

FREE Webinar: EP 49

Getting HR Law Compliant for 2024.

Wednesday, Feb 21 , 2024 10:30 a.m. E.S.T.

<u>Spring</u> LAW

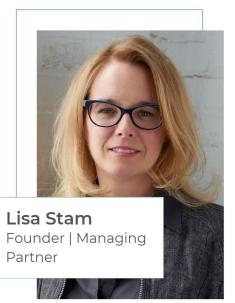




Meet Your Presenters

<u>Spring</u> LAW

Ben Currie Employment, Labour & Contracts Lawyer



Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and that this territory is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. **Legal Disclaimers**

Timmy doesn't need a disclaimer but we do...



Trusted virtual counsel wherever your workplace

www.springlaw.ca

Legal Disclaimers

www.springlaw.ca

We're lawyers and know that legal disclaimers are never fun to read, but sometimes necessary to have. To clarify the legal scope and intent of our webinars, here are our general legal disclaimers that apply to all SpringLaw videos, webinars and content on our YouTube channel:

- 1) The content of this webinar should not be relied upon as legal advice. If you require legal advice, please contact one of SpringLaw's lawyers, or you may wish to consult with the <u>Law Society of Ontario</u> for a listing of lawyers in Ontario.
- 2) Attending, accessing or viewing any SpringLaw webinars does not create a lawyer-client relationship with anyone at SpringLaw. That will only happen after you formally sign a Legal Services Agreement with us.
- 3) You should apply your own judgement in making any use of any content from our webinars, including the use of the information as the basis for any conclusions. Every case and set of facts is different and unique to you our videos are informational only.
- 4) The law changes quickly in Canada. We do not guarantee that the content of our recorded webinar videos is accurate, complete or up-to-date given how quickly the law can change. SpringLaw assumes no obligation to update the content. We assume no responsibility for errors or omissions in the content or other documents that are referenced by or linked to in our videos. The content of this webinar may be changed without notice to you.

Please contact us at info@springlaw.ca if you have any questions about any of our content or your legal matter generally.

Trusted virtual counsel wherever your workplace

5

Presentation Roadmap

- Required policies
- Required training
- Additional obligations
- Required postings
- Takeaways

Required Policies



Required Policies

- Electronic monitoring
- Disconnect from work
- Workplace violence and harassment
- Health and safety
- Accessibility

Required Policies : Electronic monitoring

- Required if employer has 25 or more employees in Ontario
- Must describe how and in what circumstances the employer electronically monitors employees and the purposes for which information obtained through electronic monitoring is used by the employer
- "Electronic monitoring" is not defined in the Employment Standards Act ("ESA"), but guidance from Employment Standards suggests it will be broadly interpreted (not just video surveillance)
- Does not create an additional right to privacy requirement is for transparency only

Required Policies : Disconnect from Work

- Although the policy is required, the ESA does not require specific content
- May state employees are not required to check emails or respond to work outside core working hours, but content and expectations will differ heavily based on the industry
- Does not create a legal right for employees to disconnect from work

Required Policies : Workplace Violence and Harassment

- Broad definitions of workplace violence and workplace harassment in the Occupational Health and Safety Act
- Employer must conduct risk assessment for workplace violence
- Includes domestic violence policy
- Policy requirements include procedures for reporting incidents and complaints, investigations, and reporting results of investigations
- Although not strictly required, anti-discrimination policy recommended

Required Policies : Health and Safety

- Required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act, but employer is free to determine content
- Policy would likely cover employer's commitment to safety, information about occupational health and safety postings, and the joint occupational health and safety committee (if applicable)

Required Policies : Accessibility

- Comes from Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005
- Based on the size of the employer, there are requirements for a policy and accessibility plan
- Requirements for statements in the recruitment process regarding the employer's commitment to accessibility in hiring
- Compliance reporting requirements for many employers became due December 31, 2023

Required Training



Required Training

- Occupational Health and Safety
- Workplace violence and harassment policy

15

www.springlaw.ca

Required Training : Occupational Health and Safety

- Basic training program for workers as well as a supervisor training program
- At least 1 employer representative and 1 worker member of the joint occupational health and safety committee must be certified by the Chief Prevention Officer under the Occupational Health and Safety Act through an approved training program

Required Training : Workplace Violence and Harassment Policy

• Employees must be trained on the employer's workplace violence and harassment policy

Additional obligations



Additional obligations

- Joint occupational health and safety committee (depending on number of employees)
- Pay equity

Additional obligations : Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee

- 1-5 employees: not required
- 6-19 employees: required with one worker representative
- 20-49 employees: required with two members (1 employer and 1 worker)
- 50+ employees: required with four members (at least half of which must be worker representatives)

Additional obligations : Pay equity

- Pay Equity Act:
 - Conduct job and pay rate comparisons for all genders in each job class using job-to-job and/or proportional value method of comparison
 - Identify and adjust the compensation of underpaid genders in each job class so that they are paid at least as much as an equal or comparable rate as others in that job class
 - Applies to all public sector employers and private sector employers with 100 or more employees
- ESA
- Human Rights Codes
- What is pay transparency?

www.springlaw.ca

Required Postings



Required Postings

- Employment standards poster
- Occupational health and safety poster
- Occupational Health and Safety Act
- Health and safety policy
- Workplace violence and harassment policy
- Workers' compensation poster
- Pay equity plans for certain employers
- WHMIS for employers who store hazardous products on site
- Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 if the employer has an "enclosed workplace".





Next Steps

- Audit your gaps
- Prioritize the Must-Haves
- Identify Internal & External Resources

2024 Compliance Program



Trusted virtual counsel wherever your workplace

www.springlaw.ca

Key Takeaways

- Rome was not built in a day
- Zero in on the legal liabilities first, nice-to-haves after that
- Prioritize for your workplace
- Download our free HR Compliance Checklist
 <u>Click here to download your free copy today!</u>

www.springlaw.ca

Questions?

To learn more about our team: springlaw.ca/team/

To connect with our legal team:

- Lisa Stam Istam@springlaw.ca
- Marnie Baizley mbaizley@springlaw.ca
- Matt Chapman mchapman@springlaw.ca
- Tiffany Thomas tthomas@spring.ca
- Lexa Cutler lcutler@springlaw.ca
- Ben Currie bcurrie@springlaw.ca
- Gaya Murti gmurti@springlaw.ca
- Lindsay Koruna Ikoruna@springlaw.ca

Sign up for future **SpringForward Legal Updates**: springlaw.ca/employers/springforward-legal-updates/

Sign up for our monthly **Newsletter:** www.springlaw.ca









TIFFANY THOMAS

LEXA CUTLER

AMANDA

TERMEULEN



JESSICA RAPOSO





GAYA MURTI

LINDSAY KORUNA





THANK YOU!