without prior consent from the Clerk

Failure to comply with these guidelines, which in the opinion of the Chair or staff will disturb, disrupt or impede the orderly conduct of the meeting/event may result in removal, a trespass order and other legal action as the Township deems appropriate.

By attending civic affairs, the attendee is deemed to agreement with the guidelines outlined in this policy so that everyone is able to be present without harassment, interruption, fear and intimidation.