

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

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WORKERS COMPENSATION AMENDMENT ACT, 2020 - CHANGES

This update is further to the Legislative Briefing published [August 31, 2020](#) related to the *Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2020* (Bill 23). This update highlights the changes to Bill 23 that became effective January 1, 2021.

Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2020

On August 14, 2020, the [Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2020](#) (Bill 23) received Royal Assent. The amendments came into force on the same date with a few exceptions. The following amendments came into effect on January 1, 2021:

- **Maximum Wage Rate** - raising the maximum annual salary amount on which workers' compensation benefits are based (from \$87,100 to \$100,000)
- **Permanent Partial Disability Benefits** - basing permanent partial disability benefits on the higher of a loss of earnings or loss of function calculation, whereas previously awards were granted on the basis of a loss of function calculation unless the worker's loss of earnings was "so exceptional" as to warrant a loss of earnings award; and
- **Retirement Age** - adding a power for the Board to determine a worker's date of retirement when the worker is over age 63, and provides that the worker's circumstances at that time may be considered when making the determination whether compensation payments end when a worker reaches 65 years of age or the date the worker would retire after age 65.

Please see the [WorkSafeBC primer](#) on Bill 23 that outlines that above noted changes.

QUESTIONS?

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