

## FUNDAMENTALS OF EMPLOYMENT LAW FOR DOCTORS





# DISCLAIMERS

- Legal information, not legal advice
- No lawyer/client relationship
- Discretion should be used
- Laws change quickly!



### **Learning Goals**

Understand the role of the *Employment*Standards Act

Increased understanding of some key employment law issues & avoiding pitfalls

Better understand what is needed to set-up the workplace for success

**Diversity, Equality & Inclusion "DEI"** 

New legislative updates impacting the workplace

Understand the importance of employment agreements







### **EMPLOYMENT RULES & RIGHTS**

- Employment Standards Act of BC the "ESA"
  - minimum standards
  - For vacation, how & when stats are paid, leaves, severance, work hours and overtime
  - includes Regulations which modifies the rights of others who are covered and excludes others from ESA
  - Employee vs. Independent Contractor
  - Contract Employee (limited term, not an Independent Contractor)



### **COMMON QUESTIONS**

#### **Overtime**

Am I required to pay Overtime?

What about if my employee is on a salary?

What about if the office is only open for 4 days a week and employees work 4 x 10-hour days but never over 40 hours per week?



## TERMINATING AN EMPLOYEE

- Notice of Termination
- Without cause vs. Just cause
- Considerations
- Caution!



# Legislative Updates

**New Paid Sick Leave** 

New National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Statutory holiday

Pay Transparency Act







# DIVERSITY, EQUALITY, INCLUSION – "DEI"

- What is it?
- How do you know if you need a DEI Plan?
- Unconscious bias (or implicit bias)
- What does a DEI Plan look like?



## SETTING THE WORKPLACE UP FOR SUCCESS

The Importance of Employment Agreements & Associate Agreements



### **GET IT IN WRITING!**

- What written agreements can include:
  - clarity and sets the tone
  - limit liability for severance
  - sets expectations and obligations for each party eg: vacation, benefits, work location, work hours
  - protects IP, confidentiality, non-solicitation of staff
  - clarify file ownership, custody and enduring access.
- For Employers ...
- For Associates ...
- For Both ...



### **TAKEAWAYS**

- Know the ESA
- Workplace Issues Brewing: Be proactive
- Caution in managing discipline & terminations
- Employment Agreements



## www.westcoastworkplacelaw.ca







