

JANUARY 2023 MONTH IN REVIEW

Prince Edward Island

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19

Dec 1: Even though flu and RSV infections are on the rise, PEI ended mandatory isolation for COVID-19 cases. The government is still strongly recommending isolation, particularly for persons with respiratory ailments or who are otherwise at heightened risk of severe outcomes.

Action Point: Use the HRI template to create your own workplace infectious illness [exposure control plan](#)

Leaves of Absence

Dec 10: Temporary emergency leave granted to workers for COVID-19 is now permanent. Under new *Employment Standards Act* regulations, employees may take unpaid emergency leave for not only COVID but also other respiratory ailments like influenza when a doctor or nurse practitioner advises them to stay home.

Labour Standards

Dec 8: The government published the most recent version of the “What You Should Know About the Prince Edward Island Employment Standards Act” [poster](#) (DPCEC-3081) on its website.

Workers Comp

Dec 1: The PEI Assembly passed [Bill 68](#) to increase workers comp benefits.
Highlights:

- Coverage of cremation or memorial services for workers killed on the job
- Lump sum payment to dead worker's spouse and dependent children increased from 40% to 100% of maximum annual earnings
- Wage loss benefits of 90% of injured worker's lost earning capacity payable for accidents on or after Jan. 1, 2023.