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This document accompanies  
an IntegralOrg video toolkit

# **LOBBYING by Nonprofits and Charities: What nonprofits and charities need to know when lobbying across Canada**



For nonprofits and charities  
that lobby in the jurisdiction of

# **NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

The following accompanies an IntegralOrg video toolkit: *LOBBYING by Nonprofits and Charities:  
What nonprofits and charities need to know when lobbying across Canada.*

This information is meant as a summary only of what IntegralOrg deemed to be useful and relevant  
points of lobbying legislation in this jurisdiction current as of as of May 4, 2020.

Consult the appropriate legislation and read the disclaimer included in this document.

# Legislation: Newfoundland and Labrador – Lobbyist Registration Act, , 2004 cL-24.1 s1

## Website/landing page

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/snl/registries/lobbyists/>

## Registration URL/ How to Register

<http://www.servicenl.gov.nl.ca/registries>

## Does lobbying legislation apply to charities?

Yes, section 2(1)(e)(iv) includes associations, charitable organizations, coalitions, and interest groups.

## Exemptions

There are no exemptions for nonprofits and charities.

## Registration threshold

According to section 6(1)(b), to be considered an “in-house lobbyist” lobbying must constitute 20% of an individual, or collective of individuals, employment duties, as assessed in a 3-month period.

## What activities count as lobbying?

According to section 2(1)(c), to lobby means to communicate with a public-office holder for remuneration or other gain, reward or benefit, in an attempt to influence:

- i. the development of a legislative proposal by the government of the province or by a member of the House of Assembly,
- ii. the development of a rule, regulation or by-law by council,
- iii. the introduction of a bill or resolution into the House of Assembly or the passage, defeat or amendment of any bill or resolution that is before the House of Assembly,
- iv. the introduction of a rule, regulation or by-law in council or the passage, defeat or amendment of a rule, regulation or by-law that is before council,
- v. the making, amendment or repeal of subordinate legislation as defined in the Statutes and Subordinate Legislation Act,
- vi. the development, amendment or termination of a policy or program of the government of the province or of the city or council,
- vii. a decision by the Executive Council to transfer from the Crown for consideration all or part of, or an interest in or asset of, a business, enterprise or institution that provides goods or services to the Crown or to the public,
- viii. a decision by the city or council to transfer from the city for consideration all or part of, or an interest in or asset of, a business, enterprise or institution that provides goods or services to the city or to the public,
- ix. a decision by the Executive Council, a committee of the Executive Council or a minister of the Crown to have the private sector instead of the Crown provide goods or services to the Crown,

- x. a decision by the city or council to have the private sector instead of the city provide goods or services to the city,
- xi. the awarding of a grant, contribution or other financial benefit by or on behalf of the Crown, the city or council,
- xii. the awarding of a contract by or on behalf of the Crown, the city or council, arranging a meeting between a public-office holder and another person,
- xiv. public-office holders relating to the procurement of goods and services,
- xv. public-office holders relating to the terms of a tender or request for proposals or other procurement solicitation prior to the awarding of that tender or the acceptance of the request for proposals or other procurement solicitation,
- xvi. public-office holders relating to the terms of a contract, the choice of a contractor, or the administration, implementation or enforcement of a contract, or
- xvii. the appointment of a public official.

### Penalties for not registering

Under section 31(5), a person who fails to comply with a provision of the Act will be guilty of an offence and liable for a maximum fine of \$25,000 for a first offence, and a maximum of \$100,000 for each subsequent offence. Additionally, the court may confiscate the lobbying proceeds which were improperly obtained or directed to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

### Grassroots lobbying definition

“Grass-roots communication” means appeals to members of the public through the mass media or by direct communication that seek to persuade members of the public to communicate directly with a public office holder in an attempt to place pressure on the public-office holder to endorse a particular opinion, but does not include communication between an organization and its members, officers or employees or between a person or partnership and its shareholders, officers or employees.

### Does lobbying legislation apply to volunteers?

The Act does not apply to volunteers as the definition of “lobby” requires the individual to be compensated for their efforts.

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