



## STATEMENT

### Board Meetings Now Open

*Ottawa, Ontario – June 23, 2017*

Yesterday, Bill C-44, the *Budget Implementation Act, 2017, No. 1*, received Royal Assent and further to the passing of this legislation, Board of Internal Economy meetings will now be open to the public.

The Board of Internal Economy remains committed to increasing public understanding about its role and the expenditures of the House of Commons and its Members.

Over the course of the 40th, 41st and 42nd Parliaments, the Board has taken a number of steps to provide additional information to the public. These have included disclosing the Board By-laws and the *Members' Allowances and Services Manual*, increasing the breadth and frequency of disclosure about Members' expenditures, and posting the minutes of its meetings.

Under the provisions of the Bill, meetings can be held in camera if the issues being discussed relate to security, employment, staff relations or tenders, if it is prescribed by a by-law, or if the members of the Board present at the meeting unanimously agree to go in camera.

I encourage you to visit [ourcommons.ca](http://ourcommons.ca) or follow the House of Commons on Twitter [@OurCommons](https://twitter.com/OurCommons) for information about upcoming Board meetings, links to live audio and video broadcasts, and meeting transcripts.

Hon. Geoff Regan, P.C., M.P.

#### About the Board of Internal Economy

- The Board of Internal Economy is the governing body of the House of Commons.
- The Board has equal representation from the governing party and the officially recognized parties (i.e. those holding at least 12 seats in the House). It is chaired by the Speaker.
- The proceedings of the Board are now public by default, with certain exceptions provided for in the Bill.
- The Board is responsible for establishing by-laws, policies and guidelines relating to expenditures and resources provided to Members in order to carry out their parliamentary functions.
- The Board delegates to the Clerk of the House and the House Administration the responsibility to implement its policies and the day-to-day management of House resources.

#### For more information:

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