

From: [REDACTED]
To: [ResourceStewardship Committee](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Lobbyist's Act Submission
Date: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 12:43:31 PM

Dear Chair of the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship,

I am writing on behalf of the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC). ab-GPAC is comprised of Alberta's four Graduate Students' Associations (GSAs). We represent over 13000 graduate students from all across Alberta.

We are writing to request that officers and employees of Alberta GSAs be exempt from being required to register under the Lobbyists Act (the Act). Our rationale for this request is as follows:

1. GSAs counterpart universities are themselves exempt from being required to register.
2. GSAs are creatures of the Post-Secondary Learning Act, just like their counterpart exempted universities.
3. Like many other exempt organizations -- school boards, for example -- GSA councils and executives are elected by their members.
4. Advocacy to government and counterpart CARIs are broadly recognized core responsibilities of GSAs, and as such the public interest is not served by the additional disclosure requirement of registration.

We believe such an exemption would be best effected by either:

1. Designating GSAs as Prescribed Provincial Entities under the Act by listing them under Schedule 1 of the Act's General Regulations, or
2. Designating GSAs as Exempt Entities under a new Schedule of the Act's General Regulations

You might also consider exempting undergraduate students associations, as similar arguments could be made in their case.

We hope you will consider such an exemption.

Sincerely,

Jamie Czerwinski
Treasurer 2016-2017
Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council

