

## OCTOBER 2024 MONTH IN REVIEW

# Yukon

### LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Transportation Safety

Oct 3: Legislation to increase the penalties for dangerous driving is through Second Reading and on its way to sure passage. [Bill 44](#) would also establish new standards for the condition of vehicles and vehicle equipment and require health professionals to report patients who have medical conditions that may impact their ability to drive.

#### Emergency Response

Oct 8: Yukon announced that it's increasing the honorarium for volunteer firefighters from \$22 to \$30.74 per hour, including hours spent in training. The honorarium increase, which takes effect this month, is the first since 2009.

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

#### New Laws

Sep 26: Yukon and the federal government agreed to renew the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) agreement for 10 years. Yukon will receive over \$200 million in CCBF funding over the life of the deal to support infrastructure development projects across the territory, including \$94.5 million over the first 5 years.

#### Infectious Illnesses

Sep 23: Citing the recent rise in pertussis (whooping cough) cases, Yukon called on residents to stay up to date with their vaccinations. There were 7 reported cases of pertussis in the territories in the past 2 months.

**Action Point:** Use the [OHSI Infection Exposure Control Plan](#) to protect workers from infectious disease.

## **New Laws**

Oct 1: Under Yukon's new agreement with the federal government, foreign nationals living in Yukon with work permits that have expired since May 16, 2024 (or that are set to expire before December 31, 2024) will now be able to apply for a new Yukon-specific work permit that will be valid for up to 2 years.

## **Workers' Comp**

Sep 11: The Yukon WSCB unveiled the 2025 workers' comp assessment rates. The good news: The agency is reducing assessments across all rate groups, with approximately 75% of employers getting a reduction of more than 5%. The maximum annual earnings rate for 2025 will be \$104,975. The agency will also distribute \$10 million in rebates to eligible employers.

## **Workers' Comp**

Sep 11: With the Compensation Fund in a surplus, the Yukon WSCB announced that it will distribute \$10 million in workers' comp rebates to eligible employers before the end of the year.

## **Environmental**

Oct 7: Yukon tabled [Bill 40](#) proposing major changes to the *Clean Energy Act*, including the establishment and implementation of a greenhouse gases emissions intensity reduction target of 45% for the mining sector by 2035. The bill would also bolster climate change reporting requirements for industry.