

OCTOBER 2023 MONTH IN REVIEW

# Northwest Territories

## **LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Emergency Response**

Sep 8: The GNWT adjusted the Evacuee Income Disruption Support (EISD) program to ensure that residents who suffered disruption to their income as a result of being forced to evacuate for more than 7 days due to the recent wildfires receive the full \$750 one-time payment. Previously, the government was applying a 10% withholding tax.

**Action Point:** Implement a [wildfire smoke protection game plan](#) at your outdoor site

### **New Laws**

Aug 28: The GNWT announced that it will provide Evacuation Travel Support Program funding to residents who, by order, evacuated their homes by road due to wildfire of \$750 per vehicle evacuated to a southern jurisdiction and \$400 per vehicle evacuated within the NWT. Evacuees will also be eligible to register for re-entry flights paid for by the government.

### **OHS Inspections**

Sep 1: At its upcoming governance meeting, WSCC is expected to approve policy changes that affect [Policy 09.06](#), which explains the methods the agency uses to carry out OHS workplace inspections using Virtual and Desktop technology.

**Action Point:** Implement an [OHS inspections policy](#) in case inspectors show up at your door

## New Laws

Aug 28: The GNWT is expanding the Support for Entrepreneurs and Economic Development (SEED) Policy to allow for contributions of up to \$5,000 to offset operational costs incurred by small businesses as a result of the recent wildfires. Businesses that have already received SEED wildfire relief funding can receive up to the \$5,000 funding limit provided that they continue to meet program criteria

## New Laws

Aug 14: According to a [new government report](#), the territories achieved many of its goals in boosting immigration levels from 2018 to 2022. Highlights: 363 approved Employer Driven Stream nominations, overall applications increased from 61 to 142 and applications approved rose from 28 to 105 over the same period.

## New Laws

Sep 3: The GNWT completed [public consultations](#) on proposed changes to the *Disease Surveillance Regulations* that would update the list of reportable diseases, expand mandatory reporting of personal information for purposes of assessing risk of particular genetic diseases and create a new Chronic Disease Register.

**Action Point:** Use the [OHSI Infection Exposure Control Plan](#) template to prevent infectious illnesses at your workplace