

COVID-19 BULLETIN – APRIL 14, 2020

By Sarah Dickson and Mike Hamata

On Saturday, April 11, 2020, the House of Commons and Senate passed [Bill C-14](#), enacting the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (“CEWS”). There were no significant changes made to the Bill or the CEWS between the Bill’s announcement and its passing by Parliament. Details of the CEWS are set out in our [April 8, 2020 bulletin](#). The Federal Government has yet not announced when the CEWS will be available to businesses, but we expect further updates to be provided later this week.

Prime Minister Trudeau also announced additional funding today for northern communities, including:

- \$72.6 million to the governments of Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut to support their COVID-19 health and social services preparations and response;
- up to \$17.3 million to the governments of Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut to support northern air carriers; and
- \$15 million in non-repayable support for businesses in the territories to help address the impacts of COVID-19. This support will assist businesses with operating costs not already covered by other Government of Canada measures.

The full text of the press release can be found [here](#).

Provincial Health Order – April 10, 2020

On April 10, 2020, [Dr. Bonnie Henry issued a new Class Order regarding facility staff assignment in British Columbia](#). The new Order applies to long term care facilities, private hospitals, regional hospitals, assisted living residences, and provincial mental health facilities (the “Facilities”) including licensees, contractors/subcontractors, employees, volunteers and educational institutions which arrange placements for students at these facilities.

The April 10 Order requires each regional health authority to establish a working group for the purpose of making recommendations to their medical health officer (“MHO”) about the assignment of staff at Facilities. Health authorities are generally required to assign staff to work at only one Facility, but the MHO may make exemptions to this rule based on operational considerations (i.e., geographic area, class of facility, or an individual facility). There is no specific deadline for health authorities to make recommendations to the MHO, or for the orders from the MHO, but the Order directs these actions to be taken “as soon as possible”.

The April 10 Order replaces the March 27, 2020, Class Order ([the “March 27 Order”](#)) with respect to single site work; however, if a Medical Health Officer (“MHO”) has already given directions under the March 27 Order, those directions may remain in place until the MHO makes an assignment order under the new April 10 Order.



Navigating COVID-19 in the Workplace

For further information relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and how it may impact your workplace, please look to our previous bulletins, which can be found on [Roper Greyell's COVID-19 resource page](#).

This memorandum is current to the morning of April 14, 2020, but the pandemic and the responses of federal and provincial governments continue to evolve, and this may impact the accuracy of the information in this bulletin. If in doubt about whether anything in this document is still current, please do not hesitate to [contact us](#).

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