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Labour & Employment Law Bulletin

Minimum Wage Increase in British Columbia

Effective May 1, 2011, B.C.'s minimum wage will increase and it will continue to increase over the following year:

- As of May 1, 2011, the general minimum wage will increase from \$8.00 to \$8.75 per hour
- As of November 1, 2011, the general minimum wage will increase to \$9.50
- As of May 1, 2012, the general minimum wage will increase to \$10.25

As of May 1, 2011, there will no longer be a separate “training wage” for employees with 500 or fewer hours of cumulative paid employment experience.

As of May 1, 2011, there will be a separate minimum wage for employees who serve liquor directly to customers or guests in licensed premises as a regular part of their work. The “liquor server minimum wage” will increase as follows:

- As of May 1, 2011, the liquor server minimum wage will be \$8.50
- As of November 1, 2011, the liquor server minimum wage will increase to \$8.75
- As of May 1, 2012, the liquor server minimum wage will increase to \$9.00

The government has announced that piece work rates and other alternative arrangements will also increase.

For more information please contact a member of our Labour & Employment Group.

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