

Northwest Territories

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Electrical Safety

March 6: *Technical Safety Act* ([Bill 33](#)) amendments establishing safety requirements for elevators and lifts, boilers and pressure vessels, electrical systems, and gas equipment received Royal Assent and will take effect this summer. Northwest Territories thus becomes the fifth jurisdiction to regulate all electrical-mechanical fields under one 'umbrella' Act. The others are Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario, and Québec.

Action Point: Find out how to implement a legally sound [Electrical Safety Compliance Game Plan](#) at your workplace.

Ergonomics

Apr 1: The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission (WSCC) reminded employers of their OHS duty to take ergonomic measures to protect workers against sprains, strains, tears, and other musculoskeletal injuries (MSIs). The three industries with the highest incidents of ergonomic injuries in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are (in order): i. Government organizations; ii. Retail industry and personal care workers; and iii. Construction and trades.

Action Point: Implementing an effective [Ergonomics Safety and Compliance Game Plan](#) is the key to protecting your workers against MSIs and your company against the workers' comp claims they lead to.

Training

Mar 24: The federal CanNor program announced that it will provide up to \$600,000 to the Northern Safety Association to bring 30 workplace health and safety courses online to make them accessible to workers across the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. The new virtual offerings will cover key topics ranging from working around heavy equipment to general well-being and mental wellness.

New Laws

Mar 16: The Government of Northwest Territories (GNWT) released a [What We Heard Report](#) summarizing feedback gathered during engagement on modernizing parts of the *Public Service Act* dealing with union representation for GNWT public servants. While many supported greater employee choice and sector-specific representation, others raised concerns about government involvement, potential risks, and uncertainty.

Drugs & Alcohol

April 24 is the deadline to [comment](#) on a GNWT online survey gathering public

feedback and ideas for improving the territory's mental wellness and addictions recovery services, including the effectiveness of the 811 line.

Action Point: Find out how to use the [OHS Insider Substance Abuse Compliance Game Plan](#) to curb drugs and alcohol at your workplace.

Environmental

Apr 1: The GNWT is now accepting applications for Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund (LCELFL) grants for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel use. Eligible projects include building energy retrofits, renewable and biomass heating systems, fuel switching, waste-to-energy initiatives, methane capture, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Deadline [to apply](#): March 31, 2027.