



LOBBYIST REGISTRARS AND COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

2014-2015 ACTIVITY REPORT EXTRACTS

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 2015

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2014-2015 HIGHLIGHTS

TO ENCOURAGE ALL PLAYERS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR ROLES WITH RESPECT TO LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

2,502 people took part in **128** training and awareness-raising activities about the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act and the Code of Conduct for Lobbyists organized by the office of the Lobbyists Commissioner, in particular as part its tour of the regions. In addition, **366** people received information on the rules governing lobbying activities during one of the six seminars or trade fairs where the Lobbyists Commissioner had an information booth.

The group of people who received information can be broken down as follows: **905** lobbyists, **1,896** public office holders, **47** citizens and **20** journalists.

1,213 requests for information from lobbyists, public office holders, journalists and citizens were dealt with by the Office of the Lobbyists Commissioner during the year. Over the last year, the number of requests for information increased by **17%**.

7 regions were visited by the Commissioner during the last fiscal year as part of a tour of Québec's **17** administrative regions. During the 2014-2015 year, the Commissioner visited the Côte-Nord, Bas-Saint-Laurent, Chaudière-Appalaches, Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Capitale-Nationale, Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean and Nord-du-Québec regions.

4,162 people, on average, received the Commissioner's newsletter during the 2014-2015 year, when **6** issues of the newsletter were produced and distributed.

TO INCREASE OUR MONITORING AND CONTROL ACTIVITIES, AND TAKE FIRMER ACTION

497 monitoring and control activities were completed during 2014-2015.

44 reports from citizens, public office holders and lobbyists were received by the Office of the Lobbyists Commissioner, an increase of **26%** compared to the **35** reports received in 2013-2014.

33 determinations and inquiries were launched on the initiative of the Québec Lobbyists Commissioner, including **4** inspections of a lobbyist's establishment.

97 files, in which **73** breaches of the Act or Code were discovered during monitoring activities, were closed and resulted in registration in the registry of lobbyists.

476 letters were sent following checks of late returns in the registry of lobbyists.

50 lobbyists or senior officers received a notice issued by the Lobbyists Commissioner concerning beaches of the Act or the Code observed during monitoring activities, determinations or inquiries.

TO DEVELOP THE RULES GOVERNING LOBBYING ACTIVITIES AND TRANSPARENCY, THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER:

continued work to have the Act amended and to have responsibility for the registry transferred to the Commissioner.

took advantage of consultation and strategic monitoring activities to play a leading role in the development of rules governing lobbying activities and to intervene as required.

began discussions concerning the elements to be included in a renewed registry of lobbyists taking into account possible amendments to the Act.

TO RECOGNIZE AND ENCOURAGE STAFF COMMITMENT, POTENTIAL, EXPERTISE AND EXCELLENCE, THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER:

provided professional development support for all employees

organized activities to raise staff members' commitment and mobilization, including a day dedicated to taking ownership of the action plans

established measures to promote a healthy, stimulating workplace

involved staff members in the transformation and optimization of the processes and methods affecting them

TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THE OFFICE OF THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER FOR ACTION AND QUALITY OF SERVICE, THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER:

optimized 3 operational processes

drafted and implemented an action plan to address institutional risks

consulted staff members on the drafting of a strategy to improve service quality

THE REGISTRATIONS FILED IN THE REGISTRY OF LOBBYISTS

7,107 lobbyists were registered in the registry of lobbyists during 2014-2015 and had at least one active mandate. This represented an increase of 34% compared to 2013-2014, when there were 5,323 active lobbyists.

OVERVIEW OF THE 2014-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN AND RESULTS FOR 2014-2015

ISSUE 1 : KNOWLEDGE OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE ACT	
ORIENTATION 1 : ENCOURAGE ALL PLAYERS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR ROLES WITH RESPECT TO LOBBYING ACTIVITIES	
KEY ACTIONS, OBJECTIVES, INDICATORS AND TARGETS	
AWARENESS AND SUPPORT	VISIBILITY AND COMMUNICATION
<p>1.1 Increase awareness and support lobbyists, enterprises and organizations to ensure compliance with the Act and the Code</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of awareness-raising activities completed with lobbyists <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Annual average of 15 awareness-raising activities 25 awareness-raising activities conducted</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Annual average of 450 lobbyists reached 905 lobbyists sensitized</p>	<p>1.4 Ensure the visibility of the office of the Lobbyists Commissioner for citizens by its presence in the public arena and in media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of participations in public debates and media activities <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Minimum of 8 participations per year 10 participations in public forums and media activities</p>
<p>1.2 Increase the awareness of and support public office holders to encourage them to play their part in achieving the objectives of the Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of public institutions reached <p style="margin-left: 40px;">100% of government departments and bodies, local municipalities and regional county municipalities 100% of departments, local municipalities and regional county municipalities reached</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Government bodies partially reached</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of awareness-raising activities completed with public office holders <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Annual average of 25 awareness-raising activities 102 awareness-raising activities conducted</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Annual average of 1,000 public office holders reached 1896 public office holders sensitized in 2014-2015</p>	<p>1.5 Increase media and public interest in the registry of lobbyists and the rules governing lobbying activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Methods established to raise media and public interest <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2014-2015: Identification of a strategy Strategy developed</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2014-2018: Implementation of the strategy 2014-2015 strategy implementation</p>
<p>1.3 Implement methods to encourage institutions to identify lobbying activities and introduce the best possible measures to ensure compliance with the rules governing lobbying activities in their environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Methods implemented <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2014-2015: Identification of means Determination of means initiated</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2014-2018: Implementation of the means identified 4 means implemented in 2014-2015</p>	<p>1.6 Improve the communications tools used by the office of the Lobbyists Commissioner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of tools improved or developed <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2014-2015: Identification of tools Tools determined for priority development or improvement</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2014-2018: Improvement or development of the tools identified 4 tools improved or developed in 2014-2015</p>

OVERVIEW OF THE 2014-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN AND RESULTS FOR 2014-2015 (suite)

ISSUE 1 : KNOWLEDGE OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE ACT	
ORIENTATION 2 : INCREASE OUR MONITORING AND CONTROL ACTIVITIES, AND TAKE FIRMER ACTION	
KEY ACTIONS, OBJECTIVES, INDICATORS AND TARGETS	
COMPLIANCE WITH RULES	MONITORING AND CONTROL CAPACITY
<p>2.1 Strengthen the registration monitoring and supervision mechanisms in all sectors of the work of the office of the Lobbyists Commissioner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of cases where the time limit for filing a return in the registry is monitored <p style="margin-left: 20px;">100% of cases 100% of returns submitted to the registry were followed up</p> ▪ Identification and implementation of improvements to the mechanism for the monitoring and supervision of entries <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2014-2015 : Improvements identified 5 improvements determined</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2014-2018 : Improvements implemented 80% of improvements determined implemented in 2014-2015</p> 	<p>2.3 Act more firmly against offenders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drafting of a strategy <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2014-2015: Strategy drafted Development of the initiated strategy</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2014-2018: Strategy implemented Implementation of transitional measures in 2014-2015</p> ▪ Percentage of breaches observed for which action is taken against the offender <p style="margin-left: 20px;">100% of breaches observed Action was taken on 100% of the breaches</p>
<p>2.2 Increase the number of inspections and inquiries made at the initiative of the office of the Lobbyists Commissioner while maintaining the number of cases monitored</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage increase in the number of inspections and inquiries <p style="margin-left: 20px;">25% increase 154% increase</p> 	<p>2.4 Reduce processing times and the time devoted to monitoring, inspections and inquiries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage reduction in processing times <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Reduction of 2% per year for monitoring activities Outcome measures calculated from 2015-2016 on the basis of the 2014-2015 results</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Reduction of 4% per year for inspection and inquiry activities Outcome measures calculated from 2015-2016 on the basis of the 2014-2015 results</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of cases monitored <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Annual average of 435 cases monitored 420 cases in 2014-2015</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage reduction in time <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Reduction of 2% per year for monitoring, inspection and inquiry activities Outcome measures calculated from 2015-2016 on the basis of the 2014-2015 results</p>

OVERVIEW OF THE 2014-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN AND RESULTS FOR 2014-2015
(suite)

ISSUE 2 : IMPROVEMENTS TO THE RULES AND REGISTRY	
ORIENTATION 3 : RECOGNIZE AND ENCOURAGE STAFF COMMITMENT, POTENTIAL, EXPERTISE AND EXCELLENCE	
KEY ACTIONS, OBJECTIVES, INDICATORS AND TARGETS	
DEVELOPMENT OF RULES	IMPROVEMENTS TO THE REGISTRY
<p>3.1 Continue work to ensure that the Act is amended and that responsibility for the registry is transferred to the office of the Lobbyists Commissioner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Action taken to ensure that the Act is amended <p>Research and analysis of different possible directions 100% completed</p>	<p>3.3 Propose the contents of an improved registry of lobbyists taking into account possible amendments to the Act, and contribute to its implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proposals for improvements to the registry <p>Proposals submitted in 2014-2015 No proposal submitted in 2014-2015, but determination of several factors that must be considered in a detailed analysis of the needs of a future registry of lobbyists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Actions taken to contribute to the implementation of the proposed improvements <p>Working group on conceptualization of a renewed registry of lobbyists established</p>
<p>3.2 Take advantage of consultation and strategic monitoring processes to remain a leader in the development of rules to supervise lobbying activities and take action as needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation activities completed <p>2014-2015: Establishment of an advisory committee bringing together various players Advisory committee established</p> <p>2014-2018: Organization of two meetings each year 1 meeting held in 2014-2015 1 meeting scheduled for April 15, 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of relevant draft legislation and regulations in Québec examined <p>100% of draft legislation and regulations 100% of bills and draft regulations examined</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of decisions relating to lobbying activities in other Canadian jurisdictions examined <p>100% of decisions 100% of decisions examined</p>	

OVERVIEW OF THE 2014-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN AND RESULTS FOR 2014-2015
(suite)

ISSUE 3 : A COMMITTED TEAM AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE ORGANIZATION	
ORIENTATION 4 : RECOGNIZE AND ENCOURAGE STAFF COMMITMENT, POTENTIAL, EXPERTISE AND EXCELLENCE	ORIENTATION 5 : INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THE OFFICE OF THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER FOR ACTION AND QUALITY OF SERVICE
KEY ACTIONS, OBJECTIVES, INDICATORS AND TARGETS	
SKILLS UPGRADING AND RESPONSIBILIZATION	OPERATIONAL AND MANAGEMENT PROCESSES
<p>4.1 Develop and deploy staff potential and expertise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of employees receiving support for skills upgrading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of employees 100% of employees coached ▪ Staff satisfaction rate for the upgrading of potential and expertise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Satisfaction rate of 80% Steps taken for administration of a survey in 2015-2016 	<p>5.1 Optimize certain operational and management processes to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the office of the Lobbyists Commissioner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of processes optimized <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual minimum of two processes 3 processes optimized
<p>4.2 Support staff commitment and responsabilization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Actions taken to support staff commitment and responsabilization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning of an approach aimed at engagement and empowerment of personnel ▪ Percentage of projects for the transformation of processes and practices in which staff members are involved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of projects 100% of the project 	<p>5.2 Implement the process to assess and take institutional risks into account</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preparation and implementation of an action plan to take institutional risks into account <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2014-2015: Preparation of the action plan Action plan drafted 2014-2018: Implementation of the action plan Implementation of the initiated action plan
WORKPLACE	IMPROVEMENTS TO SERVICES
<p>4.3 Promote a healthy, stimulating workplace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of measures implemented to promote a healthy, stimulating workplace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 actions per year 5 actions performed ▪ Staff satisfaction rate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall satisfaction rate of 80% Steps taken for administration of a survey in 2015-2016 	<p>5.3 Establish and implement a strategy to improve service quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategy establish and implemented <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2014-2015 : Strategy establish Development of the initiated strategy 2014-2018 : Strategy implemented Implement some measures in 2014-2015

COURT CASES

GRUPE RADIO SIMARD ET RADIO DÉGELIS INC.

In 2011, the Lobbyists Commissioner forwarded an inquiry report to the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions concerning influence communications by individuals acting on behalf of an enterprise known as Groupe Radio Simard et radio Dégelis Inc. that targeted public office holders at Ville de Rivière-du-Loup.

The Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions served four statements of offence for breaches of the Act:

- three statements of offence for conducting lobbying activities without being registered in the registry of lobbyists were served: one on Guy Simard, one on Renée Giard, respectively president and administrator of Groupe Radio Simard, and one on Gilles Caron, of Radio Dégelis inc.;
- one statement of offence was served on Guy Simard, as the senior officer of the enterprise, for failing to register the lobbyists working on behalf of Groupe Radio Simard in the registry.

Mr. Caron pleaded guilty and was fined \$500.

The joint trial for Mr. Simard and Ms. Giard took place on June 20, 2013 in the courthouse in Rivière-du-Loup, before François Kouri, a judge in the Criminal and Penal Division of the Court of Québec.

The main focus of the case was to determine if

- the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act was applicable, given that broadcasting is under federal jurisdiction;
- the actions of the defenders in connection with a municipal office holder constituted lobbying within the meaning of the Act.

On the first point, Judge Kouri emphasized that the defendants were hoping to influence a municipal resolution, and that whether it concerned a topic of federal, provincial or municipal jurisdiction was irrelevant. As a result, the decision concerned was covered by the Québec Act.

On the second point, the judge did not agree with the arguments raised by the defence, which claimed that Mr. Simard and Ms. Giard were not lobbyists, that the submissions were made to the municipality as part of the jurisdictional procedure of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, and that the submissions were made in public proceedings or in proceedings that were a matter of public record. The judge rejected all of these claims and concluded that the communications by Mr. Simard and Ms. Giard targeted municipal office holders in order to influence a resolution by the municipality.

The judgment was rendered on May 16, 2014. Judge Kouri found Guy Simard and Renée Giard guilty of the offences with which they were charged. Ms. Giard was fined \$500, and Mr. Simard was fined \$1,000 for his combined offences.

ENGINEERING FIRM BPR

In 2009, following an inquiry into the lobbying activities conducted by representatives of the enterprises making up Groupe BPR, the Lobbyists Commissioner forwarded an inquiry report to the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions setting out 84 breaches of the Act and requesting appropriate action. Because of the one-year prescription period, most of the breaches were already prescribed.

In 2010, 16 statements of offence were served on employees and one officer of Groupe BPR concerning alleged breaches of the Act:

- 14 statements of offence for conducting lobbying activities without being registered in the registry of lobbyists were served: five on Francis Gagnon, four on Annie Lefebvre, three on Stephen Davidson and two on Geneviève Saint-Pierre;
- one statement of offence was served on Yvon Tourigny, as the enterprise's senior officer, for failing to register the lobbyists working on behalf of BPR in the registry;
- one statement of offence was served on Jean D'Amour for conducting lobbying activities while being prohibited from doing so under the current rules governing conduct after leaving office.

With the exception of Mr. D'Amour, who pleaded guilty, all the offenders pleaded not guilty.

In a judgment dated November 23, 2013, Judge Marchildon concluded that Ms. St-Pierre did not qualify as an enterprise lobbyist and acquitted her of the charges against her.

The trial, which took place on November 11 and 12, 2014 at the courthouse in Longueuil, was followed by a hearing on May 4, 2015 where Judge Ellen Paré of the Criminal and Penal Division of the Court of Québec rendered judgment orally on the case involving the Groupe BPR lobbyists. In this judgment,

- the judge found Stephen Davidson, Francis Gagnon and Ms. Annie Lefebvre guilty of the offence of lobbying Ville de Rivière-du-Loup without being registered in the registry of lobbyists, in contravention of section 25 of the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act;
- the judge found Yvon Tourigny, as the senior officer, guilty of failing to register his enterprise's lobbyists, in contravention of sections 8, 14 and 60 of the Act.

The judge fined the offenders \$500 for each offence, plus costs and the statutory contribution.

A notice of appeal was filed in Superior Court by the attorney for Yvon Tourigny. The other offenders did not file an appeal of the judgment within the 30 days required by the Code of Penal Procedure.

Highlights of the judgment

This judgment, finding the offenders guilty of all charges, contains some interesting elements concerning the scope of the Act. For example,

- To determine if Stephen Davidson was an officer of the enterprise within the meaning of notice 2005-07 issued by the Lobbyists Commissioner in connection with the expression "significant part", Judge Paré relied on labour law principles (job title and authority to negotiate and sign agreements), and also the fact that the public office holders at the city were aware of Mr. Davidson's career profile at BPR (see paragraphs 114 and 115 of the judgment).

• The judge ruled on several elements that do not create an excuse or an exemption under the Act. They include:

- an urgent need to act in a specific case (see paragraph 130);
- the fact that a "continuum or habitual relationship" existed between the city and BPR (see paragraph 132);
- the fact that a professional obligation exists to follow up on or make an offer of professional services (see paragraphs and 134).

Last, the defendants mentioned that certain communications were made, as noted above, because of the urgency of the situation and also following a verbal request from a public office holder. The Act, in this respect, excludes submissions made in response to a written request from a public office holder. As the judge noted,

"It was made at a time when written communications are easy, quick and frequent, sometimes excessively so. As a result, even the urgency of the situation cannot explain the lack of a written request by the public official and, especially, the offer of services in the absence of any request."

(See paragraph 129)

FÉDÉRATION DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES DU QUÉBEC AND ASSOCIATION DES RADIOLOGISTES DU QUÉBEC

Following an inquiry conducted in 2008-2009 by the Québec Lobbyists Commissioner, two statements of offence were served on Gaétan Barrette, acting on behalf of the Fédération des médecins spécialistes du Québec, and another two statements of offence were served on Frédéric Desjardins, acting on behalf of the Association des radiologistes du Québec. The alleged breaches of the Act were that, in March 2008, they conducted lobbying activities without being registered in the registry of lobbyists and that, as the senior officers of their respective organizations, they failed to complete the necessary registrations. Both Dr. Barrette and Dr. Desjardins pleaded not guilty to both offences.

The defendants filed a notice of intention on April 4, 2012 in which they contested the constitutionality of certain provisions of the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act, stating that they infringed the right to freedom of expression, the right of any person to petition the National Assembly, and the right to freedom of association, which protects the right to collective bargaining.

The trial was held from January 14 to 17, 2014 at the courthouse in Montréal, before Judge Silvie Kovacevich of the Court of Québec.

In the judgment rendered on September 12, 2014, Gaétan Barrette and Frédéric Desjardins were acquitted of the charges against them. Judge Silvie Kovacevich noted that both Dr. Barrette and Dr. Desjardins conducted lobbying activities on behalf of their respective organizations by writing to the Minister of Health and Social Services in order to influence a legislative amendment. However, the judge concluded that the letters were sent in response to a request by a civil servant at the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux. As a result, Dr. Barrette and Dr. Desjardins were covered by an exception provided for in the Act.

GROUPE SM INTERNATIONAL INC.

On May 27, 2015, Judge Claude Leblond of the Court of Québec handed down a verdict in the penal case brought by the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions against David Cliche and Bernard Poulin of Groupe SM International. The proceedings were instituted in 2008 following a report by the Lobbyists Commissioner noting breaches of the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act.

Judgment of May 27, 2015

The judge recognized that the approaches made by Mr. Cliche to municipal public office holders to obtain a supporting resolution were clearly lobbying activities. In addition, like Judge Richard Grenier of the Superior Court in the case *DPCP c. Mathieu et Gobeil*, the judge reiterated that the burden of proof was on the defendant to show that he was not an enterprise lobbyist.

Despite this, the judge accepted the evidence presented by the defence and acquitted Mr. Cliche on the grounds that he did not meet the definition of an enterprise lobbyist and benefitted from an exception under the Act since the communications occurred during proceedings that were a matter of public record.

Mr. Poulin, in turn, was acquitted on the grounds that the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions failed to meet the burden of proving beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Poulin was, on September 30, 2007, the senior officer of Groupe SM International.

The Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions has appealed the verdict concerning Mr. Cliche to the Superior Court.

Background

In 2008, six statements of offence were served on Mr. Cliche by the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions for having conducted lobbying activities in connection with a wind farm development project in the Estrie region without registering the subject-matter of the activities in the registry of lobbyists. Concerning Mr. Poulin, a statement of offence was served for failing, as senior officer of Groupe SM International, to register the enterprise lobbyist in the registry of lobbyists.

Ruling on a motion for a declaratory judgment filed by Mr. Cliche and Mr. Poulin in the Superior Court (Civil Chamber), Judge Daniel W. Payette concluded that it should be dismissed on the grounds that it was inextricably linked to the penal proceedings brought against them. He specified that it would be inappropriate for the Superior Court to rule on the question before the Court of Québec had had an opportunity to make its decision. With respect to the application seeking to have one of the Lobbyists Commissioner's notices found unlawful, the judge concluded that the recourse was inappropriate given the circumstances, the questions raised by the application concerning the nature of the notices, and the powers of the Court of Québec.

The applicants appealed this ruling to the Court of Appeal on January 26, 2013 and it confirmed the decision made in the Superior Court by Judge Daniel W. Payette.

GROUPE DALLAIRE INC.

On Wednesday, September 10, 2014, the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions served four statements of offence on Michel Dallaire, president of Groupe Dallaire Inc., on the basis of the conclusions of an inquiry report forwarded by the Québec Lobbyists Commissioner on July 30, 2014.

Three of the statements of offence concerned activities allegedly conducted by Mr. Dallaire on behalf of the enterprise Groupe Dallaire Inc. to lobby Danielle Roy-Marinelli, at the time mayor of Ville de Lévis, and Anne Ladouceur and Julie Tremblay, respectively president of the city's advisory committee on planning and land use and associate director of the city's planning and neighbourhood division at the time, without being registered in the registry of lobbyists as required by section 25 of the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act.

The fourth statement of offence concerned a breach of the second paragraph of section 8 of the Act, which specifies that the registration of a lobbyist must be effected by the senior officer of the enterprise or group on whose behalf the lobbyist is acting.

The defendant pleaded not guilty and the case will be heard on January 5, 6 and 7, 2016.

REGISTRY OF LOBBYISTS

The registry of lobbyists is the instrument used to ensure transparency in the lobbying of public office holders in Québec. It allows public office holders, citizens and lobbyists to identify current lobbying activities in the public administration.

With a few clicks, any person can discover whether a lobbyist is registered in the registry of lobbyists. For each lobbying mandate, the registry shows the subject-matter of the lobbying activities, the period during which lobbying takes place, the duration of the lobbying activities, the techniques of communication used and the name of the public institutions targeted.

To consult the registrations filed in the registry: www.lobby.gouv.qc.ca

Statistics of last year

Between April 1, 2014 and March 31, 2015, the number of lobbyists with at least one active mandate during the year increased by 34% compared to the same period in 2013-2014.

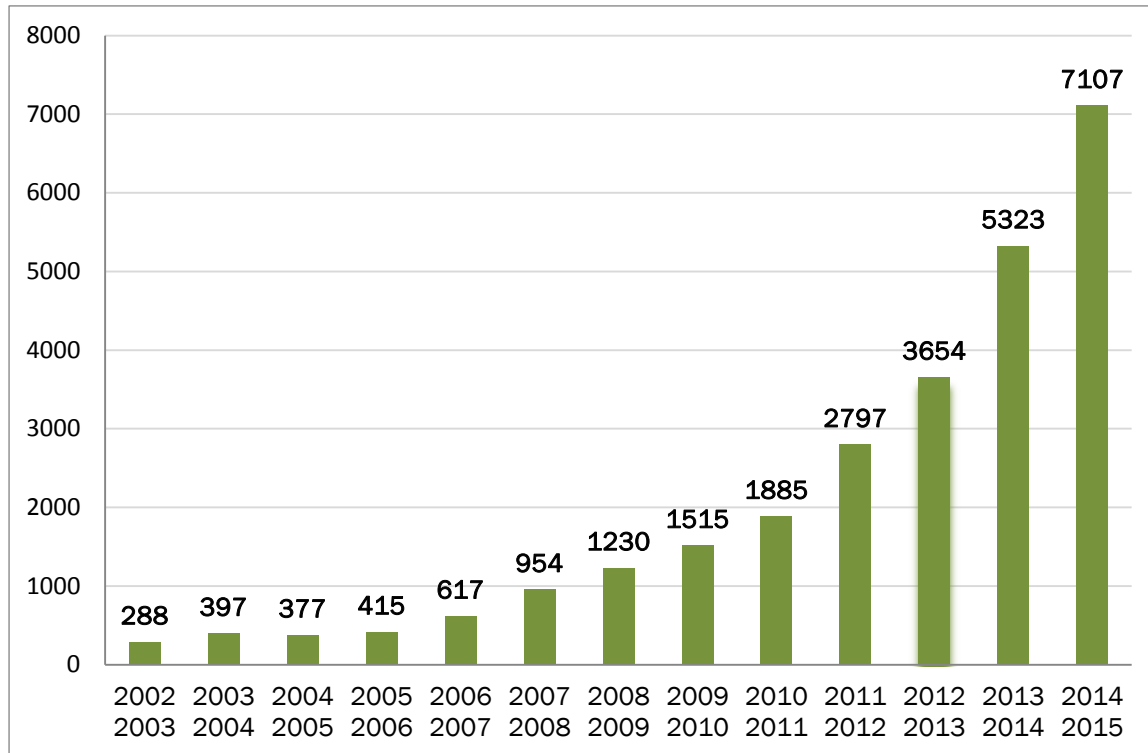
As of March 31, 2015, the number of lobbyists with at least one active mandate during the year was 7,107, compared to 5,323 on March 31, 2014. The lobbyists duly registered in the registry consisted of:

- 553 consultant lobbyists working for 982 clients
- 4,702 enterprise lobbyists working for 1008 enterprises
- 1,852 organization lobbyists working for 395 organizations

Lobbyists registering in the registry for the first time over the last year

Between April 1, 2014 and March 31, 2015, 2 580 lobbyists have registered in the registry of lobbyists for the first time. These lobbyists duly registered in the registry consisted of 232 consultant lobbyists, 1 784 enterprise lobbyists and 564 organization lobbyists. More than one-third (36%) of active lobbyists are lobbyists who registered an active mandate in the register for the first time during the last year.

CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF ACTIVE LOBBYISTS* REGISTERED IN THE REGISTRY OF LOBBYISTS (2002-2015)



* A lobbyist is considered to be active if he or she reports at least one active mandate during a fiscal year.

Considerable progress achieved in recent years

Number of lobbyists with at least one active mandate

- The number of lobbyists with at least one active mandate during the year 2014-2015 increased by 34% compared to the same period in 2013-2014 and by 94% over the last two years.

Returns and notices of change filed in the registry of lobbyists

- The total number of returns and notices filed in the registry has increased by 40% over the last year. In 2014-2015, 2,853 returns and notices were filed in the registry of lobbyists, compared to 2,036 in 2013-2014.
- The total number of returns and notices filed in the registry has increased by 118% over the last two years.

Number of enterprises and organizations with at least one lobbyist registered in the registry of lobbyists

- The number of enterprises and organizations with at least one lobbyist registered in the registry increased by 41% over the last year. As of March 31, 2015, there were 1,403, compared to 993 on March 31, 2014.
- The number of enterprises and organizations with at least one lobbyist registered in the registry increased by 105% over the last two years.

DISTRIBUTION BY CATEGORY OF ACTIVE LOBBYISTS* REGISTERED IN THE REGISTRY OF LOBBYISTS (2002-2015)

Year	Consultant Lobbyists	Enterprise Lobbyists	Organization Lobbyists	Total
2002-2003	83	41	164	288
2003-2004	131	59	207	397
2004-2005	116	59	202	377
2005-2006	103	118	194	415
2006-2007	142	220	255	617
2007-2008	164	357	433	954
2008-2009	186	517	527	1 230
2009-2010	204	694	617	1 515
2010-2011	226	908	751	1 885
2011-2012	247	1 534	1 016	2 797
2012-2013	297	2 101	1 256	3 654
2013-2014	391	3 372	1 560	5 323
2014-2015	553	4 702	1 852	7 107

* A lobbyist is considered to be active if he or she reports at least one active mandate during a fiscal year.

QUÉBEC LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER PRIORITIES FOR 2015-2016

These are the priorities that the Lobbyists Commissioner's office has selected for 2015-2016 in order to implement each of the five strategic guidelines.

TO ENCOURAGE ALL PLAYERS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR ROLES WITH RESPECT TO LOBBYING ACTIVITIES, THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER WILL:

- Implement the measures previously identified to help public office holders and public institutions apply the Act;
- Design the architecture for the Lobbyists Commissioner website.

TO INCREASE OUR MONITORING AND CONTROL ACTIVITIES, AND TAKE FIRMER ACTION, THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER WILL:

- Define and implement a strategy to deal more firmly with offenders.

TO DEVELOP THE RULES GOVERNING LOBBYING ACTIVITIES AND TRANSPARENCY, THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER WILL:

- Continue work to have the Act amended and have responsibility for the lobbyists registry transferred to the Québec Lobbyists Commissioner;
- Continue work on a renewed lobbyists registry, taking into account possible amendments to the Act.

TO RECOGNIZE AND ENCOURAGE STAFF COMMITMENT, POTENTIAL, EXPERTISE AND EXCELLENCE, THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER WILL:

- Identify appropriate actions to support commitment and responsibility and incorporate them into management methods to enhance staff members' commitment, potential, expertise and excellence.

TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THE OFFICE OF THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER FOR ACTION AND QUALITY OF SERVICE, THE LOBBYISTS COMMISSIONER:

- Identify the main processes that need optimization and establish an action plan to use operational support tools (CRM, annotated Act, SyGED, etc.) in an efficient and integrated way.