

Nunavut

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Machine Safety

Jul 1: The WSCC issued new [guidance](#) to help employers prevent “struck-by” incidents, which happen when workers make contact with a moving object, tool, or piece of equipment. In 2025, most workers’ compensation claims for struck-by injuries in Nunavut and Northwest Territories involved construction workers, carpenters, mine workers, maintenance workers, nurses, and people who stock shelves.

Action Point: Find out how to prevent struck-by injuries by implementing a legally sound [Machine Guarding Compliance Game Plan at](#) your workplace.

New Laws

Jul 8: The Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor) announced that it’s investing over \$586,000 to rehabilitate and improve the Kangiqsukutaaq Quarry, located on South Baffin Island. The money will be used for quarry expansion, increasing local employment, and ensuring that Nunavut’s renowned carvers have continued and sustainable access to carving stone.

New Laws

Jul 21: The federal government awarded Inuit firm Arctic Fresh Projects Inc. a \$35.6 million contract to construct a 23-unit residential complex in Iqaluit. The procurement is among the first to be completed under the Buy Canadian Policy, with the contract awarded to a Canadian supplier, which will predominantly use Canadian-made steel, aluminum, and lumber in the construction. The project will create up to 55 jobs over the next two years.

Drugs & Alcohol

Jul 22: Nunavut and Northwest Territories decided not to sign the new Canada-wide agreement allowing for direct-to-consumer (DTC) sales of alcohol products across provincial and territorial boundaries due to what they describe as “unique realities.” While both territories support the principles of internal free trade, allowing DTC sales would undermine local alcohol restrictions or prohibitions “that reflect community priorities and cultural values.”

Workers’ Compensation

August 10: August 10 is the final day to submit [applications](#) to the WSCC for OHS Funding Program support. The agency will distribute between \$5,000 to \$250,000 per year, per initiative, to service providers that help Nunavut and Northwest Territories employers improve workplace safety and comply with OHS requirements.

Return To Work

Aug 5: The WSCC completed review of proposed changes to Policy 05.02, Vocational

Rehabilitation Services and Programs. Under current policy, vocational rehabilitation begins with vocational exploration, which is used to develop a vocational rehabilitation plan (VR Plan) identifying the injured worker's return-to-work goals and establishing time frames to obtain suitable work and/or regain employability. The Board of Directors will vote on policy changes at its upcoming governance meeting in September.

Action Point: Find out how to implement a legally sound [Return to Work Compliance Game Plan](#) for injured workers.