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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

YUKON

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: Yukon – Lobbyists Registration Act SY 2018 c 13 (Not yet in force)

Website/landing page

Not yet available.

Registration URL/ How to Register

Not yet available.

Does lobbying legislation apply to charities?

Yes, section 2(d) defines an “organization” to include a society, association, charitable organization, coalition or interest group.

Exemptions

There are no exemptions for nonprofits and charities.

Registration threshold

According to section 11(1), the threshold in number of hours for lobbying activities is 20 hours annually.

What activities count as lobbying?

According to section 2, “lobby” means to communicate with a public office holder, or to suggest to members of the public by means of grass-roots communication that they communicate with a public office holder, to attempt to influence:

- i. the development of a legislative proposal by the Government of Yukon or by a member of the Legislative Assembly,
- ii. the introduction of a bill, motion or resolution in the Legislative Assembly, or the passage, defeat or amendment of a Bill, Act, motion or resolution that is before the Legislative Assembly,
- iii. the making or amendment of a regulation,
- iv. the development, amendment or termination of a policy or program of the Government of Yukon,
- v. a decision by the Executive Council to transfer 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 Government of Yukon or to the public,
- vi. a decision by the Executive Council, a committee of the Executive Council or a minister to have the private sector instead of the Government of Yukon, or any of its organizational components, provide goods or services to the Government of Yukon,
- vii. the awarding of a grant, contribution or other financial benefit by or on behalf of the Government of Yukon, or
- viii. the awarding of a contract by or on behalf of the Government of Yukon.

Specifically regarding consultant lobbyists, lobbying also includes arranging a meeting between a public office holder and another person for the purpose of influencing the above.

According to section 4 (2), the following do not count as lobbying:

- i. an oral or written submission made in proceedings that are a matter of public record to a committee of the Legislative Assembly or to a person or body having jurisdiction or powers conferred under an Act,
- ii. an oral or written submission made to a public office holder by an individual on behalf of a person, organization or body, in relation to:
 - a. the enforcement, interpretation or application of an enactment by the public office holder with respect to the person, organization or body, or
 - b. the implementation or administration of a policy, program, directive or guideline by the public office holder with respect to that person, organization or body.
- iii. an oral or written submission made to a public office holder by an individual on behalf of a person, organization or body in direct response to a written request from a public office holder for advice or comment with respect to any matter normally considered lobbying,
- iv. an oral or written submission made to a member of the Legislative Assembly by an individual on behalf of a constituent of the member with respect to any personal matter of the constituent, or
- v. a communication to a public office holder by a union related to negotiating or administering a collective agreement or related to the representation of member or former member or a bargaining unit who is or was an employee.

Penalties for not registering

According to section 28, an individual who commits an offence under this Act is liable to a fine up to \$25,000 for a first offence and, \$100,000 for a subsequent offences.

Grassroots lobbying definition

According to section 2, “grass-roots communication” means communication to members of the public through the mass media, or by direct communication, that seeks to persuade members of the public to communicate directly with a public office holder in order to attempt to influence the public office holder.

Does lobbying legislation apply to volunteers?

Lobbyist registration requirements only apply to employees

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