

## COVID-19 UPDATE RECAP FOR WEEK OF JUNE 15, 2020

By Michael Wagner and Natalie Cuthill

### Extension of the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

On June 16, 2020, the Federal government announced that it is [extending the CERB benefit for 8 weeks](#). This extension will make the benefit available to eligible workers for up to a total of 24 weeks.

### Temporary Layoff Under the British Columbia *Employment Standards Act*

The maximum temporary layoff period in British Columbia remains 16 weeks in any period of 20 consecutive weeks, following the province's amendment to the BC *Employment Standards Act* in May 2020. Information about that amendment is in our [May 4, 2020, bulletin](#).

The province has not made any further amendment to the legislation to further extend the maximum period of temporary layoff; however, it is possible we may see one in the future.

### BC Recovery Plan

On June 17, 2020, Premier Horgan announced that British Columbia could be moving to Phase 3 of reopening the province as early as next week, which will allow even broader economic activity to resume, including more travel throughout British Columbia. However, this move is dependent on approval from Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry. More information on the province's phased approach to reopening is in our [May 6, 2020, bulletin](#).

Also on June 17, 2020, the province released its discussion paper titled "Building B.C.'s Recovery, Together." This [discussion paper](#) includes statistics on which industries have been hit hardest by COVID-19 with the accommodation and food services industry experiencing a 50% job loss.

### 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 **June 19, 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.

[Michael Wagner](#) and [Natalie Cuthill](#) are labour and employment lawyers at Roper Greyell LLP and practice in all areas of labour, employment, human rights, and privacy law. To obtain



Page 2

contact information of any other lawyer at our firm, please visit <https://ropergreyell.com/ourpeople/>

*While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy in this update, you are urged to seek specific advice on matters of concern and not to rely solely on what is contained herein. The document is for general information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice.*