Human Resources Legislative Update

Amendments to SIN and Privacy Codes Contained in Federal Budget Bill Now in Force

Date: March 4, 2013

The federal government has fixed March 1, 2013 as the day Division 7 Part 4, sections 304 to 308 and 310 to 312 and sections 685 and 687 to 695 of the Jobs, Growth and Long-term Prosperity Act ("JGLPA") come into force.

Division 7 Part 4 of the JGLPA consolidates the Privacy Codes of the Department of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada ("HRSDC") and makes corresponding amendments to the Department of Human Resources and Skills Development Act ("Act") the Canada Pension Plan and the Old Age Security Act. Consequential amendments are also made to the Access to Information Act and the Income Tax Act.

Pursuant to sections 304 to 308 and 310 to 312 of the JGLPA, the Act is amended to include terms relating to the Social Insurance Number ("SIN"). Among other things, the HRSDC may maintain a Social Insurance Register ("SIR") which contains SIN information and the production of SIN cards will be allowed to end. These sections also contain SIN-related amendments to, among other statutes, the Canada Pension Plan, the Employment Insurance Act and the Wage Earner Protection Program Act.