



GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

HOW TO REPORT POLITICAL, SPONSORSHIP AND RECALL CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE LOBBYISTS REGISTRY

October 26, 2020

PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Notice

This document is for information purposes only and does not constitute a decision or finding by the Registrar of Lobbyists for British Columbia or their delegates. This guidance does not affect the powers, duties or functions of the Registrar of Lobbyists, or their delegates, regarding any investigation or other matter under the *Lobbyists Transparency Act*, respecting which the Registrar and their delegates will keep an open mind. Responsibility for compliance with the *Lobbyists Transparency Act* remains with each client, lobbyist, and public office holder.

This guidance document outlines key considerations for lobbyists when reporting political, sponsorship and recall contributions in the Lobbyists Registry, reflecting recent updates to the Registry. It builds on earlier guidance on [Reporting political, sponsorship, and recall contributions](#).

GUIDANCE FOR LOBBYISTS

The *Lobbyists Transparency Act* requires lobbyists to declare whether they have made a political, sponsorship and recall contribution only when they have lobbied or expect to lobby an MLA, Minister, or the Premier.

The Lobbyists Registry has recently been updated to reflect this, and when you register for the first time, or when you update your Registration Return, you will be prompted to answer these questions:

HAVE YOU LOBBIED OR DO YOU EXPECT TO LOBBY AN MLA, MINISTER OR THE PREMIER?



You must answer whether you have made a political, sponsorship or recall contribution. The date of writ referenced here will depend on the effective date of your active Registration Return.

You do not need to answer the questions regarding whether you have made a political, sponsorship or recall contribution.

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

Organizations will have to answer these questions for all of their in-house lobbyists, and consultant lobbyists will have to answer these questions for themselves and for their clients.

Note: If your answer to the first question changes after you submit your initial Registration Return (that is you have lobbied or expect to lobby an MLA, Minister, or the Premier), you must ensure you update your answers in your Registration Return when you submit your next Monthly Return.

Examples:

- 1) You submit a new Registration Return with an effective date (start date) of October 21, 2020. You must answer the above-referenced questions to the September 21, 2020 date of writ. The Registry will only present you the option to answer this question for the period since the last writ was issued.
- 2) You update your Registration Return on October 28, 2020, and the effective date of your updates is October 1, 2020. You previously answered these contributions questions with respect to the April 11, 2017 date of writ. You will be prompted to answer these contributions questions with respect to the September 21, 2020 date of writ.