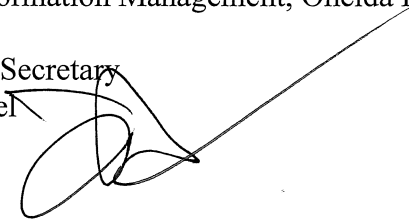




## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Heather Heuer, Specialist Information Management, Oneida Business Committee Support Office  
CC: Lisa Summers, Tribal Secretary  
**FROM:** Jo Anne House, Chief Counsel   
**DATE:** August 17, 2017  
**SUBJECT:** Opinion – GTC Meeting Materials on Oneida Business Committee Agenda

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You have requested a legal opinion regarding why General Tribal Council meeting materials on the Oneida Business Committee agenda are placed in a restricted format for members only. Currently, the Oneida Business Committee publishes three versions of the meeting materials.

- Open session – this group of materials includes all open session materials only.
- Open session/members only – this group of materials includes General Tribal Council meeting materials.
- Executive session – this group of materials includes open session materials, General Tribal Council meeting materials, and executive session meeting materials.

The General Tribal Council meeting materials are for meetings that are closed to the public. You must be a member to attend the General Tribal Council meeting or have a motion that authorizes a non-member to be present. However, the Oneida Business Committee meeting at which those materials are accepted and/or approved is open to the public.

To avoid having these materials in executive session, the Tribal Secretary began creating a separate packet of materials that were available to members only. This protects the meeting materials from non-member access without approval of the General Tribal Council. This would be consistent with the closed nature of those meetings and other directives of the General Tribal Council. For example, the General Tribal Council has identified on several occasions that the finances of the Oneida Nation are confidential and not for public release.

If you have further questions, please contact me.