

## ***Economy is in a slump, but the minimum wage continues to rise!***

Employers in Ontario, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Prince Edward Island should now be complying with the new increased minimum wage effective October 1, 2016.

Since October 1, 2015, the minimum wage in Ontario is adjusted annually in accordance with a formula based on the Consumer Price Index. The new wage rates are announced annually on April 1, with an effective date of October 1. Therefore, effective October 1, 2016, the minimum wage in Ontario is now \$11.40 per hour.

Similar to Ontario, Saskatchewan's minimum wage is also tied to the Consumer Price Index. Accordingly, effective October 1, 2016, the minimum wage in Saskatchewan is now \$10.72 per hour.

Alberta's minimum wage is also set to continue rising. As of October 1, 2016, the minimum wage in Alberta is now \$12.20 per hour. This is part of the NDP government's plan to implement a \$15.00 per hour minimum wage by October 1, 2018. This is the highest jump in minimum wage we have seen across all of the provinces.

Finally, on October 1, 2016, Prince Edward Island introduced its second of two (2) wage increases in 2016. Accordingly, minimum wage in this province is now \$11.00 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	\$10.85	September 15, 2016
Alberta	\$12.20	October 1, 2016
Saskatchewan	\$10.72	October 1, 2016
Manitoba	\$11.00	October 1, 2015
Ontario	\$11.40	October 1, 2016

Quebec	\$10.75	May 1, 2016
New Brunswick	\$10.65	April 1, 2016
Nova Scotia	\$10.70	April 1, 2016
Prince Edward Island	\$11.00	October 1, 2016
Newfoundland	\$10.50	October 1, 2015
Northwest Territories	\$12.50	June 1, 2015
Yukon	\$11.07	April 1, 2016
Nunavut	\$13.00	April 1, 2016

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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