



FACT SHEET

ETHI COMMITTEE APPEARANCE 2021-05-14

Review of the Lobbyist's Code of Conduct

CONSULTATION AND REVIEW PROCESS

In November 2020, the Commissioner launched a first phase of consultation to explore changes to the Lobbyists' Code of Conduct. This mandatory code of ethical conduct defines behaviour standards that lobbyists must respect when they engage in lobbying activities at the federal level. The Code was last updated in 2015, and recent investigation reports highlight that further improvements are warranted.

During the first phase of consultation, from November 2 to December 11, 2020, we received submissions from stakeholders presenting views on the existing Code. Based on this feedback and the Commissioner's experience administering the Code, we are developing revisions and a second round of consultation will seek comments on the proposed changes. An updated Code is expected to be published and take effect in 2021-22.

The next phase of the consultation will seek stakeholder input on an updated version of the Code developed by the Commissioner of Lobbying.

KEY STEPS

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| • Part 1 of the public consultation | Nov. – Dec. 2020 |
| • Input from staff | Ongoing |
| • Drafting revisions | May. – Jun. 2021 |
| • Part 2 of the public consultation | Summer 2021 |
| • Referral to ETHI | To be determined |
| • Publication in the Canada Gazette | To be determined |

note : dates indicated are approximate and subject to change



PUBLISHING PROCESS

Until further notice, the 2015 *Lobbyists' Code of Conduct*, and all accompanying guidance remain in effect.

Following the second phase of consultation with stakeholders, the revised Lobbyists' Code of Conduct will be submitted to ETHI Committee members to solicit their views on the new version. This is an important and final stage in the consultation prescribed in the *Lobbying Act*. The version referred to Committee will be published on the OCL's website.

Once the commissioner has considered the view of the committee, guidance and tools will be developed to ensure the understanding of the revised requirements of the *Lobbyists' Code of conduct*.

The Commissioner will then publish the revised Lobbyists' Code of Conduct in the Canada Gazette.

All registrants will be notified when the date the revised Code will come into effect is known.