



August 6, 2026

Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future
c/o Committee Clerk,
3rd Floor, 9820 - 107 Street,
Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 1E7
Submitted by email: AEFCommittee.Admin@assembly.ab.ca

Re: Written Submission for the Comprehensive Review of the Lobbyists Act

Dear Chair Wiebe and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the comprehensive review of Alberta's *Lobbyists Act*. Alberta's *Lobbyists Act* serves an important role in promoting transparency in government decision-making. As emphasized during the Committee's technical briefing on June 29, 2026, lobbying is a legitimate activity, and the Act is not intended to prohibit, limit, or discourage stakeholders from communicating with government decision-makers. Effective public policy depends on decision-makers having access to the expertise, experience, and perspectives of those affected by legislation, regulation, and public policy. The current framework provides meaningful public insight into government advocacy by requiring organizations to report on lobbying activities based in the issues being discussed and the government ministries and agencies with which they engage. This approach ensures the public has insight into lobbying activities without imposing unnecessary administrative burdens. Therefore, any revisions to the Act should focus on transparency where influence over government decision-making is greatest while minimizing unnecessary administrative burden on legitimate stakeholder engagement. We ask that the Committee considers the following potential amendments:

1. Reporting obligations should be targeted to interactions with politicians, political staff, and senior public office holders, such as Ministers, Deputy Ministers, and Assistant Deputy Ministers and equivalent executives of prescribed entities. This approach would align transparency requirements with the levels of government where significant policy, legislative, regulatory, and funding decisions are most likely to be influenced. It would also avoid capturing routine technical, operational, regulatory, or implementation-related discussions that provide limited additional public transparency value but can create significant administrative burden.
2. Static information that changes infrequently (such as government funding amounts and corporate information) should only need to be confirmed or updated annually to reduce administrative burden. In addition, changes to static information in the return should only require sign-off from the account manager, not the designated filer.
3. Better target in-house lobbying requirements to employees with significant lobbying responsibilities. The Committee should consider whether Alberta's in-house lobbying framework is appropriately targeted or whether it should place greater emphasis on employees and senior officers for whom lobbying represents a substantial component of their responsibilities. Narrowing the definition of "organization lobbyist" to being a significant part of an employee's activities would align disclosure requirements with the individuals most directly involved in influencing public policy decisions while reducing ambiguity and administrative

burden for organizations where government engagement is only an ancillary part of an employee's role.

4. The current framework can result in uncertainty where employees of a parent corporation engage with government on matters that affect multiple subsidiaries or affiliated entities. In these circumstances, the parent organization should be recognized as the appropriate registrant.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

