
Compliance Agreement**Case no. 01-16**

On February 18th 2016, the Integrity Commissioner of the City of Ottawa entered into a compliance agreement with Mr. Richard Gardner relating to a violation of the Lobbyist Registry By-law 2012-309 and the Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

I, Richard Gardner of the City of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario, the Secretary Treasurer of Rideau Carleton Entertainment Centre, acknowledge the following:

In December of 2015, I sent gift baskets to several Members of Council while I was a registered lobbyist acting for Rideau Carleton Entertainment Centre and I had two active lobbying files in the City of Ottawa Lobbyist Registry. The company I represent is a client associated with one additional active lobbying file in the City of Ottawa Lobbyist Registry.

I am now aware that it is a breach of Section 6 (3) of the Lobbyist Code of Conduct for a lobbyist with active lobbying files, their registered clients or their employees to directly or indirectly offer gifts, benefits or hospitality to Members of Council or their staff.

I am also aware that by sending these gifts to Members of Council, I was in violation of Section 6 (2) of the Lobbyist Registry By-law 2012-309, as I placed public office holders in a potential conflict of interest and a potential breach of the Code of Conduct for Members of Council.

On December 27, 2015, I was contacted by the Integrity Commissioner and informed that I was in breach of the Lobbyist Registry By-law 2012-309 and the Lobbyist Code of Conduct. I fully cooperated with the Integrity Commissioner and, at his direction, I arranged to retrieve all of the gifts offered.

I have apologized to the Members of Council concerned for any inconvenience and for unknowingly putting them in potential breach of their own Code of Conduct.

AGREEMENT

I acknowledge and accept responsibility for not complying fully with the terms of the Lobbyist Registry By-law 2012-309 and the Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

Office of the Integrity Commissioner
City of Ottawa
1st Floor
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1
www.ottawa.ca

Direct Line (613) 580-2424
Ext. 21978
Fax (613) 580-9609
integrity@ottawa.ca

Bureau du Commissaire à l'intégrité
Ville d'Ottawa
1^{er} étage
110, ave. Laurier ouest
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I understand that my acknowledgement of non-compliance does not constitute an admission of intentional wrongdoing.

I am now aware of the relevant provisions of the Lobbyist Registry By-law 2012-309 and the Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

I undertake to comply fully with the provisions of the Lobbyist Registry By-law 2012-309 and the Lobbyist Code of Conduct in the future.

The Integrity Commissioner acknowledges that I fully cooperated with the Commissioner in this matter.

The Integrity Commissioner and I recognize that once this agreement is entered into, the Commissioner will not initiate a formal investigation, will not impose any sanction pursuant to the Lobbyist Registry By-law 2012-309, will consider this case file as resolved and take no further action.

I consent to the publication of this agreement on the Integrity Commissioner's web page on the City of Ottawa web site.

Signed this 18 day of February, 2016.

*Original Signed by:
Richard Gardner*

Signature of Lobbyist

*Original Signed by
Robert Marleau*

Robert Marleau, Integrity Commissioner

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