

Beat: Business

## **BRITISH COLUMBIA Holds the Line on Previously-announced MIINIMUM WAGE INCREASES**

**The New British Columbia Government**

PARIS - VANCOUVER, 19.08.2017, 19:07 Time

**USPA NEWS** - The New British Columbia Government confirmed it won't tinker with the Previously-announced \$.50 increases to BC's General Minimum Wage and Liquor Server Wage. Effective Sept. 15, the General Minimum Wage will increase from \$10.85 to \$11.35 and the Liquor Server Wage will increase from \$9.60 to \$10.10....

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"Restaurants Canada supports reasonable Minimum Wage Increases that ensure our Employees keep up with the Cost of Living, are announced well in advance to give Businesses time to adjust, and do not trigger Large Menu Price Increases or a reduction in Entry-level Employment," said von Schellwitz. "We're concerned when Governments move too quickly and at the Wrong Time, as it hurts Businesses, Customers and Employees."

"The association doesn't want to see a repeat of the Job Losses in Alberta, where an arbitrary push for a \$15 minimum Wage cost more than 4,700 hHspitality Industry Jobs in 2016 alone, and where the Youth Unemployment Rate spiked to over 14%. "

"Our Members are equally concerned by the Ontario Government's about-face on Minimum Wage Policy, moving abruptly from linking Minimum Wage increases to the Cost of Living, to pushing for a \$15 minimum wage in just 18 months. This Decision, combined with other Labour Reforms, is putting 187,000 Jobs at risk, 17,300 in the Rerestaurant and Hotel Industries alone. It will also double Inflation, increase Household Costs for Consumer Goods and Services by \$1,300 a Year, and increase Deficits for all Levels of Government."

"Restaurants Canada is pleased that the BC government is maintaining the previously-announced 2017 Minimum Wage increases that small Businesses have been preparing for. We look forward to working with the New Government and Fair Wages Commission on future Minimum Wage Increases that raise Wages without costing Entry-level Employment opportunities," concluded Von Schellwitz."

Source : Restaurants Canada

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