



## OFFICE OF THE ETHICS COMMISSIONER

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# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- Thursday, July 23, 2009

The Office of the Ethics Commissioner is pleased to announce that Brad Odsen, Q.C., has accepted the position as Registrar of the Alberta lobbyist registry. Mr. Odsen also serves as General Counsel to the Ethics Commissioner.

Mr. Odsen joined the Office on May 4 and has been developing the educational and trial registration phase of the lobbyist registry. Program and security testing to identify potential problems in the registration process is close to completion and sufficient time is being given to resolve any problems well in advance of the launch date.

Neil Wilkinson, Ethics Commissioner, said "I believe Brad brings solid legal and practical skills to the Registrar position, and I am confident that our lobbyist registry will be a success for all stakeholders."

"I'm delighted to have the opportunity to undertake this important work, and am looking forward to the launch of the registry in the early Fall of 2009. I'm also looking forward to meeting with associations and organizations to inform them about the legislation and the operation of the on-line registry." said Mr. Odsen.

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For further information contact:

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**Bradley V. Odsen, Q.C.**

Bradley V. Odsen, Q.C., Barrister & Solicitor, is Registrar of the Alberta *Lobbyists Act* Registry and General Counsel to the Office of the Alberta Ethics Commissioner. He also teaches a course in *Introductory Criminology* at Grant MacEwan College in Edmonton.

He attended the University of Saskatchewan, earning a B.A. in Sociology & Philosophy and an LL.B., and serving as the President of the University of Saskatchewan Students Union in 1975/76.

He has served as Executive Director of Calgary Legal Guidance, Executive Director of the City of Edmonton Landlord and Tenant Advisory Board, and Executive Director and General Counsel of the John Howard Society of Alberta.

Mr. Odsen practiced law in Calgary and Edmonton for over 20 years, is a member of, the Law Society of Alberta and the Canadian Bar Association. He has an extensive history of volunteerism in the non-profit sector with human service organizations, community development organizations, arts and culture organizations, sports & recreation organizations, and academic institutions.

He received a Premier's Award of Excellence in 2006 for his work as part of the team reviewing and making recommendations for amendments to the Alberta *Residential Tenancies Act*, and was named Queen's Counsel for the Province of Alberta by Letters Patent granted January 31, 2008.