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LOBBYING IN CANADA/LE LOBBYISME AU CAN- ADA

Meunier, Turmel, Giorno, and Hyndman

Release No. 5, October 2026

Lobbying legislation significantly changes the way businesses and non-government organizations deal with federal, provincial and municipal (in the case of Quebec) government officials. This book provides a repository of lobbyisme laws in Canada with useful commentary and guidance on the practical aspects of their application. An individual's or an organization's obligations with respect to lobbyisme activities occurring in Canada must be considered in terms of not only the federal legislation but also the applicable provincial legislation, if the particular province has adopted such legislation.

This release features updates to Chapter 15-E Saskatchewan. It also features updates to Appendix WPJ Words & Phrases.

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Release Highlights

- **SASKATCHEWAN—SUMMARY AND COMMENTARY—THE LOBBYISTS ACT—APPLICATION AND SCOPE—FURTHER EXCEPTIONS TO THE APPLICATION OF THE ACT**—In 2024, the Registrar considered whether the exemption for members of the council of an Indian band as defined in the *Indian Act* (Canada), individuals on the staff of any of those members, or employees of any of those councils would apply to a band-controlled entity that is legally distinct from the band. The Registrar concluded that, despite being under the supervision of the band, the entity was considered an independent agency and the people who worked there did not meet the definition of a band employee. Therefore, those employees were required to register under the Act.
- **WORDS AND PHRASES—SASKATCHEWAN—“JUDICIAL RECUSAL”**— There is, however, a distinction between a judicial recusal and a judicial disqualification. Judicial disqualification is legally required when a party demonstrates a reasonable apprehension of bias. Judicial recusal, on the other hand, may be appropriate in matters where this standard is not fully satisfied: *R. v. Zabihullah* (2023), 2023 Carswell-Sask 665, 2023 SKKB 255 (Sask. K.B.) at para. 6 Mitchell J.