LOCAL PRESIDENTS ORIENTATION

Local Meetings











This micro orientation should take no more than 15 minutes

Download the full Local Presidents Orientation series at https://opseu.org/member-education/



Visit the OPSEU Member Education webpage at https://opseu.org/member-education/ and download the Local Presidents' Toolkit. It includes all the information you need to hit the ground running as a Local President!



Steps for holding an effective General Membership Meeting



Have you ever attended a union meeting where:

- Only a few people knew each other and it stayed that way?
- One person did all the talking?
- There was no clear agenda?
- There was no interaction with the people attending the meeting?
- People left not knowing why they came?



This orientation will provide the tools you need to make sure your union meetings:

- Energise your members
- Create a sense of community
- Make important decisions
- Build the local



Before the meeting

- Check local bylaws for meeting requirements
- Engage your LEC: assign roles for running the meeting and find out who wants to speak to each item
- Ensure proposed location is accessible and has equipment required
- Invite your OPSEU staff rep (if needed)
- Pull together documents (minutes, reports, resolutions etc.) required by the agenda, and make copies
- Set up the room ahead of time
- Arrange for refreshments



Check the numbers for quorum

According to the OPSEU Constitution:

29.8.1 This article defines the quorum for meetings of Units, Unit Committees, Local Executive Committees and the general membership of a Local.

29.8.2 The quorum for meetings of the above groups shall be:

Size of Group Quorum

1-20 members 50 percent of the members

21-200 members 10 members

201 or more members 5 percent of the members

NOTE: If your meeting does not have quorum, you can still proceed with all business other than items requiring a vote.



Be welcoming

- Greet everyone as they arrive
- Start the meeting by welcoming people
- Present the Land Acknowledgment
- Read or show the video of the OPSEU Statement of Respect



Step by step meeting process

- 1. The Chair calls the meeting to order
- 2. Review and amend the agenda with everyone's input
- 3. Move to adopt the agenda
- 4. Review the minutes of the previous meeting
- 5. Move to adopt the minutes
- 6. Present the Treasurer, Local President, and committee reports
- 7. Hold any necessary elections
- 8. New business including education highlight of the meeting
- 9. Adjournment
- 10. Build social solidarity in the local!





Watch this four minute video for an introduction to how to hold a successful union meeting: https://bit.ly/3c5yKKb



Some questions to think about:

1) How many participants do you need to have at your Local's GMM to reach quorum?

2) What can you do to make your GMM welcoming?

3) What would be a good focus topic for your next GMM?



