Human Resources Legislative Update

Federal Budget Bill Tabled, Changes To Temporary Foreign Worker Program Announced

Date: April 30, 2013

On April 29, 2013, the federal government tabled Bill C-60, <u>Economic Action Plan 2013 Act, No. 1</u>, omnibus legislation giving effect to some of its <u>Budget 2013 initiatives</u>.

In conjunction with the tabling of Bill C-60 and further to its Budget 2013 initiative to ensure that Canadians have first priority at job opportunities when they become available, <u>the federal government also announced</u> significant modifications to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program ("TFWP") through legislative, regulatory and administrative changes. In this regard, Bill C-60 would, if passed, amend the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* to include the following:

- permit the revocation of a temporary foreign work permit where justified by public policy considerations;
- permit the Department of Human Resources and Skills Development to revoke or suspend a labour market opinion ("LMO") or refuse to process a request for such an opinion where justified by public policy considerations;
- allow fees to be paid for rights and privileges conferred by means of a work permit; and
- exempt from the User Fees Act payment of a fee for the processing of an application for a temporary resident visa, work permit, study permit or extension of an authorization to remain in Canada as a temporary resident.