

JULY 2024 MONTH IN REVIEW

Saskatchewan

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Laws

Jul 1: New legislation called *The Immigration Services Act* took effect to streamline Saskatchewan's immigration laws and beef up its ability to oversee and enforce laws protecting foreign workers from exploitation.

Accessibility

May 29: To recognize [National AccessAbility Week](#), Saskatchewan announced that it will publish its first Accessibility Plan on December 3. Based on the results of the recent public accessibility consultations, the Plan will outline actions to remove and prevent accessibility barriers that persons with disabilities experience when using government facilities, programs, and services.

Action Point: [Find out more](#) about how accessibility requirements affect your OHS program.

Hazardous Chemicals

Jul 10: New pest control rules took effect in Saskatchewan. [The Plant Health Act](#), which replaces *The Pest Control Act*, deregulates pests like clubroot and some endemic species, while adding potato wart as a new pest. Various pest control regulations were consolidated into *The Plant Health Regulations* to simplify the framework.

Action Point: Find out how to implement a [WHMIS Training Compliance Game Plan](#) at your workplace.

Environmental

Jun 25: The cold war between Saskatchewan and Ottawa continues. The province announced that it will not comply with the federal *Clean Electricity Regulations* when they take effect, citing a report suggesting that the CER would stunt Saskatchewan's economic growth by \$7.1 billion and cost it at least 4,200 jobs. According to the province's press release, "the onus is now on the federal government to prove the constitutionality of the CER before it imposes these regulations on Saskatchewan."

Environmental

Jun 27: Saskatchewan's upstream oil and gas sector reported lower greenhouse gas emissions for the fourth year in a row. According to the new government annual report, emissions from reported venting and flaring at upstream oil facilities in 2023 were 3.6 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, 67% less than 2015 levels and 6% below 2022 levels.

CASES

Fall Protection: Construction Company Fined \$25,000 for Fall Protection Violation

A construction company was fined \$25,000 after pleading guilty to failing to ensure that workers at risk of falling 3 or more metres use a fall protection system stemming from an incident in which a worker fell to the ground after removing slings from a set of trusses and suffered serious injuries. The government dropped 3 other charges as part of the plea bargain [*Builder Brothers Construction Inc.*, [Govt. News Release](#), July 5, 2024].

Action Point: Find out how to implement a legally sound [Fall Protection Compliance Game Plan](#) at your site.