

Up, up, and away! The minimum wage across the country is on the rise!

Employers in Ontario, Alberta, Newfoundland, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan should be prepared for an increase to the minimum wage effective October 1, 2015.

As previously reported in our Alert from February 2014, beginning October 1, 2015, the minimum wage in Ontario will be adjusted annually in accordance with a formula based on the Consumer Price Index. The new wage rates will be announced annually on April 1, with an effective date of October 1. Therefore, effective October 1, 2015, the minimum wage in Ontario will be \$11.25 per hour.

Similar to Ontario, Alberta's minimum wage is also set to continue rising. As of October 1, 2015, the minimum wage in Alberta will be \$11.20 per hour. This is the new NDP government's first step towards implementing a \$15.00 per hour minimum wage by 2018.

The government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced an increase to the minimum wage to \$10.50 per hour effective October 1, 2015, with promises to conduct a further review of the minimum wage. While no additional information about the review is available at this time, we anticipate a further increase to minimum wage in this province given the trend across the country.

Manitoba and Saskatchewan employers will also experience an increase to the minimum wage effective October 1, 2015. In Manitoba, the minimum wage will increase to \$11.00 per hour, and in Saskatchewan, the minimum wage will increase to \$10.50 per hour.

We will continue to monitor minimum wage changes and will provide you with timely updates. In the interim, below is a reminder of the general minimum wage rates across Canada.

Province	General Minimum Wage Rate	Effective Date
British Columbia	\$10.45	September 15, 2015
Alberta	\$11.20	October 1, 2015
Saskatchewan	\$10.50	October 1, 2015
Manitoba	\$11.00	October 1, 2015

Ontario	\$11.25	October 1, 2015
Quebec	\$10.55	May 1, 2015
New Brunswick	\$10.30	December 31, 2014
Nova Scotia	\$10.60	April 1, 2015
Prince Edward Island	\$10.50	July 1, 2015
Newfoundland	\$10.50	October 1, 2015
Northwest Territories	\$12.50	June 1, 2015
Yukon	\$10.86	April 1, 2015
Nunavut	\$11.00	January 1, 2011

If you have any questions about the minimum wage, please do not hesitate to contact e2r and arrange to speak with one of our advisors.

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