



Moose on the Table – Managing Meetings

You are at a meeting and in the middle of the table stands an enormous moose. No one says a word about the moose. Everyone carries on polite and earnest conversation as if this situation is very normal.

Meanwhile the moose is eating papers at one end of the table while plopping out moose pies at the other end of the table, splattering a few participants' business suits.

Team members are passing papers around the moose's legs. They shift in their chairs to make eye contact with each other under the moose's belly or to see passed it to the front of the room.

Papers need to be pried out from underneath the moose's huge hoofs.

When the moose lifts its head, his massive antlers poke into the meeting room ceiling, raining down chunks of ceiling tile and knocking out a light. No one says a thing about this. The leader carries on blissfully with the meeting.

The moose is the issue that everyone knows about but no one wants to talk about or to deal with.

Do you have a moose on the table? If you do deal with it because it is not going away.

Jim Clemmer:

The Leader's Digest: Timeless Principles for Team and Organization Success.

Strategic Focus Tools™

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