

Jurisdictional Scan

Below are jurisdictions which have been identified as having publicly available policies or programs relating to lobbying that were reviewed as part of the policy scan for this report. Key aspects of the other jurisdictions' policies or programs are summarized.

Quebec is the only province with provincial legislation requiring that lobbyists at both provincial and municipal levels register lobbying activities. Municipalities in Quebec therefore do not have their own lobbyist registries, rather they refer to and use the provincial registry. The legislation includes specific penalties and disciplinary measures that may result due to non-compliance.

Ontario's legislation requires that Toronto, specifically, adopt a lobbyist registry, but it is optional for other municipalities in Ontario to adopt lobbying bylaws. Various cities in Ontario such as Ottawa and Hamilton have done so. Lobbyists are required to register their lobbying activities in municipalities that have implemented a registry. The legislation sets out what municipalities are permitted to do in regulating lobbying, including the penalties that may be implemented for non-compliance.

St. John's, NL, is specifically included in Newfoundland's *Lobbyist Registration Act*, which otherwise only applies provincially. St. John's is included in the provincial registry rather than having to implement their own registry.

Winnipeg, MB, has a voluntary lobbyist registry. The city encourages lobbyists to register in order to provide transparency and integrity regarding business that is conducted with the city; however, there are no penalties for not registering.

Edmonton, AB, does not have a lobbyist registry, however the mayor's office does have its own voluntary registry which it encourages lobbyists to use. There are no penalties for non-compliance as it is a voluntary registry.

Surrey, BC, implemented a lobbyist policy in 2008. It only applies to development and zoning related matters and requires that lobbyists register with the city. There appear to be no consequences for failing to comply with the policy which essentially makes it a voluntary registry.

Vancouver, BC, city council passed a motion in 2018 to request that the province amend legislation so as to permit the city to regulate lobbying. It does not appear that any steps have been taken by the province as a result of this.

Halifax, NS, city council considered a 2018 report in which it was stated that amendments to provincial legislation were required before adopting a mandatory lobbyist registry.

Saskatchewan, at a provincial level, refers to lobbying as communication, for payment, from a lobbyist to a public office holder in an attempt to influence public policy, legislation, programs, etc. There is no legislation in Saskatchewan dealing with municipal lobbying.

Various other municipalities take a similar approach to Saskatoon whereby lobbying is dealt with in a more indirect manner rather than through specific lobbying registries or policies:

Regina, for example, has their own similar code of ethical conduct and also prohibits lobbying in relation to procurement.

Prince Albert's code of ethics mandates that council business be conducted in a transparent manner and in the public interest. Members are required to disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest. The city's procurement policy requires that employees comply with the conflict of interest policy with no specific reference to lobbying.

Calgary's code of conduct requires that council members must disclose a quarterly list of persons with whom the member or their staff has met with, excluding media, city employees and immediate family members. If the persons do not consent to their name being released, then only the fact that the meeting took place must be listed. Calgary's procurement policy incorporates its conflict of interest policy which further says that a conflict of interest may exist where the employee's judgment is influenced by the interests of a third party against the best interest of the city; however, there is no specific reference to lobbying.

Edmonton's code of conduct requires that council members act in the best interests of the city and consider all matters fairly and impartially. The city's supplier code of conduct requires that suppliers refrain from exerting pressure of any kind on employees or officials in order to gain an advantage in the procurement process. There is no specific reference to lobbying.