

## MARCH 2024 MONTH IN REVIEW

# Yukon

### **LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Fire Safety**

Mar 8: This summer, Yukon will have 24 wildfire crews in regional bases spread out across the territory. Two air tanker groups and helicopters will provide support for the ground crews. The good news is that Yukon hasn't had to deal with holdover fires the way many other parts of Canada have this offseason.

**Action Point:** Find out how to implement a [Wildfire Smoke Protection Game Plan](#) at your outdoor workplace

#### **Drugs & Alcohol**

Mar 13: Under [Bill 35](#), which is now through Third Reading, Yukon would enter into an agreement with Ottawa to double the current federal tax on vaping products sold in the territory. In addition to discouraging vaping, the extra tax will lard Yukon's coffers since it will receive 50% of all revenues collected in the territory. Yukon wouldn't add its own tax to these products under the agreement, which would take effect as early as January 1, 2025.

**Action Point:** Take 5 steps to [prevent workplace smoking](#) and vaping and avoid fines under smoke-free laws

#### **Discipline/Work Refusal/Retaliation**

Feb 28: Yukon published a [What We Heard report](#) of its findings from recent public hearings reviewing the *Public Interest Disclosure of Wrongdoing Act*. The law is designed to protect public employees against reprisal for reporting wrongdoing by the agencies they work for. Takeaway: Of the 78 respondents, 55 supported expanding the Act to the private sector.

**Action Point:** Find out how to [avoid reprisals liability](#) when disciplining workers for safety violations

## **New Laws**

Feb 20: Yukon and the Canadian Government signed a 4-year agreement that will provide the territory up to \$3.65 million to promote integration of Internationally Educated Health Professionals into Yukon's economy. Under the arrangement, the territory will take steps to create a Yukon territorial licensure regulatory process and Yukon Foreign Credential Recognition Centre to support employers and immigrants in the healthcare sector.