

Temporary fine freeze for unregistered lobbyists: April 1- September 30, 2026

Starting April 1, for a period of six months, unregistered lobbyists will not face fines for certain violations of the *Lobbyists Transparency Act*. The "temporary fine freeze" aims to increase transparency in lobbying by encouraging currently unregistered lobbyists and organizations to register in the Lobbyists Registry. The ORL is launching this initiative alongside a focused outreach effort as the office implements its Strategic Plan 2025-2028.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE FINE FREEZE?

Consultant lobbyists and organizations that meet all of the following criteria qualify for the temporary fine freeze:



No past ORL findings of non-compliance

Must not have previously received a fine from the ORL.



Not registered since May 4, 2020

Consultant lobbyist or current designated filer for organization must not have maintained a registration in the Registry since May 4, 2020.



Full transparency

Must be forthcoming and work with ORL staff to enter all required information into the Registry

VIOLATIONS NOT COVERED BY THE FINE FREEZE

(Violations of these sections may still receive administrative penalties.)



Paid advice to government (LTA Section 2.1)

Violations related to the prohibition on lobbying in connection with a contract for providing paid advice to the government of BC or a Provincial entity



Former public office holders (LTA Section 2.2)

Violations related to the prohibition on lobbying by former public office holders.

The Registrar is not extending the fine freeze to registered lobbyists, nor will it be extended to unregistered lobbyists that may have committed flagrant violations of the LTA or attempted to use the temporary fine freeze to delay or obscure transparency.

For more information, visit
<https://www.lobbyistsregistrar.bc.ca/resources/fine-freeze/>