Human Resources Legislative Update

Rules Amending Federal Courts Rules Registered

Date: March 1, 2013

On February 8, 2013, the federal government registered Rules Amending the Federal Courts Rules ("Rules"). The Rules are the result of a consultation process and are housekeeping in nature.

Among other things, the Rules give greater flexibility to the Chief Justice to schedule motions days, specify formatting requirements for documents, set out exceptions to general procedures for *ex parte* motions, eliminate the need to file an affidavit attaching the certified record in subsections 309(2) and 310(2) of the Federal Courts Rules (Part 5 Applications) and provide for respondents to appear in support of an application (not just in opposition to it).

The Rules (except for paragraphs 34(1)(*b*) and (*c*)) came into force on the date of registration, or February 8, 2013.