

AUGUST 2023 MONTH IN REVIEW

Prince Edward Island

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minimum Wage

Oct 1: PEI will implement a general minimum wage increase for the second time this year. After last April's 40-cent increase, the minimum wage will go up another 60 cents to \$16.00 per hour.

Immigration

Aug 28: PEI will begin phasing in the [*Temporary Foreign Worker Protection Act*](#) that it enacted in May 2022 but hasn't yet enforced, starting with mandatory licensing for employment agencies that recruit foreign workers, followed by implementation of the new foreign worker recruiter agency registry. Although [draft regulations](#) are in place, official effective dates haven't yet been announced.

Action Point: Find out about the 10 things employers [need to know about hiring temporary foreign workers](#)

Labour Relations

Aug 8: PEI signed what the government is calling a "historic" 5-year agreement with physicians in the province. Key terms include recognition of Family Medicine as a specialty, pay increases for family physicians and specialist physicians of all kinds, a new incentive program for family physicians who care for a patient load (panel) above their expected benchmark and administrative changes designed to free up

physicians to spend more time on patients and less time on paperwork.

New Laws

Aug 19: PEI received over \$9 million from the federal government under the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) to be used for development of infrastructure across the province. PEI will receive a second CCBF payment of approximately \$9 million at the end of the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Health & Safety

Aug 22: The PEI WCB issued [new guidance](#) to help employers keep the workplace sober and prevent impaired workers from endangering co-workers, members of the public and themselves. Key recommendation: Implement a workplace impairment policy.

Action Point: Find out how to [effectively control substance abuse](#) at your workplace