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Vol: III – Issue: VI – June 2021

QUICKSCRIBE NEWS:

Legislative Session

The BC legislature has adjourned for the summer and is expected to resume later this fall on October 4th. A handful of new Bills were introduced in June; however, with the exception of Bill 16 (Supply Act, 2021-2022), none of these bills progressed past first reading. The June bills include:

- Bill 12 Insurance (Vehicle) Amendment Act, 2021
- Bill 14 Early Childhood Educators Act
- Bill 15 Early Learning and Child Care Act
- <u>Bill 16</u> Supply Act, 2021–2022

The following members' bills were also introduced in June:

- Bill M202 Health Professions Amendment Act, 2021
- Bill M203 Equal Pay Reporting Act

A reminder that if you would like to be notified on the progress of these bills or any other legislation, visit the <u>My</u> <u>Alerts</u> page to set up some custom alerts for laws that matter most to you. We recommend trying the BC Legislative Digest or the new <u>Keyword Alert</u> options.

Faster Load Times

Quickscribe has recently completed a project to improve the efficiency of how quickly legislation loads on a page. We are pleased to inform you that the net result of these enhancements is that documents now load up to 40% faster.

Latest Annotations

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

- Kimberly Jakeman, Harper Grey LLP <u>Health Professions Act</u>
- OnPoint Legal Research Corporation *Expropriation Act, Supreme Court Civil Rules, Real Estate Services Act, CRT Act, Residential Tenancy Act, Environmental Assessment Act, Vancouver Charter*
- <u>Peter Roberts</u>, Lawson Lundell LLP <u>Property Law Act</u>

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.

Tip: Log in to Quickscribe Online prior to clicking Reporter links....

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FEDERAL LEGISLATION – For notification of federal amendments, we recommend you use our <u>Section</u> <u>Tracking</u> tool.

[Previous Reporters]

CATEGORIES

COMPANY & FINANCELOCAL GOVERNMENTFOREST & ENVIRONMENTMOTOR VEHICLE & TRANSPORTATIONHEALTHOCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETYLABOUR & EMPLOYMENTPROPERTY & REAL ESTATE

COMPANY & FINANCE

Company and Finance News:

Seven Areas the Canada Revenue Agency is Scrutinizing

The 2021 Federal Budget devoted an additional \$304.1 million to the CRA to help it combat tax evasion and aggressive tax avoidance. The federal government expects to recover \$810 million in revenues over five years.

Based on public documents and information gathered from the CRA and DOJ, we have generated the below list of CRA audit activities already underway and expected to increase over the next couple of years. Even if a taxpayer has done nothing wrong, they may still have to convince eager auditors that they have complied with the law. Read the <u>full article</u> by Jenny P. Mboutsiadis and Nicolas Simard with Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP.

Senate Passes Significant Tax Bill Aimed at Facilitating Intergenerational Business Transfers

On June 22, 2021, the Senate passed <u>Bill C-208</u> (following its previous passage in the House of Commons). A Private Members' Bill, Bill C-208 is aimed at facilitating intergenerational business transfers and follows similar Bills introduced by various political parties in previous Parliamentary sessions. [The Bill received Royal Assent and became law on June 29, 2021].

The Bill proposes to amend sections 55 and 84.1 of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) by, in general:

- a. providing that siblings continue to be related for purposes of section 55 if a share of the corporation paying the subject dividend is a qualified small business corporation share (QSBCS) or share of the capital stock of a family farm or fishing corporation (SFFC), each as defined in s.110.6(1) of the ITA; and
- b. deeming, for purposes of section 84.1, a vendor to deal at arm's length with a purchaser corporation if the transferred shares are QSBCS or SFFC, the purchaser corporation is controlled by one or more children or grandchildren of the vendor who are 18 years of age or older, and the purchaser corporation does not dispose of the subject shares within 60 months after their purchase.

Read the full article by Alexander Demner of Thorsteinssons LLP.

Cancelled Trips During COVID-19: Consumer Protection BC Weighs in on Travel Refunds under the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act*

Consumer Protection BC recently issued an <u>advisory</u> informing consumers about their rights under provincial law to receive refunds for travel. Specifically, the advisory suggests, "If eligible consumers take the proper steps to exercise their rights, they should be provided with a full refund in the same way they paid, as outlined in the law."

This advisory comes only days after Consumer Protection BC released a <u>step-by-step guide</u> that explains how consumers can claim refunds for cancelled travel. The guide requires consumers to first address refunds with their travel supplier, such as airlines and tour operators, before filing a complaint with the regulator. A consumer's right to a refund for travel is based on the <u>distance sales contract provisions</u> of the <u>Business</u> <u>Practices and Consumer Protection Act</u>, S.B.C. 2004, c. 2 (the "BPCPA"). Read the <u>full article</u> by Miranda Lam, Kirsten Marsh and Heather Mallabone with McCarthy Tetrault LLP.

British Columbia Securities Commission Proposes Rules to Require Disclosure of Promotional Activities

BCSC's proposed disclosure rules would attempt to address "problematic promotional activity" and improve transparency for investors.

- The issue of potentially misleading promotional activities has been on the radar of Canadian regulators since at least 2018.
- Under proposed BCI 51-519, a person or company that conducted promotional activity would be required to disclose certain information at the time of the promotional activity.
- Those engaging third parties to conduct promotional activities would have to oversee the third party's compliance with the rules, and venture issuers would have additional disclosure requirements.
- Registrants, investment funds, and those conducting promotional activities on their own behalf would be exempted from the rules.
- The BCSC is accepting comments on the proposal until July 26, 2021.

Read the <u>full article</u> by <u>Michael G. Urbani</u> of Stikeman Eliott.

BC Court Provides Commission Another Chance to Collect from Fraudster's Spouse

In March 2020, landmark amendments to the British Columbia <u>Securities Act</u>, RSBC 1996, c. 418, (the "Act") came into force that conferred upon the British Columbia Securities Commission (the "Commission") some of the strongest enforcement powers in the country (the "<u>March 2020 Amendments</u>"). Notably, in certain circumstances, the March 2020 Amendments expanded the Commission's statutory authority to commence collection proceedings against family members and other third parties of persons found to have contravened the Act.

The recent decision *British Columbia (Securities Commission) v. Pasquill*, 2021 BCSC 1047, ("Pasquill") highlights the impact the March 2020 Amendments could have on the Commission's ability to collect from fraudsters' families and their related holding companies. Read the <u>full article</u> by <u>Jordan Deering</u> and <u>Swetha Popuri</u> of DLA Piper LLP.

BC Securities – Policies & Instruments

The following policies and instruments were recently published on the BCSC website:

- <u>21-326</u> CSA Staff Notice 21-326 *Guidance for Reporting Material Systems Incidents*
- <u>45-110</u> CSA Notice of Publication of National Instrument 45-110 Start-up Crowdfunding Registration and Prospectus Exemptions
- <u>33-708</u> Transitional Relief Related to the Elimination of the Deferred Sales Charge Option in respect of Client Focused Reforms Enhanced Conflicts of Interest and Client First Suitability Provisions of National Instrument 31-103 Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations.
- <u>31-103</u> Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations

For more information, visit the BC Securities <u>website</u>.

| Act or Regulation Affected | Effective Date | Amendment Information |
|---|--------------------------|--|
| Business Practices and Consumer Protection Regulation (294/2004) | July 1/21 | by <u>Reg 127/2021</u> |
| | RETRO to Apr. 1/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 11 and 12 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| Carbon Tax Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 1 to 8 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| Climate Action Tax Credit Regulation (135/2008) | June 7/21 | by <u>Reg 144/2021</u> |
| Designated Accommodation Area Tax Regulation (93/2013) | July 1/21 | by <u>Reg 63/2021</u> |
| | 1r | |

| | by <u>Reg 162/2021</u> |
|----------------------------------|---|
| NEW June 4/21 | see <u>Reg 142/2021</u> |
| RETRO to Mar. 13/20 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 23, 27, 28 and 30 to 32 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| RETRO to Mar. 25/20 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 22 and 24 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| RETRO to May 1/20 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 26, 34 and 37 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| RETRO to Dec. 18/20 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 39 and 41 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| RETRO to Mar. 31/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 29 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> Act, 2021 |
| June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 33 and 40 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| June 4/21 | by 2021 Bill 5, c. 3, sections 1 and 2 only (in force by Reg 142/2021), Insurance Corporation Amendment Act, 2021 |
| June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 42 and 43 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 44 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| June 15/21 | see <u>Reg 152/2021</u> |
| RETRO to Apr. 1/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 63 to 65 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 61, 66 to 69 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| | June 4/21 RETRO to Mar. 13/20 RETRO to Mar. 25/20 RETRO to Dec. 18/20 RETRO to Mar. 31/21 June 17/21 June 17/21 June 17/21 June 15/21 RETRO to Mar. 1/21 |

| Special Accounts Appropriation and Control Act | RETRO to Mar. 31/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 70 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
| Speculation and Vacancy Tax Act | RETRO to Nov. 27/18 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 71, 73, 76 and 77 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 72, 75 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| Tobacco Tax Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 82 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| | July 1/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 81 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| Tobacco Tax Act Regulation (66/2002) | July 1/21 | by <u>Reg 147/2021</u> |
| | | |

FOREST & ENVIRONMENT

Forest and Environment News:

Will BC's UNDRIP Action Plan Create Compliance Challenges under the

US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, the UK Bribery Act or the Criminal Code of Canada? Government news releases issued on a Friday are known to receive the least attention – and thus warrant the most scrutiny. On Friday, June 11, 2021, the Government of British Columbia issued a news release entitled "Province seeks input from Indigenous peoples to shape future reconciliation." Surely, that could not involve anything controversial, could it? The news release refers to a draft plan that could significantly change who governs resource development in BC and potentially affect the legality of corporate payments to First Nations. The draft action plan contains many commitments. One of them is as follows:

"the Province will take the following actions in collaboration with Indigenous peoples from 2021 to 2026...

2.5 Negotiate new joint decision-making and consent agreements under section 7 of the [*Declaration* on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act ("DRIPA")] that include clear accountabilities, transparency and administrative fairness between the Province and Indigenous governing bodies. Seek all necessary legislative amendments to enable the implementation of any section 7 agreements. (Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation)"

Read the <u>full article</u> by Robin M. Junger, <u>Guy Pinsonnault</u> and <u>Timothy Cullen</u> with McMillan LLP.

Huu-ay-aht First Nation Sets Road Map for Forest Partnership

Understanding the land and the will of the people and establishing a strong relationship with the big players in the forest industry are key elements to establishing any First Nation as an equal player in the industry, according to the chief of a Vancouver Island First Nation that is already doing it. Robert Dennis, elected chief of the Huuay-aht First Nation, told the B.C. First Nations Forestry Conference that becoming a full partner in the industry and controlling the fate of its territory doesn't happen by accident. Read the *Times Colonist* article.

Environmental Appeal Board Decisions

The following Environmental Appeal Board decisions were made recently:

Environmental Management Act

<u>Richardson International Limited v. District Director, Environmental Management Act</u> [Consent Order – Appeal Dismissed]

Mines Act

• <u>Mountainside Quarries Group Inc. v. Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources</u> [Consent Order – Resolved]

Visit the Environmental Appeal Board <u>website</u> for more information.

| Act or Regulation Affected | Effective Date | Amendment Information |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| Conservation Officer Service Authority Regulation (318/2004) | June 7/21 | by <u>Reg 143/2021</u> |
| Disposition and Change of Control Regulation (351/2004) | June 15/21 | by <u>Reg 153/2021</u> |
| Fairy Creek Watershed Designated Area No. 1 (148/2021) | NEW June 9/21 | see <u>Reg 148/2021</u> |
| Forest Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 19 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| Logging Tax Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 46 and 47 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| New Tree Fruit Varieties Development Council Regulation (44/2002) | June 30/21 | by Reg 44/2002 |
| Professional Governance General Regulation (107/2019) | June 30/21 | by <u>Reg 160/2021</u> |

HEALTH

Health News:

As COVID-19 Outbreaks in Long-term Care Continue, BC Rethinks Voluntary Vaccines Policy

Ninety-five per cent of seniors at Kelowna's Spring Valley long-term care home have been vaccinated to protect them against COVID-19, but only two-thirds of caregivers at the facility had rolled up their sleeves for their shot when an outbreak was declared in mid-May. Over the past month, 11 residents have died because of the virus. Since British Columbia began its <u>vaccine</u> program in December, workers in <u>long-term care</u> homes have had the choice over whether to be vaccinated. Employers are not even allowed to require employees to say if they have been vaccinated. Read *The Globe and Mail article*.

BCLI & CCEL Issue Study Paper On Health Care Consent and Capacity Assessment Tribunals

BCLI and CCEL have released the <u>Study Paper on Health Care Consent and Capacity Assessment Tribunals</u>, which examines informal tribunals operating in Canada and Australia that review findings of mental incapacity to consent to health care or admission to a care facility and resolve disputes about substitute decision-making in health care. Read the <u>full statement</u> by Greg ZBlue, Q.C. published on the British Columbia Law Institute website.

| Act or Regulation Affected | Effective Date | Amendment Information |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Accessible British Columbia Act | June 17/21 | c. 19, SBC 2021, <u>Bill 6</u> , sections 1 to 10 , 13 to 20 and 28 to 32 only (in force by Royal Assent) |
| | RETRO to July 10/20 | by 2021 Bill 11, c. 17, section 1 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| COVID-19 Related Measures Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 11, c. 17, sections 2 and 3 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Miscellaneous Statutes</u> <u>Amendment Act, 2021</u> |
| | June 30/21 | by <u>Reg 172/2020</u> and <u>Reg 165/2021</u> |
| Sewerage System Regulation (326/2004) | June 30/21 | by <u>Reg 160/2021</u> |

LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT

Labour and Employment News:

BC Accessibility Legislation Now in Force

On June 17, 2021, the BC Legislature passed the <u>Accessible British Columbia Act</u> (the "Act") into law. The Act will create new responsibilities for organizations.

What Does the Act Do?

The Act allows the provincial government to establish "accessibility standards" aimed at identifying, removing and preventing barriers to accessibility and inclusion. A "barrier" is defined as "anything that hinders the full and equal participation in society of a person with an impairment".

Development of Accessibility Standards

An accessibility standard is a rule that government and organizations must follow to remove barriers in a specific sector.

The government may establish accessibility standards in a range of sectors, including employment, delivery of services, the built environment, information and communications, transportation, health, education, and procurement, among others.

Read the full article by David G. Wong, Matthew Allard and Fabian Jankovic with Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP.

Employees Cannot Collect Twice – CERB Payments Deducted from Wrongful Dismissal Awards

In the case of *Hogan v 1187938 BC Ltd.*, <u>2021 BCSC 1021</u>, the BC Supreme Court confirmed that an employee's receipt of Canada Emergency Response Benefit ("CERB") payments after termination should be deducted from an award of damages for wrongful dismissal.

Facts

Mr. Hogan started working at the defendant's automotive dealership in 1998 as a technician. He was gradually promoted over the years to the position of assistant service manager. He, along with several other employees, was placed on a temporary

layoff in March 2020 because of the significant downturn in business due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Hogan was ultimately not recalled for work after March 2020 and he was terminated in August 2020.

Read the <u>full article</u> by Scott Marcinkow with Harper Grey LLP.

BC Financial Services Authority Revises Their Information Security and Outsourcing Guidelines

In response to industry feedback after its initial release of the Information Security Guideline, BC Financial Services Authority (BC FSA) has issued:

- 1. A revised version of the Information Security Guideline and
- 2. The new Outsourcing Guideline.

BC FSA advised in its <u>Advisory 21-015</u> that accompanied the revised Information Security Guideline that the revisions reflect the response from the pension sector. The revised Information Security Guideline distinguishes between BC credit unions, insurance and trust companies on the one hand and pension plan administrators on the other. The prior version of the Information Security Guidelines applied equally to all of those entities, despite the differences in their scope, purpose and operational structures. Read the <u>full article</u> by <u>Lisa Chamzuk</u> with Lawson Lundell LLP.

From Bad to Worse: Court of Appeal Significantly Increases Damages Award Due to Egregious Conduct of Employer

While all legal decisions have something interesting to tell us about employment law, there are those cases that lawyers keep in their back pocket to serve as a cautionary tale for clients about the potential cost of HR blunders. <u>Ojanen v Acumen Law Corporation</u>, a decision of the British Columbia Court of Appeal, is, without question, one of those cases. We often see appeal courts reducing damage awards on appeal, in order to bring them more in line with established case law. <u>Ojanen</u> is certainly an exception – in this case, the behaviour of the employer in question was so egregious that the Court of Appeal was compelled to more than triple the award granted at trial. Read the <u>full article</u> by the team at Rudner Law, published on the website *First Reference*.

Employer Reimbursement Program Launches COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave

Starting Thursday, June 17, 2021, employers can apply for reimbursement of wages paid to workers who have taken sick leave related to COVID-19. The temporary reimbursement program is retroactive to May 20, when legislation was passed, to ensure sick workers can stay home for up to three days without losing wages, while supporting businesses during the pandemic.

The amendments to the *Employment Standards Act* (ESA) require employers to pay sick workers their regular wages. Employers can then apply for reimbursement up to \$200 per day, to a maximum of three days per worker. Any employer whose workers are covered under the ESA but does not currently provide paid sick leave benefits to its employees will be eligible. Read the full government <u>new release</u>.

Howard Levitt: Here Are Some Ways Employers

Can (Legally) Get People Back to Work

Employers might require employees to remain in the province of the company or require them to be available to attend work the following day at any time. I am arguing cases at live hearings in both British Columbia and Alberta this coming week, a sign the Grand Reopening has unofficially commenced. You see it everywhere. Previously repressed Canadians out and about, spending the money they saved at unprecedented rates during the past 15 months. They are re-enacting the lives they fondly remembered and have been desperate to have return: dining, travelling, visiting their friends and fully returning to work. But threats remain. Irresponsible fiscal policy has lead to inflationary risks which could ultimately hemorrhage the employment market. Employees have been incentivized to stay home with stimulus cheques paying close to what they earned working. Employers, particularly of lower income workers, have had trouble recruiting, and that was before the economy sprung fully to life. But those stimulus cheques are getting smaller, driving more employees back into the workforce. Read the *Financial Post* article.

| Act or Regulation Affected | Effective Date | Amendment Information |
|--|-------------------|--|
| Employment Standards Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 11, c. 17, section 7 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| Employment Standards Regulation (396/95) | June 1/21 | by <u>Reg 12/2018</u> and <u>Reg 80/2018</u> |
| | RETRO | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 13, 15 and 18 only (in |

| Employer Health Tay Act | to Mar. 30/21 | force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| Employer Health Tax Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 14 and 16 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| Health Care Employers Regulation (155/2021) | June 15/21 | by <u>Reg 155/2021</u> |
| Salary Range Regulation (152/2017) | June 24/21 | by <u>Reg 164/2021</u> |

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local Government News:

BC Court of Appeal Restores the City's Decisions Regarding Expiration of Building Permits

On June 9, 2021, the BC Court of Appeal released reasons for judgment in *Yu v. Richmond (City)*, <u>2021 BCCA</u> <u>226</u>. In this case, the Court overturned two decisions of the BC Supreme Court in *Minster Enterprises Ltd. v. City of Richmond*, <u>2020 BCSC 455</u> and *Yu v. City of Richmond*, <u>2020 BCSC 454</u>.

In both cases, the respondents had obtained building permits from the City to construct large single-family homes on ALR land (15,006 and 13,482.77 square feet, respectively). The permits, issued prior to the Province's move to restrict the size of non-farm buildings on ALR land, were marked with an expiration date of six months from their issuance "if no construction activity" were to occur. Read the full client <u>news bulletin</u> by Nick Falzon and Alexandra Greenberg, Articled Student with Young Anderson Barristers & Solicitors.

Claiming Privilege Over Records of Closed Meetings of Council

In *McGraw v. Southgate (Township)*, 2021 ONSC 2785 the Ontario Superior Court of Justice considered the appropriateness of disclosing a recording of a closed council meeting. The disclosure was sought in a wrongful dismissal suit brought by a former employee of the Township and the recording contained discussions related to the Township's decision to terminate the Plaintiff's employment. The Township opposed the disclosure of the recording on a number of grounds of privilege. The judge assessed the merits of each claim of privilege over the recording before ultimately ordering the disclosure of a part of the recording.

This decision is a good reminder to local governments that even discussions which occur during closed meetings may not remain confidential in all circumstances. As such, it is important to remain conscious that any recordings or notes of the closed meeting may one day be put before a Court. It is therefore prudent on local governments to maintain appropriate record-keeping practices in order to preserve as much confidentiality as possible. Read the <u>full article</u> by David Giroday with Stewart McDannold Stuart.

BC Waives Income Requirements for Farm Operations

For the second consecutive year, the Province is waiving the income requirements normally required for existing BC farm operations when qualifying for farm classification.

"The pandemic has been very difficult for everyone, including the thousands of British Columbians who are involved in putting food on our tables," said Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. "Over the past year, the trend of buying BC food has grown instinctively in families and communities around our province. By maintaining this change for another year, we are letting BC farmers know that we have their back, so they can continue to focus on providing their amazing and delicious products we all enjoy."

If the Province had not taken action with a regulatory amendment last year, more than 400 farm properties with a history of sub-threshold income and many developing farms would have been at risk of losing their farm class for 2021. By once again eliminating the income requirement as BC recovers from COVID-19, farmers will not have to worry about the possibility of losing their farm classification and having an increase in property taxes in 2022. Read the full government <u>news release</u>.

RCMP Union Agrees to Tentative Deal

The Government of Canada and National Police Federation, the bargaining unit representing RCMP members, have tentatively reached a six-year <u>collective agreement</u>. Details of the agreement will not be made public until RCMP members have an opportunity to examine and potentially ratify the agreement later this summer. Read the UBCM <u>article</u>.

BC Lends Support to Temporary Patios Going Permanent

Updated on June 16, 2021

More than 2,000 temporary patios authorized to serve liquor during the COVID-19 pandemic can apply to become permanent under amended provincial liquor regulations. This includes prospective patios that are supported by local governments and meet local bylaws.

"Temporary patios have been a lifeline for so many businesses and workers in the hospitality sector, and we're committed to making these expanded serving areas part of their long-term recovery and beyond," said Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General. Read the full <u>news release</u>.

Community Wildfire Resiliency Funding

Applications are now being invited for the 2022 Community Resiliency Initiative FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program. Local governments and First Nations in BC are eligible to apply for funding to undertake community-based FireSmart planning and activities that reduce the community's risk from wildfire. The intake is open until October 8, 2021. Eligible applicants may apply for up to \$50,000 or \$150,000, depending on their specific risk of wildfire. There are opportunities to apply for additional funding for regional districts, and for fuel management proposals that include Provincial Crown land within and adjacent to community boundaries. Read the UBCM <u>article</u>.

Courts Confirm Local Government Powers to Protect Tenants

In two recent decisions, released only one month apart, the BC Court of Appeal and BC Supreme Court gave local governments two big wins in relation to their ability to protect tenants.

In *VIT Estates v. New Westminster*, 2021 BCSC 573, the BC Supreme Court confirmed that the residential rental tenure zoning power at <u>section 481.1</u> of the *Local Government Act* ("RRT Zoning") could be used to preserve existing rental units. In that case, the City applied an RRT Zoning Bylaw to six stratified buildings which were wholly owned by various corporate entities. The Bylaw specified that those units – which had always been occupied by tenants – could henceforth only be occupied in that same manner. No owner of any such unit would be able to occupy it while the Bylaw was in force. Read the <u>full article</u> by Nick Falzon with Young Anderson Barristers and Solicitors published in the firm's LGMA Conference newsletter.

WHADDAYAMEAN? – A Ramble Through the BC Interpretation Act

Artisans of all sorts have a go-to tool that they find themselves using more often than any other. For chefs, it's likely the so-called chef's knife; for carpenters, perhaps a try square or marking gauge; for barbers, a particular pair of scissors. For many public law lawyers, it's the *Interpretation Act*. A quick stroll through the BC *Interpretation Act* viewed through a local government lens will give an idea of how important this tool is to lawyers in our firm. (There's also an *Interpretation Act* applicable to federal enactments, that we consult less frequently.) Read the <u>full article</u> by Bill Buholzer in the LGMA Conference Issue of the Young Anderson Newsletter.

| Act or Regulation Affected | Effective Date | Amendment Information |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Assessment Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 1 to 8 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| Assessment Authority Act | July 1/21 | by 2020 Bill 10, c. 1, section 3 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Municipal Affairs and Housing</u> <u>Statutes Amendment Act, 2020</u> |
| | | by 2021 Bill 8, c. 15, sections 23, 34 to 37, 52 and |

| Cannabis Control and Licensing Act | June 17/21 | 53 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Public Safety and</u> <u>Solicitor General Statutes Amendment Act, 2021</u> |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| | June 30/21 | by 2021 Bill 8, c. 15, sections 1 to 22, 24 to 33 and 38 to 51 only (in force by Reg 172/2021), Public Safety and Solicitor General Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 |
| Cannabis Control Regulation (204/2018) | June 30/21 | by <u>Reg 172/2021</u> |
| Cannabis Control and Licensing Transitional Regulation (203/2018) | REPEALED June 30/21 | by <u>Reg 172/2021</u> |
| Cannabis Distribution Act | June 30/21 | by 2021 Bill 8, c. 15, sections 54 to 58 only (in force by Reg /2021), Public Safety and Solicitor General Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 |
| Cannabis Licensing Regulation | June 17/21 | by <u>Reg 156/2021</u> |
| (202/2018) | June 30/21 | by <u>Reg /2021</u> |
| COVID-19 Related Measures Act | RETRO to July 10/20 | by 2021 Bill 11, c. 17, section 1 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 11, c. 17, sections 2 and 3 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Miscellaneous Statutes</u> <u>Amendment Act, 2021</u> |
| | June 30/21 | by <u>Reg 172/2020</u> and <u>Reg 165/2021</u> |
| Home Owner Grant Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 20 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| Independent School Act | July 1/21 | by 2020 Bill 8, c. 4, sections 2 to 6 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Education Statutes Amendment Act</u> , 2020 |
| Liquor Control and Licensing Act | June 30/21 | by 2021 Bill 8, c. 15, section 60 only (in force by Reg 173/2021), Public Safety and Solicitor General Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 |
| Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation (241/2016) | June 6/21 | by Reg 241/2016 |
| | June 15/21 | by <u>Reg 154/2021</u> |
| | June 30/21 | by <u>Reg 169/2021</u> and <u>Reg 173/2021</u> |
| Local Government Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 10, c. 16, sections 5 to 8 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Municipal Affairs Statutes</u> <u>Amendment Act, 2021</u> |

| Ports Property Tax Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 55 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| School Act | July 1/21 | by 2020 Bill 8, c. 4, sections 7, 9 to 13, 19, 20 25, and 30 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Education</u> <u>Statutes Amendment Act, 2020</u> |
| School Tax Remitting Regulation (109/2019) | June 21/21 | by <u>Reg 161/2021</u> |
| Taxation (Rural Area) Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 79 and 80 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| Vancouver Charter | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 83 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 10, c. 16, sections 19 and 20 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Municipal Affairs Statutes</u> <u>Amendment Act, 2021</u> |
| Worker Qualification Regulation, | REPEALED June 17/21 | by <u>Reg 156/2021</u> |

MOTOR VEHICLE & TRANSPORTATION

Motor Vehicle & Transportation News:

U.S. Agency Orders Automated Vehicle Makers to Report Crashes

The U.S. government's highway safety agency has ordered automakers to report any crashes involving fully autonomous vehicles or partially automated driver assist systems. The move Tuesday [June 29] by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration indicates the agency is taking a tougher stance on automated vehicle safety than in the past. It has been reluctant to issue any regulations of the new technology for fear of hampering adoption of the potentially life-saving systems. The order requires vehicle and equipment manufacturers and companies that operate the vehicles to report crashes on public roads involving fully autonomous vehicles, or those in which driver assist systems were operating immediately before or during a crash. Read the CTV <u>news article</u>.

Canadians Face Increased Fine Amounts for Trespassing onto Railway Property and Interfering with the Safe Operations of the Railway System

Railways are a crucial part of our national transportation network, delivering important products and commodities to Canadians, or to ports for export. The Government of Canada is taking action to enhance the safety and security of Canada's railway system, railway employees, railway passengers, as well as those living and working near Canada's rail corridors. Today [June 23], the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Omar Alghabra, announced amendments to the <u>Contraventions Regulations</u>, with regard to provisions under the <u>Railway Safety Act</u> that increase the fine amounts for trespassing onto property where railway lines are located and for not giving way at railway crossings. Read the full government <u>news release</u>.

Defendant Obligated to Yield to Plaintiff's Car which Entered Intersection Ahead: BC Case

The Supreme Court of British Columbia has recently rejected the defendant's version of events in a personal injury case featuring a motor vehicle accident, on the basis of this version's inconsistency with the recorded damage to the vehicle.

In *Kim v. Dresser*, <u>2021 BCSC 1032</u>, the plaintiff and the defendant were involved in a March 2015 collision at an intersection, which was a four-way stop with stop signs visible in every direction. The plaintiff filed an action seeking compensation for numerous injuries sustained due to the accident, but the defendant denied liability. Read the <u>full article</u> by <u>Bernise Carolino</u> on the *Canadian Lawyer*.

New Fairness Officer at Insurance Corporation of British Columbia to Be in Place by End of 2021

The Insurance Corporation of British Columbia's new fairness officer, which seeks to ensure that the corporation's decisions, actions and practices are transparent and fair, has been approved, announced the province on June 4.

BC intends for the fairness officer to be in place by the end of 2021, <u>said a news release</u>. The related amendments to the <u>Insurance Corporation Act</u> received royal assent on Mar. 25 and the applicable regulations, which impose additional parameters to the fairness officer's role, received approval on June 2. Read the <u>full</u> <u>article</u> by <u>Bernise Carolino</u> on the *Canadian Lawyer*.

CVSE Bulletins & Notices

The following notices were posted recently by CVSE:

- <u>Circular 04-21</u> Changes to Pilot Car Requirements and Travel Times for Oversize Loads
- CVSE 1016 9-Axle Logging Truck Routes

For more information on these and other items, visit the <u>CVSE website</u>.

| Act or Regulation Affected | Effective Date | Amendment Information |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| Fairness Officer Regulation (142/2021) | June 4/21 | see <u>Reg 142/2021</u> |
| Insurance Corporation Act | June 4/21 | by 2021 Bill 5, c. 3, sections 1 and 2 only (in force by Reg 142/2021), Insurance Corporation Amendment Act, 2021 |
| Lien on Impounded Motor Vehicles Regulation (25/2015) | July 1/21 | by <u>Reg 125/2021</u> |
| Motor Fuel Tax Act | RETRO to Apr. 20/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 50 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 51 and 52 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| | June 7/21 | by 2020 Bill 2, c. 9, section 1 only (in force by Reg 145/2021), Motor Vehicle Amendment Act, 2020 |
| Motor Vehicle Act | July 1/21 | by 2021 Bill 11, c. 17, sections 10 to 12 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Miscellaneous Statutes</u> <u>Amendment Act, 2021</u> |
| Motor Vehicle Act Regulations (26/58) | June 1/21 | by <u>Reg 100/2021</u> |
| | June 7/21 | by <u>Reg 145/2021</u> |
| | June 30/21 | by <u>Reg 170/2021</u> |

| Special Direction IC2 to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (307/2004) | June 10/21 | by <u>Reg 151/2021</u> |
|---|------------|------------------------|
| Use of Electronic Devices While Driving Regulation (308/2009) | June 7/21 | by <u>Reg 145/2021</u> |
| Violation Ticket Administration and Fines | June 7/21 | by <u>Reg 145/2021</u> |
| Regulation (89/97) | June 30/21 | by <u>Reg 166/2021</u> |

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Occupational Health & Safety News:

Adverse Reactions to COVID-19 Vaccinations

May Be Compensable

As more of the population becomes vaccinated against COVID-19, an issue to be considered is whether a worker or employee who has an adverse reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine is entitled to any compensation under BC workers' compensation benefits (WorkSafeBC).

WorkSafeBC has recently commented on this topic stating that if a worker experiences an adverse reaction, injury or death from the COVID-19 vaccination, it may be compensable where the worker can show that injury or death arose in the course of their employment. Read the <u>full article</u> by <u>Kirstn Mase</u> of Edwards, Kenny & Bray LLP.

7 Signs of Sleep Deprivation at Work

Lack of sleep can have a devastating effect on worker health – and on an organization's bottom line. It is common knowledge that humans need on average seven to eight hours of sleep a night to properly function. Researchers at Hult International Business School have found however that most professionals only get around six hours and 28 minutes of sleep a night – which maybe doesn't seem so bad but ultimately builds up in the long-run. While short term sleep loss may be caught up, chronic issues with sleep are a huge problem – not just for worker health but job performance as well. The National Institute for Working Life estimated that sleep deprivation among workers costs businesses around USD\$350 billion worldwide annually. Read the <u>full article</u> by Maia Foulis with Canadian Occupational Safety.

Consultation on Proposed Amendments to Part 3 of the

Occupational Health and Safety Regulation

from WorkSafeBC

Our Policy, Regulation and Research Division is requesting feedback on proposed amendments to Part 3, Rights and Responsibilities, new section 3.12.1 — Reassignment of refused work, of the <u>Occupational Health and Safety</u> <u>Regulation</u>. The consultation phase provides stakeholders an opportunity to share feedback before the proposed amendments are taken to public hearing. View the <u>proposed regulatory amendment</u> and information on how to provide feedback. Read the official WorkSafeBC <u>news release</u> for more information including feedback deadlines and contact information.

New Public Health Orders

The Public Health Office (PHO) recently issued the following Orders & Guidelines:

Orders:

- Food and Liquor Serving Premises June 30, 2021 (PDF, 338KB)
 Read related Public Heath guidance
- <u>Gatherings and Events June 30, 2021 (PDF, 244KB)</u>
 Read related <u>Public Heath guidance</u>
- Agricultural Temporary Foreign Workers June 20, 2021 (PDF, 286KB)
- Workplace and Post-Secondary Institution Safety June 14, 2021 (PDF, 360KB)
- <u>Coverage of Electoral Area J of the Cariboo Regional District June 10, 2021 (PDF, 272KB)</u>
- Overnight Camps for Children or Youth June 7, 2021 (PDF, 310KB)

Notices:

- <u>Notice of Repeal of the Workplace and Post-Secondary Institution Safety Order June 29, 2021 (PDF, 215.8KB)</u>
- Notice of Repeal of the Workplace Safety Plans Order June 29, 2021 (PDF, 192.1KB)

Guidance:

- <u>Guidance for Courthouse Users During the COVID-19 Pandemic & BC Restart Plan June 30, 2021 (PDF, 401KB)</u>
- Guidance for Episodic Markets June 24, 2021 (PDF, 657KB)
- <u>Guidance for Retail Food and Grocery Stores June 24, 2021 (PDF, 657KB)</u>
- Guidance for Food and Liquor Serving Premises June 24, 2021 (PDF, 687KB)
- Guidance for Holding Low Risk Worship Services June 15, 2021 (PDF, 427KB)
- Guidance for Holding Low Risk Stand-Alone Lifecycle Events June 15, 2021 (PDF, 428KB)

Visit the PHO website to view these and other related orders and notices.

OHS Policies/Guidelines – Updates

WorkSafeBC recently issued the following OHS Updates:

OHS Guidelines — Occupational Health and Safety Regulation

The following guideline was issued:

 Part 8 Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment <u>G8.13 Use of safety headgear with bicycles and skates</u> (new)

The following guideline was retired:

 Part 8 Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment <u>G8.21(2)-1 Leg protection - WorkSafeBC standards</u> (new)

Editorial revisions were made to the following guidelines:

- Part 8 Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment
 - <u>G8.5(b) Special program option for pulp and paper industry</u>
 - <u>G8.12-8.13 Use of safety headgear for workers on ATVs & similar eqpt in agricultural ops</u>
 - <u>G8.26(3) Buoyancy equipment and fall protection</u>
 - G8.28 Working alone or in isolation with a hazard of drowning
 - G8.38(2) Respiratory protection and use of contact lenses
 - <u>G8.42 Medical assessment</u>
- Part 10 De-energization and Lockout
 - G10.3 Worker entry into J-bar sorting systems in sawmills
 - G10.4(1) Lockout of multiple control devices
 - G10.10(2) Approval of control system isolating devices
- Part 11 Fall Protection
 - G11.1 Definitions Anchor and anchorage
- Part 13 Ladders, Scaffolds and Temporary Work Platforms
 - <u>G13.1 Types of work platforms</u>
 - G13.2(1)(b) Ladders in manholes
 - G13.19 When and how to ground metal scaffold
 - G13.25 Warning devices
- Part 19 Electrical Safety
 - G19.28 Emergency work
 - <u>G19.35 Tree pruning and falling equipment</u>
- Part 20 Construction, Excavation and Demolition
 <u>G20.77 Mechanical equipment</u>
- Part 24 Diving, Fishing and Other Marine Operations

- <u>G24.13 Principal performers using underwater diving equipment</u>
- G24.26 Breathing mediums
- G24.29 Gauges and meters
- G24.37 Restrictions on scuba

New and revised guidelines are posted for a 60-day preliminary period, during which time the stakeholder community may <u>comment and request revisions</u>.

Check the <u>WorkSafe BC Updates page</u> to explore these and other important OHS updates.

| Act or Regulation Affected Effective Date | Amendment Information |
|---|-----------------------|
|---|-----------------------|

There were no amendments this month.

PROPERTY & REAL ESTATE

Property and Real Estate News:

BC Homeowner's Court Challenge Threatens to Open "Floodgates" to Assessment Appeals

Judge says appeal board failed to consider allegation of institutional bias by BC Assessment. A B.C. Supreme Court judge has sided with a Whistler homeowner in a court battle the provincial body responsible for property valuations warned could open the "floodgates" for British Columbians to challenge the assessment process in court. In a <u>decision released last week</u>, Justice Lindsay Lyster found the Property Assessment Review Panel (PARP) failed to give a fair hearing to a property owner who asked the members of the panel to recuse themselves because they were paid through taxes levied according to the same property values they were tasked with deciding. Read the CBC news <u>article</u>.

To Stay, You Have to Pay: B.C. Supreme Court Again Rules in

Favour of Landlords in Covid-19 Dispute

Once again the courts have confirmed that commercial tenants must pay their rent, despite arguments about the effect of COVID-19. In a recent decision, *Cherry Lane Shopping Centre Holdings Ltd v. Hudson's Bay Company ULC*, <u>2021 BCSC 1178</u>, the Supreme Court of British Columbia found that the provisions of the lease requiring Hudson's Bay to pay rent were "clear, unequivocal and unambiguous." The court dismissed the tenant's set-off argument based on the effect of the pandemic. HBC is a tenant in the Cherry Lane Shopping Centre in Penticton, where it has leased retail space since 1996. In May 2020, HBC wrote to the landlord advising that they would not be paying rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Each month that HBC failed to pay rent, the landlord issued a notice of default demanding payment. On November 9, 2020, the landlord issued a notice to quit and a notice to terminate the lease in accordance with the terms of the lease. Read the <u>full article</u> by <u>Thomas D. Boyd</u>, <u>Natasha Sanders</u> with Lawson Lundell LLP.

BC Court of Appeal: Inconsequential Defect in Builders Lien Form Does Not Invalidate Claim of Lien

In the recent decision of *A.W. Kennedy Construction Inc. v. Wan*, <u>2021 BCCA 175</u>, the BC Court of Appeal had an opportunity to consider whether a non-substantive error on a Claim of Lien form rendered the claim of lien invalid under sections 15 and 22 of the *Builders Lien Act* ("BLA"). Section 15 (1) of the BLA provides that "... a claim of lien is made by filing in the land title office a claim of lien in the prescribed form" [emphasis added] and section 22 states that "a lien in respect of which a claim of lien is not filed in the manner and within the time provided in this Act is extinguished." The Claim of Lien in question deviated from the prescribed form in that the first paragraph of the Claim of Lien was left blank. This section of the form requires the lien claimant to set out its name and address. However, this information was not missing from the Claim of Lien, as the lien claimant had included the company name and address in the preamble of the form. Read the <u>full article</u> by <u>Scott Harcus</u> with Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP.

| Act or Regulation Affected | Effective Date | Amendment Information |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| | | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, section 45 only (in force by |

| Land Tax Deferment Act | June 17/21 | Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures Implementation</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Property Transfer Tax Act | RETRO to Apr. 20/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 57 and 58 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 4, c. 18, sections 56, 59 and 56 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Budget Measures</u> <u>Implementation Act, 2021</u> |
| Residential Tenancy Act | June 17/21 | by 2021 Bill 11, c. 17, section 6 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |
| | July 1/21 | by 2021 Bill 7, c. 1, sections 13 to 18 only (in force by Royal Assent), <u>Tenancy Statutes Amendment</u> <u>Act, 2021</u> |

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