



City of
Kelowna

Lobbyist Registry Options

June 2023

Legislative Framework

- ▶ Federal – Lobbying Act
- ▶ Provincial – Lobbyist Transparency Act
- ▶ Municipal – Varies across Provinces
 - ▶ Ontario: Ontario Act
 - ▶ BC: No legislation regarding municipal lobbying or lobbyist registries

Regulatory Options & Considerations

- ▶ Transparency in decision-making is consistent with good government & community benefit
- ▶ Authority to regulate by bylaw or enact voluntary policies
- ▶ Narrow vs broad lobbying activities

Scope & Applicability

- ▶ Definition of “lobby”
 - ▶ Verbal, written, meetings
- ▶ Types of decisions
 - ▶ Development applications, any City decision or program
- ▶ Definition of “lobbyist”
 - ▶ Paid, in-house, voluntary
- ▶ Definition of who is being lobbied
 - ▶ Council, Committee members, Task Force members

Reporting & Access

- ▶ How and when is lobbying reported
 - ▶ Lobbyist or public office holder
- ▶ Who is maintaining the registry
 - ▶ Staff responsibilities
- ▶ How can the registry be accessed
 - ▶ Frequency, public reporting

Compliance & Enforcement

- ▶ Voluntary or mandatory
- ▶ Penalties for lobbyists
 - ▶ Enforcement through bylaw offence notices
 - ▶ Deferring consideration of development applications
- ▶ Sanctions for public office holders
 - ▶ Defined in Code of Conduct

Options

	Option 1	Option 2
Mechanism	Bylaw: Clear, enforceable	Policy: Clear, voluntary
Application	Narrow: Development applications	Broad: Development applications and other matters within the City's jurisdiction
Definition of Lobbyist	Narrow: Consultants and in-house lobbyists	Broad: Consultants, in-house lobbyists and voluntary lobbyists
Enforceability	Mandatory: Must register, enforced by way of Bylaw Offence Notice	Voluntary: Register voluntarily, no enforcement provisions

Staff Recommendation

- ▶ Option 1 – Lobbyist Registry by Bylaw
- ▶ Staff will prepare necessary bylaws and policies to implement a Lobbyist Registry



Questions?

For more information, visit kelowna.ca.