

23 February 2024,

Dear Premier,

We are writing to express concerns regarding the current timeline for consultation on the proposed changes to the Labour Relations Code of British Columbia. While we appreciate the government's efforts to seek input from stakeholders, we believe that the allocated period of 30 days for consultation is insufficient to allow for meaningful engagement.

The Labour Relations Code governs critical aspects of our province's labor relations, impacting workers, employers, and the broader community. Given the significance and complexity of potential changes, it is imperative to ensure that all relevant stakeholders have ample time to provide thorough and thoughtful feedback.

We noted with interest on February 1 when the Ministry of Labour announced that a panel had been appointed to review and provide recommendations for potential amendments to the Labour Relations Code (LRC) with a report due back by May 31, 2024.

We understand and appreciate both the legislative requirement and the principle of good governance behind regular reviews of the Labour Relations Code. Unfortunately, it was not clear in the [original communications by government](#) to some stakeholders that the deadline for submissions by organizations and employer interests is March 1, less than 30 days from when the panel was appointed and the review was announced.

Your government has been extremely active in seeking substantial change on a multitude of issues. **We are collectively requesting an additional 30 – 60 days of consultation to allow for a more inclusive and comprehensive dialogue**, ensuring that all perspectives are considered and valued. In 2018, under the last review, there was more than a six-month process of consultation and eight months between the announcement of the Panel and the public release of the report. We respectfully submit that 30 days is too short given the substance of the Review.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We remain hopeful that you will give due consideration to our request and take the necessary steps to facilitate a more meaningful and inclusive consultation process.

Sincerely,

Undersigned associations;



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BOARD OF TRADE

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President and CEO



BCRFA

Ian Tostenson
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Copies to:

The Honourable Harry Bains, Minister of Labour

Shannon Salter, Deputy Minister to the Premier, Cabinet Secretary

Matt Smith, Chief of Staff

Trevor Hughes, Deputy Minister of Labour