



LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

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B.C. HUMAN RIGHTS CODE – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

On July 20, 2016, British Columbia Minister of Justice, Suzanne Anton, announced that the provincial government will introduce legislation next week that will explicitly protect gender identity and gender expression in the B.C. Human Rights Code.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The prohibition against discrimination on the basis of sex under the BC Human Rights Code (the Code) currently extends protection from discrimination to transgendered individuals. However, the purpose of the proposed amendments is to explicitly provide protection under the Code.

Minister Anton noted that this amendment “will reflect the current state of law in our province and will align with human rights legislation across the country, including Canada’s proposed Bill to add ‘gender identity or expression’ to the Canadian Human Rights Act.” The Ministry of Justice’s news release can be found at: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2016JAG0022-001319>

We will provide more information as it becomes available.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any comments or questions about this update please contact Karen Jewell, Division Manager Base Services & Compensation at 604-432-6228 or by email at Karen.jewell@metrovancover.org.