

Straith & Company

Minimum Wage

Premier Clark recently announced that the current minimum wage will increase from \$8.00 per hour to \$10.25 by May 2012.

The increase will be implemented in three stages:

- \$8.75/hour on May 1, 2011;
- \$9.50/hour on November 1, 2011; and
- \$10.25/hour on May 1, 2012

The restaurant and hospitality sector will have a slightly lower minimum wage for alcohol servers who work in licensed establishments. The new minimum rates for alcohol servers will be:

- \$8.50/hour on May 1, 2011;
- \$8.75/hour on November 1, 2011; and
- \$9.00/hour on May 1, 2012.

Employers should review their wage rates to ensure that they are in compliance with these rates. These rates apply to both the unionized and non-union sectors of the province.

Employers in the food and beverage industry should review the reduced rate for alcohol servers to ensure job duties qualify them for that rate.