

March 30, 2020

Amendments to BC's *Lobbyists Registration Act* Come into Force May 4, 2020

VICTORIA—On May 4, 2020, the *Lobbyists Registration Act* will change to the *Lobbyists Transparency Act* (LTA), as the sections of the Lobbyists Registration Amendment Act, 2018, which have not yet come into force, take effect.

The changes include recommendations the Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists (ORL) made to the Province to increase transparency in lobbying.

The new legislation will affect all lobbyists. Currently, organizations that have lobbied under 100 hours in the previous 12 months are not required to register in the Lobbyists Registry. However, starting on May 4, this 100-hour threshold will be eliminated, and the Registrar anticipates many organizations that have not needed to register in the Lobbyists Registry in the past will be required to do so.

A significant change for lobbyists will be the introduction of Monthly Returns. Lobbyists will need to submit these reports to the Lobbyists Registry and include lobbying activities undertaken in the previous month. To support the changes, the ORL is developing a new Lobbyists Registry, which will be available May 4, 2020. The new registry will be easier for lobbyists to use and for the public to search and view lobbying activities in BC.

The ORL is committed to making it as easy as possible for lobbyists to comply with the changes to the act. New guidance documents and a section with frequently asked questions are available on the ORL website to assist lobbyists with understanding the LTA.

In April, the ORL will host two free, live webcasts to help ensure lobbyists, organizations and the general public understand the changes to the legislation, the regulations and the Lobbyists Registry. The content will be the same for both webcasts.

- Friday, April 3, 2020
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Pacific time)
- Thursday, April 23, 2020
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (Pacific time)

Announcement

Pre-registration for either one or the other is requested. To register and for more information, visit the ORL's Upcoming Events page: [www.lobbyistsregistrar.bc.ca/news/upcoming-events/`](http://www.lobbyistsregistrar.bc.ca/news/upcoming-events/)

Recordings of the webcasts will be posted on the ORL website following the events.

To protect the health of ORL employees and to do our part to slow community transmission of the COVID-19 virus, ORL staff are working remotely. The office will continue to provide service to the public and lobbyists, and the Lobbyists Registry continues to be monitored.
Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists for British Columbia.

Learn More:

Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists for British Columbia: <https://www.lobbyistsregistrar.bc.ca/>

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