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LOBBYING IN CANADA/LE LOBBYISME AU CAN- ADA

Meunier, Turmel, Giorno, and Hyndman
Release No. 4, September 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 5-E British Columbia. It also features updates to these Appendices: Appendix SLL Selected Legal Literature; Appendix WPJ Words & Phrases; and Appendix WPL Legislatively Defined Terms.

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Release Highlights

- **WORDS AND PHRASES—DEMOCRACY—ALBERTA**—“Democracy is a contested normative concept that has many dimensions.” (*Chief Electoral Officer of Alberta v. Sylvestre* (2025), 2025 ABKB 712, 2025 CarswellAlta 2971, 92 Alta. L.R. (7th) 243 (Alta. K.B.) at para. 107 Feasby J.)
- **WORDS AND PHRASES—PUBLIC INTEREST—ALBERTA**—“... “public interest” is an expansive term... the term is unitary and it reflects the cultural, professional, and societal values of a particular space and time... the public interest consists of multiple interests as well as multiple publics. The publics may constitute local residents and businesses, developers, community organizations, local government and others.” (2357596 *Alberta Ltd v. Antoniuk* (2026), 2026 ABKB 81, 67 M.P.L.R. (6th) 254, 2026 CarswellAlta 268 (Alta. K.B.) at para. 120 Akgungor J.)
- **TERMS LEGISLATIVELY DEFINED—IN-HOUSE LOBBYIST—NEW BRUNSWICK**—““in-house lobbyist” means (a) in respect of a person or partnership that is not an organization, an individual whose duties include lobbying on behalf of the person or partnership as an employee or as an officer who is compensated for the performance of the officer’s duties or, if the person is a corporation, lobbying on behalf of any subsidiary or on behalf of any corporation of which the person or partnership is a subsidiary but does not include any individual or class of individual prescribed by regulation, and (b) in respect of an organization, an individual whose duties include lobbying on behalf of the organization as an employee or as an officer who is compensated for the performance of the officer’s duties but does not include any individual or class of individual prescribed by regulation.” *Lobbyists’ Registration Act*, S.N.B. 2014, c. 11, s. 1 [Not in force at date of publication.]