



## OFFICE OF THE ETHICS COMMISSIONER

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# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE – Thursday April 17, 2008

### **Launch of the Website for the *Lobbyists Act***

The *Lobbyists Act* website has been launched at [www.lobbyistsact.ab.ca](http://www.lobbyistsact.ab.ca).

The Office of the Ethics Commissioner is responsible for the establishment and maintenance of the lobbyists registry, under the *Lobbyists Act*. Noela Inions, Q.C., joined the Office of the Ethics Commissioner as the Registrar, *Lobbyists Act* and General Counsel as of February 1, 2008. The lobbyists registry is expected to be operational by early 2009, at which time it is anticipated that Bill 1, *Lobbyists Act*, will be proclaimed into force.

Once it is operational, the lobbyists registry will enable Albertans to know who is being paid to influence public office holders, as paid lobbyists will be required to register. The public online registry will be searchable and online searches will be free of charge. The purpose of the lobbyists registry is to enhance government transparency, openness, integrity and accountability as the public registry will enable the public to know who is lobbying government decision-makers.

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