Human Resources Legislative Update

Employment Standards Blitzes Announced for Ontario Workplaces

Date: June 19, 2013

The Ontario Ministry of Labour has announced that it will conduct province-wide blitzes under the *Employment Standards Act, 2000* ("Act") as a proactive enforcement measure to ensure compliance with the Act.

From May 2013 to August 2013, the blitzes will focus on vulnerable workers in certain sectors including manufacturing and distribution, construction and recreation.

From October to December 2013, the blitzes will focus on the retail sector, including gas stations, retail chains and other retail or grocery services.

Employment standards blitzes targeting certain sectors will also be conducted in specified local areas. Among other areas, this will include a Central West Local Blitz (Simcoe, Peel, Dufferin, York) targeting retirement and long-term care facilities from July 2013 to December 2013 and a West Local Blitz (Hamilton, Kitchener-Waterloo, Wellington/Cambridge, London, Windsor, Niagara) targeting retirement homes from January to March 2014.