

## STANDING ORDERS 12-15

### QUORUM

*Quorum generally*

12. The presence of at least 14 Members of the House not including the Speaker shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the House for the exercise of its powers. Whenever the Speaker adjourns the House for want of a quorum, the time of adjournment, and the names of the Members then present shall be inserted in the Journal.

(1951 SO 3)

*When Speaker advised  
no quorum present*

13. (1) Any Member may direct the Speaker's attention to the fact that there is not a quorum present.

(2) A Member need not remain in the House after giving notice that a quorum is not present.

(3) The only occasion when the Speaker takes the initiative is at the commencement of a sitting or at 7 o'clock, after the intermission, or at any such other hour that has been ordered by the House at a previous day's sitting for the commencement of business by the House on the following day. If the Speaker does not see a quorum he or she refrains from calling the Members to order and asks the Clerk to count the House. If there are not 14 Members present, the Speaker declares without question put that the House stands adjourned until the next sitting day. This procedure must be recorded in the Journal.

(4) When the Speaker's attention has been directed to the fact that there is not a quorum present, the Speaker shall cause the bells to be rung and shall cause the count to commence when 3 minutes have elapsed from the ringing of the bells. While the House is being counted the doors remain open and Members can come in during the whole time occupied by the counting.

(1951 SO 4)

*Quorum in Committee*

14. If notice is taken by a Member that there is not a quorum present in the Committee of the Whole the Chairperson follows the course pursued by the Speaker of the House. If the Chairperson ascertains that 14 Members are not present he or she leaves the Chair, the House is resumed, and, on his or her report the Speaker

counts the House or may cause the House to be counted by one of the clerks of the House, and if there be not then a quorum the Speaker must adjourn the House forthwith.

(1951 SO 5)

*Lieutenant-Governor  
arrives*

15. When the Sergeant-at-Arms announces a messenger from the Lieutenant-Governor, the Speaker shall take the Chair whether there be a quorum present or not.

(1951 SO 6)