

## MOTION ON NOTICE

### 2. Municipal Lobbyist Registry

MOVER: Councillor Reimer

SECONDER:

#### WHEREAS

1. The public has an increasing interest in greater transparency in government and the City of Vancouver has been at the forefront of efforts to increase access to information, including establishing the first open data policy for a major city in Canada;
2. Lobbyist registries are intended to provide a public record that is accessible to residents of interactions between public servants, elected officials and lobbyists and to allow for rules regarding lobbyists to be enforced;
3. Council has asked staff to investigate the options for creating a municipal lobbyist registry a number of times beginning in 2006. The most recent response to a 2014 request confirms that the City does not have the independent power to do so;
4. Other provinces have enacted legislation that allows for municipal lobbyist registries ranging from Quebec which requires municipal lobbyists to register in the provincial registry, to Ontario which allows for municipalities to set up their own registries with enforcement powers;
5. British Columbia does not currently allow municipalities to use the provincial lobbyist registry nor does it extend the legal authorities municipalities would need to enforce lobbyist rules with a local registry;
6. The City of Surrey has set up a voluntary registry for a limited set of lobbying activities.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council submit the attached motion (Attachment A) to the 2017 Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) Annual Conference requesting the Province of BC provide municipalities with the ability to register lobbyists, create rules for lobbyist's conduct in their interactions with elected officials and public servants, and the ability to enforce those rules.
- B. THAT Council ask staff to investigate the City of Surrey's voluntary registry including costs, impacts and any information on what informed their decision to have a limited set of lobbyists included in the registry.

**ATTACHMENT A - MUNICIPAL LOBBYIST REGISTRY**  
**City of Vancouver**

WHEREAS other provinces have enacted legislation that allows for municipal lobbyist registries ranging from Quebec, which requires municipal lobbyists to register in the provincial registry, to Ontario, which allows for municipalities to set up their own registries with enforcement powers;

WHEREAS British Columbia does not currently allow municipalities to use the provincial lobbyist registry nor does it extend the legal authorities municipalities would need to enforce lobbyist rules with a local registry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) request the Province of BC provide municipalities with the ability to register lobbyists, create rules for lobbyist's conduct in their interactions with elected officials and public servants, and the ability to enforce those rules.