

AUGUST 2024 MONTH IN REVIEW

Prince Edward Island

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHMIS

Aug 13: The PEI WCB published [guidance](#) to train health care, lab, cleaning, and other workers who are exposed to injury from handling, using, storing, and disposing of needles and syringes. Such injuries may result in hepatitis B, HIV, and other significant infection when needles are contaminated with blood or other bodily fluid.

Action Point: Find out how to implement a [Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control & Compliance Game Plan](#) at your workplace.

Emergency Response

Aug 1: With Hurricane Season heating up, PEI announced that it will invest over \$1.5 million to ensure a ready supply of generators to fuel stations and general stores across the province so that they'll be able to operate when the power goes out. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has predicted an above-average hurricane season, with an estimated 17 to 25 named storms, 8 to 13 hurricanes and 4 to 7 major hurricanes in the North Atlantic.

Action Point: Ensure that your company is [properly prepared for hurricanes and other workplace emergencies](#).

Drugs & Alcohol

Jul 23: PEI is now offering free naloxone kits in community pharmacies across the province. Naloxone kits (intramuscular) are now available in public-facing areas of at least [37 participating pharmacies](#), along with information about how to recognize the signs of an opioid-related overdose, how to respond, and where to get naloxone training.

Action Point: Find out [how to implement a workplace Naloxone Program to prevent opioid overdose deaths at your site.](#)

Workplace Harassment

Jul 8: The PEI WCB confirmed that it will broaden workers' comp coverage to psychological injuries resulting from work-related harassment, starting January 1, 2025. Current workers' comp rules cover only psychological injuries resulting from traumatic events. One percent of all claims accepted by the WCB were for psychological injuries in 2023.

Action Point: Find out [how to make your workplace psychologically safe.](#)

Workers' Comp

Aug 26: Comments closed on [proposed changes](#) to WCB Policy POL-58, "Cost Relief to Employers," which lays out the rules for sharing total costs of a work-related injury between the employer and the employer's rate group. Key changes include clarification that self-insured employers aren't eligible for cost relief.