

SEPTEMBER 2023 MONTH IN REVIEW

New Brunswick

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Work Injuries

Jul 18: According to WorkSafeNB's <u>2022 Annual Report</u>, the lost-time injury claim rate remained at 1.2 per 100 workers, while lost time claims decreased from 4,273 to 4,229. There were 10 fatalities, a 3-year low. After dropping slightly last year, psychological injury claims spiked from 135 to 179. There were 10 OHS prosecutions resulting in \$225,650 in fines.

Mental Health

Jul 11: New Brunswick launched a free new hotline (reachable at 1-866-355-5550) that residents with mental health and addictions issues can call 24 hours a day to speak to clinical therapists, registered nurses, social workers and other "care coaches."

Workers Comp

Aug 8: WorkSafeNB began <u>public consultations</u> on whether to seek changes to the *Workers Compensation Act* that would make post-traumatic stress disorder presumptively work-related when diagnosed in a correctional officer after a work-related incident. The same presumption already applies to police officers, firefighters and paramedics.

Action Point: Find out about workers comp coverage of PTSD and mental stress

