

# LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

A Regional Employers Services Publication

Vol. 61, March 18, 2024

metrovancover

**RES** | REGIONAL  
EMPLOYERS  
SERVICES

## EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS AMENDMENT ACT, 2024 – ANNUAL BC MINIMUM WAGE ADJUSTMENTS

On February 26, 2024, the BC Government introduced [Bill 2](#), *Employment Standards Amendment Act, 2024 (Act)*. Bill 2 received Royal Assent on March 14, 2024.

### Purpose of the Act

The purpose of the *Act* is to provide for an automatic annual adjustment to all minimum wage rates to be determined by the change in the annual average consumer price index (i.e. the previous year's average inflation rate for BC as published by Statistics Canada). In future years, the increases to the minimum wage rates would take place on June 1. For a prescribed class of employees, the *Act* provides the authority for alternate effective dates for these alternate minimum wage rates.

The automatic annual adjustment would only apply if the adjustment will result in an increase to the minimum wage rates.

The Ministry of Labour must publish the minimum wages, as adjusted, on a publicly accessible website.

On February 26, 2024, the BC Government [announced](#) that effective June 1, 2024, the general minimum wage will increase from \$16.75 to \$17.40 per hour. This represents a 3.9% increase which is consistent with BC's average rate of inflation in 2023.

### What's Next?

The *Act* will come into force by regulation of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

### QUESTIONS?

If you have any comments or questions about this update, please e-mail [RES360@metrovancover.org](mailto:RES360@metrovancover.org) or call 604-451-6558.

### SOURCES

Bill 2 – 2024: Employment Standards Amendment Act, 2024 (leg.bc.ca) – [https://www.leg.bc.ca/content/data - ldp/Pages/42nd5th/3rd\\_read/gov02-3.htm](https://www.leg.bc.ca/content/data - ldp/Pages/42nd5th/3rd_read/gov02-3.htm)

Minimum wage increases to \$17.40 an hour on June 1 | BC Gov News – <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2024LBR0006-000240>

