

ANNUAL REPORT AND SERVICE PLAN 2023-2024



O.R.L.
office of the
registrar
of lobbyists
BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists for BC respectfully acknowledges that its offices are located on the traditional territories of the lək'wəŋən-speaking people of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations. As an Officer of the Legislature, the Commissioner's work reaches across the homelands of the Indigenous Peoples within what we now call British Columbia. We honour the many territorial keepers of the Lands on which we work.

O.R.L.

WHO WE ARE

The Registrar of Lobbyists is an independent Officer of the Legislature who oversees, monitors, and enforces the *Lobbyists Transparency Act* (LTA). The LTA requires individuals and organizations who meet specific criteria to register their lobbying activities in an online public Registry.

The goal of the LTA is to promote transparency in lobbying and government decision-making.

Michael McEvoy, Information and Privacy Commissioner for BC, is designated as Registrar of Lobbyists for BC.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

May 2024

The Honourable Raj Chouhan
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Room 207, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

In accordance with s. 9.1(1) of the *Lobbyists Transparency Act*, I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists to the Legislative Assembly.

This report covers the period from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

Yours sincerely,



Michael McEvoy
*Registrar of Lobbyists for
British Columbia*

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REGISTRAR'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to present the 2023-24 Annual Report and Service Plan of the Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists (ORL). It marks my concluding report as Registrar.

Lobbying, as I have noted many times, is an important facet of our democratic system of government. Lobbying assists government to understand the many constituencies at play in our society and to inform policy and law making. It is of equal importance that citizens understand those influences. That is only possible if the actions of lobbyists are transparent — and the main vehicle for that is the BC Lobbyists Registry.

The past six years have seen significant improvements to our lobbying legislation and the Registry that have helped our citizens understand the forces of influence brought to bear on our provincial governance structure.

The transition from the *Lobbyists Registration Act* to the *Lobbyists Transparency Act* (LTA) in 2020 advanced transparency and at the same time increased demand for ORL services. More educational resources, outreach, and guidance on the part of our outstanding staff has been

necessary. In the past fiscal reporting period alone, the ORL team have fielded some 1,944 requests for information, updated nine guidance documents and created a new infographic to assist lobbyists with filing their Monthly Returns during the fiscal year. This report period alone saw 8,213 Lobbying Activity Reports filed in the Lobbyists Registry. We have also published two issues of the *Influencing BC* newsletter, aimed at educating and engaging lobbyists and other stakeholders.

I have learned over the past six years that the vast proportion of lobbyists want to do the right thing by ensuring their actions are legally compliant. For that reason my office has emphasized education as a means of assisting lobbyists to understand what the “right thing” is. Only when it becomes necessary, does the ORL use the enforcement tools provided for in the LTA to ensure the law is met. To that end, the ORL issued six Determination Decisions, two Reconsideration Reports, and one Exemption Decision in the 2023-24 fiscal year. Each decision offers valuable insight into the work of the ORL and how the LTA is enforced. All ORL decisions can be viewed on the ORL website.



“The past six years have seen significant improvements to our lobbying legislation and the Registry that have helped our citizens understand the forces of influence brought to bear on our provincial governance structure.”

Our work as regulator also benefits from information-sharing with our counterparts across the country. Our office was pleased to host the annual conference of the Lobbyists Registrars and Commissioners Network (LRCN) in Victoria in September 2023. During the two days of meetings, we discussed common issues and shared learning opportunities including experiences regulating lobbyist gift-giving and the pros and cons of legislated thresholds that lobbyists must meet before they are required to register lobbying activity.

I am grateful for the work of our dedicated ORL team. Their commitment to education and enforcement for the public’s benefit has been extraordinary. I would especially like to thank oline Twiss, our Deputy Registrar, whose strategic advice and administrative skills have helped navigate the office through a pandemic and significant legislative change. Those skills have garnered the respect of colleagues across the country and most importantly strengthened the ORL for the benefit of citizens.

Finally, I would like to thank lobbyists, government, and the public this legislation serves — for working with us as we pursue our shared goal of transparent, accountable lobbying in British Columbia. It has been an honour to serve as your Registrar for the past six years.

Michael McEvoy
Registrar of Lobbyists for British Columbia



OUR MANDATE

WHO WE SERVE

The mandate of the Registrar of Lobbyists is to:

- promote awareness among lobbyists of registration requirements;
- promote awareness among the public of the existence of the Lobbyists Registry;
- manage the Registry and registrations submitted to it; and
- monitor and enforce compliance with the LTA.

Under the LTA the ORL serves:

- the public;
- BC lobbyists and public office holders; and
- the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.



HOW WE DO OUR WORK

The Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists for British Columbia (ORL) addresses concerns about the integrity of government decision-making by providing a public record of who is attempting to influence government decisions. The ORL manages compliance through many strategies, including education and outreach to lobbyists and public office holders, verification of registration information, public reporting, compliance reviews, investigations, and administrative penalties for non-compliance.

ORL TEAM

Staff at the Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists are delegated by the Registrar to carry out the responsibilities and powers of the Registrar under the *Lobbyists Transparency Act* (LTA).

Registrar

The Registrar of Lobbyists is an independent Officer of the Legislature who oversees, monitors, and enforces the *Lobbyists Transparency Act* (LTA). The Registrar has the legal authority to investigate compliance with the LTA, issue administrative penalties, and submit reports of non-compliance to the Legislative Assembly to ensure compliance with BC's lobbyist legislation.

The Registrar also oversees the registration of lobbyists, ensures public access to information in the Lobbyists Registry, and promotes compliance through public education.

Deputy Registrar

The Deputy Registrar oversees the teams that carry out the Registrar's authorities to maintain the Registry, carry out education, and conduct enforcement. The Deputy Registrar provides strategic advice to the Registrar and administers finance and human resource functions as delegated by the Registrar.

Executive support

The executive support team assists the Registrar, Deputy Registrar, and ORL team with scheduling, organizing, and maintaining office facilities, and other administrative tasks as required.

Legal

The legal team delivers comprehensive legal advice and guidance to the Registrar and staff on current and emerging matters relating to lobbying, as well as on matters relating to administrative law, common law, and constitutional law.

Communications

The communications team publicizes the work of the office, and coordinates public education opportunities to inform the citizens of BC about lobbying. The ORL's website, media relations, newsletter, and event planning all fall under this department's oversight.





Registry and compliance

ORL Registry staff are the first point of contact for lobbyists as well as members of the public, public office holders and other stakeholders who have questions regarding the LTA. They provide information and guidance to support compliance, review registrations submitted to the Lobbyists Registry, and identify potential instances of non-compliance. Registry staff have delegated authority to make decisions regarding the verification of information provided in a registration, accept a registration or refuse one that does not comply with the LTA, and remove a registrant who fails to comply with the LTA.

Registry staff also scan the Registry for those who may have inaccurate information in their registrations, and media, websites, and press releases to identify those who may be lobbying without registering. Staff contact lobbyists to clarify information in the Lobbyists Registry or to inquire about whether registration is required. An investigation may be initiated to determine if a lobbyist has complied with the LTA.

Investigation

The investigations team decides whether to investigate potential matters of non-compliance. Compliance investigations are assigned to an investigator who reviews the facts and gives the lobbyist an opportunity to be heard before determining whether there has been a contravention, or contraventions, of the LTA. If non-compliance is found, an administrative penalty may be issued. Administrative penalties can be monetary penalties or a penalty prohibiting lobbying. Decisions are published on the ORL website and tabled with the Legislative Assembly.

Policy

ORL policy staff conduct research and analysis of current and emerging lobbying issues and develop education, outreach, and guidance documents to educate the public and relevant stakeholders about the LTA. This includes participating in project teams and recommending courses of action that promote transparency in lobbying.

YEAR IN REVIEW

April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024

April 2023

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (March 2023) (monthly summaries of lobbying activities submitted and activated).
- 19 ORL updates **Monthly Returns – Registration Return Updates and Lobbying Activity Reports** guidance document.
- 28 Registrar presents spring **update** to the Select Standing Committee on Finance & Government Services.



May 2023

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (April 2023).
- 10 ORL releases exemption decision **ED 23-01** to lobbyist.
- 15 ORL updates **Government Funding** guidance document.
- 24 ORL publishes **Monthly Returns: what they are and when to file** infographic.



June 2023

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (May 2023).
- 14 ORL updates **Lobbyist Gifts and Other Benefits** guidance document.



July 2023

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (June 2023).
- 12 ORL gives a presentation about the ORL's mandate and provides an introduction to the *Lobbyists Transparency Act* (LTA) to Skilled Trades BC.



August 2023

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (July 2023).



September 2023

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (August 2023).
- 07 ORL issues determination decision **DD 23-03** for the Tourism Industry Association of British Columbia.
- 21 ORL issues determination decision **DD 23-04** for British Columbia Cattleman's Association.
- 23 ORL issues determination decisions **DD 23-05** and **DD 23-06** for Canadian Vaping Association.
ORL delivers presentation about the Lobbyists Registry to BC Chamber of Commerce on the topic of understanding and working with the *Lobbyists Transparency Act*.
- 27- ORL hosts national **Lobbyists Registrars and**
28 **Commissioners Network** conference in Victoria, BC.



October 2023

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (September 2023).
- 27 Registrar submits the 2024-2025 to 2026-27 **Budget and Service Plan** and delivers **speech** to the Select Standing Committee on Finance & Government Service.
- 31 ORL delivers presentation to BC Agricultural Council on the Lobbyists Registry and the ORL.



November 2023

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (October 2023).
- 15 ORL issues determination decision **DD 23-07** for Uber Canada Inc.



December 2023

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (November 2023).
- 20 ORL issues reconsideration report **Reconsideration 23-03** to the Tourism Industry Association of British Columbia, related to determination decision **DD 23-03**.



January 2024

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (December 2023).



February 2024

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (January 2023).
- 06 ORL updates **Account Management; Organization Registration Returns; Consultant Lobbyist Registration Returns; Monthly Returns – Registration Return Updates and Lobbying Activity Reports; and Quick Reference Guide for Lobbyists** guidance documents.
- 07 ORL delivers presentation to the BC Chamber of Commerce on the topic of understanding and working with the *Lobbyists Transparency Act*.
- 14 ORL issues determination decision **DD 24-01** to the Canadian Union of Public Employees – British Columbia Division (CUPE BC).
- 23 ORL delivers presentation to the United Way Public Policy Institute on the *Lobbyists Transparency Act*, the Lobbyists Registry and the ORL.
- 28 ORL publishes complete Lobbyists Registry datasets on **ORL website** and **BC Data Catalogue**.



March 2024

- 01 ORL publishes **Who's Lobbying Who** (February 2023).
- 05 ORL updates **Guidance for Lobbyists During an Election**.
- 11 BC Government introduces **Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2024**, to the Legislative Assembly, which contains proposed amendments to the *Lobbyists Transparency Act*.
- 28 ORL issues reconsideration report **Reconsideration 23-07** to Uber Canada Inc., related to determination decision **DD 23-07**.



HIGHLIGHTS

ORL hosts national regulator conference

The ORL hosted the annual conference of the Lobbyists Registrars and Commissioners Network (LRCN) in Victoria in 2023. The conference is attended by regulators responsible for enforcing lobbying laws, regulations, and policies at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels in Canada. The meeting was opened by Diane Sam, Community Engagement Manager and Team Leader at the Songhees Cultural Centre who welcomed delegates to lək̓ʷəŋən territory and recognized the important role transparency plays in a healthy society.

Members shared relevant legislative developments and discussed best practices for safeguarding the integrity of public institutions; methods utilized by regulators to educate lobbyists, public office holders, and the general public about lobbying rules and transparency; and pros and cons of legislated thresholds that lobbyists must meet before triggering a requirement to register lobbying activity.

The next annual LRCN conference will be held in Ottawa in fall 2024.



DOWNLOAD: *Annual conference of the Lobbyists Registrars and Commissioners Network held in Victoria, BC*



DOWNLOAD: *Please refer to page 31 for a complete list of guidance documents introduced or updated in 2023/24*

Key guidance documents issued and updated

The ORL introduced or updated ten guidance documents and user guides during the last fiscal year as part of its educational mandate.

Among these were guidance on:

- **Guidance for Lobbyists During an Election** explains the *Lobbyists Transparency Act* (LTA) requirements for lobbyists during an election.
- **Monthly Returns:** what they are and when to file provides lobbyists with a visual flow-chart to assist in determining whether they are required to submit a Monthly Return and, if so, what types of information must be included and when it must be submitted to the Lobbyists Registry.
- **Government Funding**, with revisions following consultation with representatives from the non-profit sector to enhance clarity around the requirement for lobbying organizations to report requested and received government funding.

Registry data made more accessible

To further enhance the transparency of the searchable Lobbyists Registry, the ORL made the complete Registry datasets available for download via the **ORL website** and the **BC Data Catalogue**. These datasets contain all the lobbying information filed with the ORL and published in the Lobbyists Registry since the online Lobbyists Registry was established in 2010. Accompanying each dataset is a “data dictionary” that provides definitions for each element contained in the datasets. Researchers, journalists, and the public can download the complete set of data contained within the Lobbyists Registry in .xlsx format, allowing them to sort, filter and analyze the data in ways the public Registry does not facilitate.



DOWNLOAD: <https://www.lobbyistsregistrar.bc.ca/the-registry/open-data/>

Registrar finds exemption from two-year prohibition in public interest

One of the aims of the *Lobbyists Transparency Act* (LTA) is to prevent former public office holders from having undue influence on government decision-making by prohibiting them from lobbying for two years after they leave office. Section 2.3 of the LTA, however, recognizes that there are instances when an exemption to this “cooling-off period” is in the public interest. This was the case with Exemption Decision 23-01. The applicant, who had served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia since 2017 and was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of British Columbia Ferry Services Inc (BC Ferries), was granted an exemption because they were moving from one government-owned entity to another, unlike past cases where exemption seekers moved from governmental bodies to private organizations ranging from industry associations to non-profit charities. BC Ferries, however, must continue to report all lobbying activity.

Previous reports of non-compliance, reconsideration, and exemption decision reports can be viewed on the website under Decisions.



DOWNLOAD: [Exemption Decision 23-0-1](#)

YEAR IN NUMBERS

COMPLIANCE STATISTICS, 2023-24

COMPLIANCE REVIEWS

Outstanding from 2022-23 fiscal year	7
New for 2023-24 fiscal year	1,414
Total reviews:	1,416
Information confirmed correct	21
Corrections required	531
Refuse to investigate (Warning email sent as matter minor or trivial)	850
Led to investigation	8
Ongoing at end of 2023-24 fiscal year	6

INVESTIGATIONS

Outstanding from 2022-23 fiscal year	6
New for 2023-24 fiscal year	8
Total investigations:	14
Cease to investigate	0
Compliant with Act	1
Non-compliant with Act (no penalty)	0
Non-compliant with Act (administrative penalty imposed)	5
Ongoing at end of 2023-24 fiscal year	8

Reconsiderations

2

EXEMPTION DECISIONS

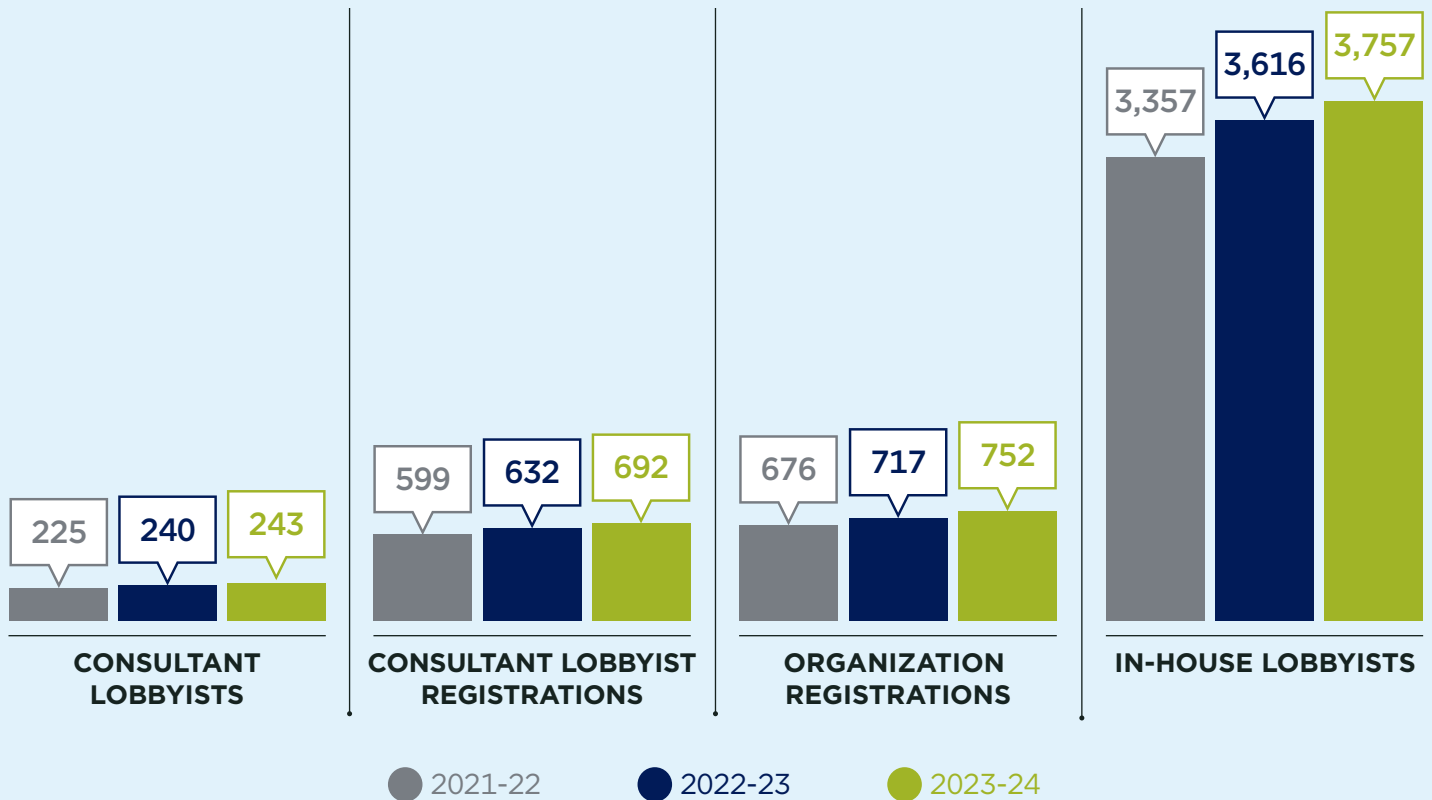
New for 2023-24 fiscal	1
Ongoing at end of 2023-24 fiscal year	0

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

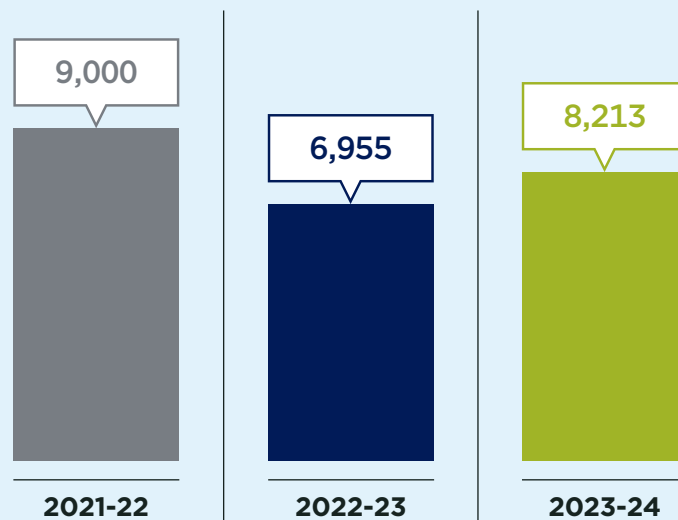
2023-24	1,944
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ACTIVE REGISTRATIONS



LOBBYING ACTIVITY REPORTS COMPLETED



YEAR IN NUMBERS

LOBBYING TARGETS, 2023-24

REGISTRATION RETURNS

Member(s) of the BC Legislative Assembly	886
Office of the Premier	692
Finance	646
Environment and Climate Change Strategy	547
Health	496
Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation	457
Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation	413
Transportation and Infrastructure	346
Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation	322
Advanced Education and Skills Training	256

LOBBYING ACTIVITY REPORTS

Member(s) of the BC Legislative Assembly	1,767
Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation	844
Office of the Premier	804
Environment and Climate Change Strategy	664
Health	561
Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation	551
Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	447
Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development	412
Finance	377
Education and Child Care	235

TOP 10 SUBJECT MATTERS, 2023-24

REGISTRATION RETURNS

Environment	532
Economic Development and Trade	472
Health	471
Finances and Budgets	422
Energy	354
Employment and Training	334
Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation	310
Transportation	277
Infrastructure	256
Industry	256

LOBBYING ACTIVITY REPORTS

Environment	3,127
Energy	2,181
Economic Development and Trade	1,948
Health	1,908
Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation	1,831
Finances and Budgets	1,758
Employment and Training	1,459
Infrastructure	1,149
Advanced Education	1,050
Forestry	1,005

YEAR IN NUMBERS

TOP INTENDED OUTCOMES OF LOBBYISTS, 2023-24

REGISTRATION RETURNS

Development, establishment, amendment or termination of any program, policy, directive or guideline of the government of British Columbia or a Provincial entity	1,072
Development or enactment of any regulation, including the enactment of a regulation for the purposes of amending or repealing a regulation	646
Awarding, amendment or termination of any contract, grant or financial benefit by or on behalf of the government of British Columbia or a Provincial entity	621
Development of any legislative proposal by the government of British Columbia, a Provincial entity or a member of the Legislative Assembly	535
Introduction, amendment, passage or defeat of any Bill or resolution in or before the Legislative Assembly	371
Decision by the Executive Council or a member of the Executive Council to have the private sector instead of the Crown provide goods or services to the government of British Columbia or a Provincial entity	93
Decision by the Executive Council or a member of the Executive Council to transfer from the Crown for consideration all or part of, or any interest in or asset of, any business, enterprise or institution that provides goods or services to the Crown, a Provincial entity or the public	57

LOBBYING ACTIVITY REPORTS

Development, establishment, amendment or termination of any program, policy, directive or guideline of the government of British Columbia or a Provincial entity	5,486
Development or enactment of any regulation, including the enactment of a regulation for the purposes of amending or repealing a regulation	3,245
Development of any legislative proposal by the government of British Columbia, a Provincial entity or a member of the Legislative Assembly	2,570
Awarding, amendment or termination of any contract, grant or financial benefit by or on behalf of the government of British Columbia or a Provincial entity	2,168
Introduction, amendment, passage or defeat of any Bill or resolution in or before the Legislative Assembly	1,807
Decision by the Executive Council or a member of the Executive Council to have the private sector instead of the Crown provide goods or services to the government of British Columbia or a Provincial entity	255
Decision by the Executive Council or a member of the Executive Council to transfer from the Crown for consideration all or part of, or any interest in or asset of, any business, enterprise or institution that provides goods or services to the Crown, a Provincial entity or the public	233



SERVICE PLAN



Service Plan Goal 1

Maintain and improve the Lobbyists Registry

Section 7 of the LTA authorizes the Registrar to maintain a registry of lobbying activities in BC. The Lobbyists Registry is published online and is searchable for lobbyists and the public.

The ORL is dedicated to improving the Registry by identifying and implementing improvements and updates in an ongoing manner. The aim is to make the Registry more user-friendly for lobbyists and easy for the public to search. A variety of users conduct searches of the Registry, including lobbyists, media, public office holders and their staff, and individuals and organizations that are seeking information about lobbying happening in their sector.

Improvements are identified by ORL staff as the system is administered and by receiving input and comments from lobbyists and the public. Recent enhancements to the Registry include:


- Updating the user interfaces for the Designated Filer Dashboard, the Representative Account Dashboard, and the Main Navigation for a smoother user experience; and
- The ability to opt-in to two-factor authentication, using SMS, to reset a password.
- Making the complete Registry datasets available for download from **ORL website** and the **BC Data Catalogue**.

The strategies for Goal 1 remain relevant and have been maintained. ●



Strategies

- Manage and keep current the Lobbyists Registry by identifying and implementing updates and improvements that support users, including simplifying data entry requirements for lobbyists and providing more user-friendly access for the public; and
- Maintain the Registry and its availability to lobbyists and the public every day of the year.

 Performance Measure	2023/24		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	Target	Actual	Target	Target	Target	Target
1 Number of improvements to the Lobbyists Registry	5	16	5	5	5	5
2 Number of days the Lobbyists Registry is available online to lobbyists and the public	365	365	365	365	365	365



Service Plan Goal 2

Educate lobbyists, public office holders, and the public about the *Lobbyists Transparency Act*

Section 9.4 of the LTA grants the Registrar the authority to “develop and conduct public education and information designed to promote awareness and understanding of this Act.” ORL education aims to assist lobbyists and the public in understanding the registration requirements under the LTA and what information is available to the public via the Lobbyists Registry. ORL education and outreach has led to a greater awareness of the rules for lobbyists in British Columbia among lobbyists, public office holders, and the public.

In 2023/24 the Registrar published two issues of our *Influencing BC* newsletter, shown in Performance Measure 3. *Influencing BC* continues to feature information about updates to the Registry, enforcement actions and other topics relevant to transparency in lobbying. *Who’s Lobbying Who*, the ORL publication listing active lobbying in the past month, was published monthly as planned as shown in Performance Measure 4.

In 2023/24 the Registrar also published 10 new or updated guidance documents to ensure that guidance materials are responsive to the questions that are being asked of ORL staff, shown in Performance Measure 5. Guidance topics included ***Guidance for Lobbyists During an Election, Monthly Returns: what they are and when to file***, and ***Government Funding***. All guidance documents can be viewed on the ORL **website**¹.

In 2023/24 the Registrar and ORL staff conducted five speaking engagements to support ongoing education relating to the responsibilities of lobbyists under the LTA.


The strategies for Goal 2 remain relevant and have been maintained. ●

1. <https://www.lobbyistsregistrar.bc.ca/resources/guidance-documents/>



Strategies

- Update and implement a communications plan to support education for lobbyists, stakeholders, and the public;
- Continue publishing and circulating Influencing BC (the ORL’s online newsletter) and monthly summaries of registered lobbying activities in the province;
- Manage and keep current the Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists website; and
- Raise awareness about the LTA among lobbyists, public office holders, and the general public, including through speaking engagements and developing guidance documents.

 Performance Measure	2023/24		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	Target	Actual	Target	Target	Target	Target
3 Issues of <i>Influencing BC</i> published	2	2	2	2	2	2
4 Issues of “ <i>Who’s Lobbying Who</i> ” published	12	12	12	12	12	12
5 Number of new or revised guidance documents to raise awareness about the LTA	10	10	10	10	10	10
6 Number of speaking engagements to raise awareness about the LTA	5	5	5	5	5	5



Service Plan Goal 3

Enhance the enforcement function under the *Lobbyists Transparency Act*

Section 7.1 of the LTA authorizes the Registrar to investigate potential non-compliance under the LTA and s. 7.2 authorizes the Registrar to hold a hearing and issue an administrative penalty in cases where it is determined that there was non-compliance. The ORL also uses informal measures to resolve potential matters of non-compliance whenever they are appropriate and effective.

In fiscal 2023/24 the ORL received 97 percent of registrations on-time as shown in Performance Measure 7, up from 92 percent in 2022/23. ORL staff continue to prioritize education and outreach that supports lobbyists in registering their lobbying activities on-time.

The office conducted 1414 verifications of information in the Lobbyists Registry, just under the target shown in Performance Measure 8. Information verifications have become a primary tool for Registry staff to raise awareness about the obligations of lobbyists relating to the Lobbyists Registry. Verifications can be triggered by a registry officer's review of information submitted in the Lobbyists Registry, by scanning media reports or via information received from the public. Their utility is expected to continue to support the accuracy of information in the Registry, so performance targets for verifications of information will continue to be 1500 in coming years.

The ORL published six compliance determinations under the LTA in 2023-24 as indicated in Performance Measure 9. The focus of the ORL in 2023/24 continued to be raising awareness about obligations under the LTA and compliance determinations were initiated as appropriate. All reports of non-compliance can be viewed on the ORL [website](#).

In 2023/24 one exemption decision was made by the Registrar in response to a former public office holder seeking an exemption from the two-year lobbying prohibition, shown in Performance Measure 10. Exemption requests may be submitted to the Registrar from any lobbyist that is subject to the two-year cooling-off period for former public office holders. The LTA grants the Registrar the authority to exempt a former public office holder from the two-year prohibition if the Registrar determines it is in the "public interest." All exemption decisions can be viewed on the ORL [website](#).


The strategies continue to be relevant and appropriate and have been maintained from those published in last year's Service Plan. ●



3

Strategies

- Analyze publicly available information sources to identify government priorities, organization priorities, and possible unregistered lobbying;
- Conduct verifications of information in the Lobbyists Registry to identify potential contraventions that proceed to formal investigation; and
- Monitor for potential non-compliance and initiate investigations and make compliance determinations as appropriate.

 Performance Measure	2023/24		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	Target	Actual	Target	Target	Target	Target
7 Percentage of on-time registrations	95%	97%	95%	95%	95%	95%
8 Number of verifications of information in registry	1500	1,414	1500	1500	1500	1500
9 Number of compliance determinations	15	6	10	10	10	10
10 Number of exemption decisions	2	1	2	2	2	2

ORL FINANCIAL REPORTING

The ORL's budget is incorporated into the budget of the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. As part of the approval of the annual Estimates, the Legislative Assembly votes a budget for the two offices as recommended by the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services.



For more information about the ORL's budget and *Public Interest Disclosure Act* (PIDA) disclosure, please see the 2023-24 OIPC Annual Report (page 48) or the Budget and Service Plan at oipc.bc.ca under "Reports."

RESOURCES

The Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists publishes guidance documents to provide information and promote compliance. Here are the documents produced or updated in 2023-24. Check lobbyistsregistrar.bc.ca for updates after March 31, 2024.

- [Account Management](#)
- [Consultant Lobbyist Registration Returns](#)
- [Guidance for Lobbyists During an Election](#)
- [Government Funding](#)
- [Lobbyist Gifts](#)
- [Monthly Return Infographic](#)
- [Monthly Returns - Registration Return Updates and Lobbying Activity Reports](#)
- [Organization Registration Returns](#)
- [Quick Reference Guide for Representatives](#)

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