



# BRITISH COLUMBIA LAW INSTITUTE

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## MEDIA RELEASE BCLI ISSUES REPORT ON THE *EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ACT*

*for immediate release*

**Vancouver – 10 December 2018.** The BC Law Institute (BCLI) issued a report today on reform of the *Employment Standards Act*. The 300-page report containing 71 recommendations for changes to the Act is the final product of BCLI's Employment Standards Act Reform Project. The project has been underway since 2014 with support from labour and business organizations, the Law Foundation of BC, and the BC Ministry of Labour.

"This report is the first comprehensive review of the *Employment Standards Act* from a neutral, independent perspective in nearly a quarter of a century," said Tom Beasley, chairperson of the all-volunteer Project Committee. "Employment legislation not only has to catch up with the transformative changes that have occurred in the workplace in recent years, but also meet the needs of the next several decades. Reviews of legislation in this depth are few and far between."

The *Employment Standards Act* provides minimum standards for terms of employment and working conditions, and the framework for a complaint and enforcement process. It applies to most employees and workplaces in the province. The BCLI project was aimed at re-modelling the Act to maintain basic standards for fair working environments in the face of new kinds of non-standard working relationships, replacement of full-time, permanent employment by more precarious forms of work, and other paradigm shifts resulting from digital technology and globalization, among other influences.

The [\*Report on the Employment Standards Act\*](#) was preceded by a consultation paper published earlier this year to gather public comment on reform proposals. Reaction to the consultation paper was analyzed before decisions were made on the final recommendations embodied in the report.

BCLI is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improvement of the law.

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