



EnviroFor Reporter

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ENVIROFOR NEWS:

New Enhancements - Faster Load Times

With 2021 in the rear-view mirror, the Quickscribe team is looking forward to helping you navigate and keep informed about important legislation coming your way in 2022. To kick off the new year, we are pleased to announce some new enhancements to your Quickscribe service, including (much) faster load times for laws and an expanded limit to the "Recently Viewed" laws (left navigation). You can expect to see further enhancements in the coming months, including a new sortable bookmarks feature, an expansion of the [Keyword Alert](#) and the indexing of [Supplemental Notes](#) to be included in keyword searches.

Latest Annotations

New annotations were recently added to Quickscribe. The annotations include contributions from the following individual:

- [Jeff Waatainen](#), DLA Piper – [Forest and Range Practices Act](#), [Wildfire Act](#)

If you wish to be alerted when new annotations are published by our contributors, select "[My Alerts](#)" via the top navigation, then select the "View Expert Annotators". Here you can view and "follow" any contributor from the list.

2022 Parliament Calendar

The BC Legislative Assembly will resume on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, with Budget Day scheduled for February 22nd. The 2022 [Parliamentary Calendar](#) is now available and provides an overview of the proposed days that the legislature is expected to sit.

If you wish to be notified when new legislation is introduced in the upcoming session, check out the customizable alerts via the [My Alerts](#) page. Quickscribe alerts are *included* with your subscription so feel free to select the alerts that work best for you!

Tip: [Log in to EnviroFor Online](#) prior to clicking Reporter links.

View [PDF](#) of this Reporter.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION — For notification of federal amendments, we recommend you use our [Section Tracking](#)  tool.

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CATEGORIES

[ENERGY & MINES](#)

[FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENT](#)

[OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY](#)

ENERGY AND MINES NEWS

Recent BCOGC Bulletins

The BCOGC has recently issued the following bulletins:

- [INDB 2021-32](#) – Adoption of ParcelMap BC
- [IB 2021-06](#) – BC Oil and Gas Commission's Chief Operating Officer Retiring

Visit the [BCOGC website](#) to view this and other bulletins.

ENERGY AND MINES

Act or Regulation Affected

Effective Date

Amendment Information

There were no amendments this month.

FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Critical March 1, 2022 Deadline for Preserving Non-Domestic Water Rights Nears

In 2016, British Columbia's new [Water Sustainability Act](#) (the "WSA") came into force and requires all non-domestic groundwater users – including farmers and ranchers, oil and gas companies, mine and smelter operators, water bottling companies, pulp and paper companies and small businesses – to apply for licences by March 1, 2022 to preserve their water rights. Existing groundwater users risk losing their historic water rights if they fail to apply before the fast-approaching deadline.

Prior to the WSA, the use of groundwater or well water in British Columbia was largely unregulated and capturing groundwater under common law was deemed a right. Now groundwater users must play by the same rules as surface users who withdraw water from rivers, streams and lakes. Under the WSA, anyone who diverts and uses groundwater for anything other than household use is required to obtain a water licence and pay water fees and rentals. A water licence is not required for "domestic purposes", which essentially means the use of water for household purposes by occupants of single family private dwellings (for the complete definition, see section 2 of the WSA). Read the [full article](#) by [Mark Thompson](#), [Mike Nienhuis](#) and [Cen Yang](#) with Singleton Urquhart Reynolds Vogel LLP.

Seeing The Opportunity In Canada's Forests: FPAC Looks Ahead to 2022

While we may follow Russia and Brazil as the third-largest forested country in the world – Canada has an important competitive edge that puts us above all others. As the world turns to lower carbon products to build greener communities, and as we work to mitigate the risks of worsening pest outbreaks and catastrophic fire patterns, sustainable forest management and the use of Canadian forest products has never been more important. Read the [full article](#) published by Canadian Forest Industries.

Canada Forges Ahead With Single-Use Plastics Ban Despite Legal Challenges

Despite opposition from industry groups and provinces, the Government of Canada is moving forward with a comprehensive plan to address plastic pollution in the long term.

On Dec. 21, 2021, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change and the Minister of Health announced draft regulations under the [Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999](#) (CEPA) banning certain single-use plastics deemed to be harmful. Read the [full article](#) by [Jonathan Cocker](#) and [Denisa Mertiri](#) with Borden Ladner Gervais LLP.

Environmental Law 2021: Trends & Developments

Miller Thomson Publication

Bryan Buttigieg, Adina Georgescu, Darin Hannaford and Christie McLeod [with Miller Thomson LLP] co-author the *Trends & Developments – Canada* chapter in the Chambers and Partners *Environmental Law 2021 Global Practice Guide*. The chapter highlights current national developments on trending topics like climate change, issues impacting indigenous peoples, and pollution regulation. Read the [full chapter](#) from Miller Thomson.

Environmental Appeal Board Decisions

The following Environmental Appeal Board decisions were made recently:

[*Environmental Management Act*](#)

- [Gibraltar Mines Ltd. v. Director](#) [Stay Application – Denied]

Visit the Environmental Appeal Board [website](#) for more information.

FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENT

Act or Regulation Affected	Effective Date	Amendment Information
Greenhouse Gas Emission Reporting Regulation (249/2015)	Dec. 13/21	by Reg 323/2021
Motor Vehicle Prohibition Regulation (196/99)	Dec. 17/21	by Reg 331/2021
Protected Areas of British Columbia Act	Dec. 15/21	by 2021 Bill 17, c. 28, sections 2 and 4 only (in force by Royal Assent), Protected Areas of British Columbia Amendment Act, 2021
Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements Regulation (394/2008)	Dec. 1/21	by Reg 316/2021
	Jan. 1/22	by Reg 196/2021

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY NEWS

CSA Group Report Aims to Improve Canada's PPE Ecosystem

The peak demand for pandemic response products may have passed – though with the Omicron variant demand may soar once again – but it is critical to address any gaps to ensure that Canada is self-sufficient and able to protect against any future shortages. CSA Group has released the second of its two reports, *Realizing A Made in Canada Pandemic Response Products Ecosystem: Action and Impact* (*Realizing A Made-in Canada Pandemic Response Products Ecosystem*, researched in collaboration with Next Generation Manufacturing Canada (NGen) and the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP). Read the [full article](#) by [Maia Foulis](#), published on the Canadian Occupational Safety website.

WorkSafeBC Seeks Feedback on Policy Workplans

WorkSafeBC is asking for stakeholder feedback on its 2022–24 Policy Workplans concerning compensation and occupational disease, assessment, and occupational health and safety (OHS). The organization's board of directors has the mandate to make legally binding policy, and submissions are being accepted until Jan. 14, 2022. Comments become part of the Policy, Regulation and Research Department's database and may be published, including the identity of organizations and those participating on behalf of organizations, according to WorkSafeBC. "The identity of those who have participated on their own behalf will be kept confidential according to the provisions of the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#)." Stakeholders can share their inputs through this link: [WorkSafeBC](#). Read the [full article](#) by Jim Wilson, published in the *HRReporter*.

New Public Health Orders

The Public Health Office (PHO) recently issued the following Orders, Notices & Guidance:

Orders:

- [Delayed Return to School – December 31, 2021 \(PDF, 375KB\)](#)

- Gatherings and Events – December 22, 2021 (PDF, 548KB)
- [Public Guidelines for Request for Reconsideration \(Exemption\) Process – December 23, 2021 \(PDF, 447KB\)](#)
- [Food and Liquor Serving Premises – December 22, 2021 \(PDF, 481KB\)](#)
 - [Public Guidelines for Request for Reconsideration \(Exemption\) Process – December 23, 2021 \(PDF, 447KB\)](#)
- [Face Coverings \(COVID-19\) – December 3, 2021 \(PDF, 440KB\)](#)

Medical Health Officer Order:

- [Gatherings and Events COVID-19 Order for Northern Health Authority – December 24, 2021 \(PDF, 185KB\)](#)

Medical Health Officer Notices:

- [Notice of Repeal of Gatherings and Events COVID-19 Order for Interior Health Authority – December 1, 2021 \(PDF, 213KB\)](#)

Guidance:

- [Guidance for Food and Liquor Serving Premises – December 31, 2021 \(PDF, 646KB\)](#)

Visit the [PHO website](#) to view these and other related orders and notices.

OHS Policies/Guidelines – Updates

WorkSafeBC recently issued the following OHS Updates:

Guidelines – OHS:

The following guideline has CPI adjustments effective January 1, 2022, as well as an editorial revision to align with amendments to the OHS Regulation:

- G-P2-94-1 [OHS citations](#)

Guidelines – OHS Regulation:

The following guideline was revised:

- Part 6 Chemical Agents and Biological Agents
[G6.25 Sealed containers](#)

Policies – *Workers Compensation Act*:

The following policies were updated to reflect CPI adjustments, effective January 1, 2022:

- [P2-94-1 - OHS Citations](#)
- [P2-95-4 - Non-Exclusive Ways to Impose Financial Penalties](#)
- [P2-95-5 - OHS Penalty Amounts](#)
- [P5-251-1 - Claims Costs Levies](#)

Check the [WorkSafeBC website](#) to explore these and other important OHS updates.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Act or Regulation Affected	Effective Date	Amendment Information
Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (296/97)	Dec. 1/21	by Reg 222/2021 and Reg 207/2021

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