

# LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

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## INTERNATIONAL CREDENTIALS RECOGNITION ACT RECEIVES ROYAL ASSENT

Further to the Legislative Briefing titled [Introduction of New Fair Credential Recognition Legislation for International Professionals](#) published on October 30, 2023, [Bill 38-2023](#), *International Credentials Recognition Act (Act)*, received Royal Assent on November 8, 2023. There were no substantive changes to the proposed legislation between first and third reading.

### Purpose of the Act

The purpose of this *Act* is to ensure internationally educated professionals such as engineers, social workers, early childhood educators, paramedics, teachers and biologists start working in BC quicker. The *Act* is meant to increase fairness, efficiency, transparency and accountability in the credential recognition process. It will require 18 regulatory bodies to remove barriers in 29 professions to make it easier and quicker for qualified professionals to seek credential recognition, regardless of where they were trained. For more detailed information on the key points of the *Act* please refer to the October 30, 2023 [Legislative Briefing](#).

### What's Next?

The *Act* will come into force by regulation of the Lieutenant Governor in Council. According to this [BC Government news release](#), the *Act* is expected to come into force in summer 2024. The Province will appoint a superintendent who will be responsible for working closely with regulatory bodies to transition them to their new responsibilities under the *Act* before it comes into effect. The superintendent will also be responsible for promoting fair credential recognition, monitoring regulatory authority performance and enforcing compliance with the new legislation. RES will continue to monitor the *Act* and provide updates on the enforcement date or other advancements as required.

### 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

New act streamlines credential recognition for internationally trained professionals | BC Gov News - <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2023PREM0063-001750>

Bill 38 – 2023: International Credentials Recognition Act (leg.bc.ca) - <https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/bills/billscurrent/4th42nd:gov38-2>