

Update Bill 100 – An Act to Establish a Unified Labor Board

As you may know the Chamber has been actively engaged with other business community representatives stating concerns regarding Bill 100 (see Chamber website for letters and presentation to Law Amendments). A prime concern was the lack of consultation on additions to Bill 100 which we felt could seriously impact private sector opportunity in the province when contracting with the public sector.

The Minister of Labour and Workforce Development met with business stakeholders and opened the door for clarification on this issue. The Bill has now passed in the Legislature and while there are still some areas that will need testing, government has amended the Bill and provided a degree of comfort for the business community.

For example:

- Language has been made more explicit that successor rights will not extend to procurement or impact the contracting-out of services.

- The Labour Management Review Committee (LMRC) will not deal with the Labour Standards Code or the Occupational Health and Safety Act, it will only deal with the Trade Union Act. While this will include certification, government's amendment includes a requirement of the LMRC to consult non-unionized workplaces in areas that impact non-unionized workplaces.

- Government has added a new clause outlining that the Minister may consult on the issues the Bill addresses, in addition to other labour relations issues. At the core of this issue lays the concern that the LMRC, regardless of its members, should not be the only funnel through which the Minister (government) receives input into decision-making.

This initiative showed the solidarity of the business community and to give due credit the responsiveness on the part of government to this business community.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,
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