

New Brunswick

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Transportation Safety

Apr 1: Vehicle registration stickers are no longer required in New Brunswick for passenger, commercial, and off-road vehicles. Customers who have valid stickers on their licence plates don't need to remove them, but new stickers will no longer be issued. Drivers are still required to renew their vehicle registration each year.

Action Point: Find out how far you can go in [disciplining workers for distracted and dangerous driving](#).

New Laws

Mar 25: Newly tabled legislation ([Bill 33](#)) would make it easier for out-of-province tradespeople to work in New Brunswick via automatic recognition of certificates of qualification or equivalency from other provincial and territorial apprenticeship authorities. It would also eliminate the requirement for certified tradespersons from other provinces to apply for an equivalent certificate and pay the associated \$150 fee, as well as the fees for registration (\$25) and prior learning assessment (\$100) fees charged to apprentices registered in Canadian jurisdictions outside New Brunswick.

New Laws

Mar 17: New Brunswick's Budget 2026 calls for reducing Part 1 of the civil service by about 12% over three years, resulting in expected savings of up to \$100 million. The province will also begin collecting tolls on non-New Brunswick vehicles with revenues going to road and bridge maintenance.

New Laws

Mar 24: Second Reading for [Bill 26](#) amending the *Employment Standards Act* to provide employees with more than 90 continuous service unpaid long-term illness and injury leave of up to 27 weeks during any 52-week period. Employees must notify the employer "without delay" of the anticipated leave start date and duration. Leave must be taken in periods of at least one week and employers may require the a certificate of a medical practitioner, nurse practitioner, or midwife certifying that the employee is incapable of working due to illness or injury.

Workplace Violence

Mar 24: Legislation ([Bill 27](#)) making it easier for victims of intimate violence to sue for money damages passed Second Reading. Since 2010, there's been no statute of limitations on filing civil lawsuits for trespass to the person, assault, or battery for acts of a sexual nature. The proposed amendments would expand this to include non-sexual harm that occurred in an intimate personal relationship or in a situation where a person was financially, physically or emotionally dependent on the person who harmed them.

Action Point: Domestic and sexual violence becomes an OHS compliance issue when it happens at the victim's workplace. **Bottom Line:** Simply having a workplace

violence prevention plan isn't enough. You also need to incorporate protections against workplace domestic violence into the prevention plan. Find out how to implement an effective [Workplace Domestic Violence Prevention Plan](#) to protect your own workers.

Workers' Compensation

Mar 18: WorkSafeNB revised [Policy 21-111](#) governing workers' compensation coverage of occupational diseases, defined as any disease peculiar to or characteristic of a particular industrial process, trade, or occupation. The changes provide guidance on whether an identified disease is recognized as an occupational disease in the general population ("population-level causation") and the type of information gathered to determine whether it's more likely than not that the worker's disease is work-related ("individual-level causation").