

Alberta

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OHS Enforcement

Jun 1: Alberta OHS inspectors will carry out proactive “focused initiative” inspections in these sectors through March 31, 2027: Arenas, autobody, automotive repair, auto dealers, auto wreckers, construction, exhibitions, nail salons, swimming pools, underground garage services, restaurants and catering, hotels and convention centres, daycare centres, steel and metal fabrication, machining, wholesaling, outdoor sports, and recreation.

Action Point: Find out how to implement an [OHS inspections policy](#) in case government inspectors show up at your door.

Incident Reporting

Jun 1: Effective today, Alberta licensed child-care facilities must post on-site notices of high-risk, potentially criminal incidents reported at their programs within one business day (or as soon as reasonably possible) after incidents are reported, in areas visible to parents. A notice will also be posted on alberta.ca with the program name and date on which the incident was reported. Families whose children are involved in such incidents will continue to be notified directly by their respective child-care programs.

Airborne Contaminants

May 1: In 2025, Alberta OHS received the highest number of asbestos-related [potentially serious incident reports](#) since reporting began. Many asbestos exposures happened because asbestos wasn’t identified before work began. Other incidents occurred when work conditions changed and risks weren’t reassessed, or when asbestos information was available but not understood by everyone involved.

Action Point: Find out how to implement a legally sound [Airborne Contaminant Exposure Control Plan](#) at your workplace.

Emergency Response

May 28: New flood mapping studies launched this spring will generate about 260 kilometres of new or updated flood mapping for 10 communities. This is in addition to the nearly 600 kilometres of flood mapping that was already underway across the province. Since 2020, Alberta has completed about 1,900 kilometres of new or updated flood mapping, more than the previous 35 years combined.

Action Point: Find out how to safeguard workers’ health and safety when [dealing with the aftermath of a flood](#).

Seasonal Safety

May 14: Newly passed red tape cutting legislation ([Bill 31](#)) moves Alberta to permanent, year-round Mountain Daylight Time. This spring, British Columbia

became the first Canadian province to end seasonal time change and make the permanent switch to Daylight Savings Time.

Action Point: Studies show that workplace injuries increase during the first three working days after daylight saving time begins each spring due to lingering fatigue and disruption to circadian rhythm. Find out [how to help your workers adjust to daylight saving time changes](#).

Heat Stress

May 1: As summer approaches, Alberta OHS issued [new guidance](#) to help employers safeguard outdoor workers against exposure to heat stress hazards.

Recommendations: Establish a cooling station. Educate workers on heat stress signs and symptoms. Ensure ample supplies of cool water is available. Use a work-rest schedule – where rest is in a cool place – to control the amount of time workers are exposed to the heat.

Action Point: Find out how to implement an effective [Heat Stress Safety & Compliance Game Plan](#) at your workplace.

New Laws

June 17: June 17 is the deadline for Alberta businesses [to apply](#) for Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction (TIER) program funding to upgrade their technology infrastructure, reduce emissions, and boost productivity. TIER funding will make these long-term transformational projects, which generally involve significant upfront investment and long payback periods, more viable for industries to undertake.

New Laws

May 14: Legislation ([Bill 26](#)) to strengthen provincial oversight of employers, foreign worker recruiters, and immigration consultants received Royal Assent.

The *Immigration Oversight Act* requires employers to register with the province before accessing federal temporary foreign worker programs and establishes a licensing system for immigration consultants and foreign worker recruiters.

Action Point: Expect more of your workforce to speak a language other than English and find out [whether OHS laws require you to provide multilingual safety training](#) to your workers.

New Laws

May 12: The Canada–Alberta Workforce Tariff Response program will provide \$68.5 million over three years to support workers and employers in the steel, softwood lumber, and other industrial sectors affected by tariffs. The funding will help more than 7,800 workers in Alberta build new skills and transition into in-demand jobs, including workers whose employers are participating in Employment Insurance (EI) Work-Sharing agreements.

Workers' Compensation

May 5: The Alberta Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) issued a new policy ([Policy 01-00, Part I, Policy Interpretation and Application](#)) providing general guidance on how to interpret and apply the agency's policies.

Environmental

May 14: Royal Assent for [Bill 30](#) establishing a 120-day approval time frame and clear criteria for government approval of major project developments of at least \$250 million. To qualify for expedited approval, projects must align with provincial economic priorities. Project proponents will have to complete the mandatory environmental impact assessment and Indigenous consultation processes.

Environmental

Apr 23: Newly tabled [Bill 31](#), the *Red Tape Reduction Statutes Amendments Act*, 2026, proposes to streamline the process for adding new materials to provincial recycling programs and for designating materials that are banned from landfill disposal. The Bill would also allow irrigation districts to advertise meetings on their websites and communicate via email or mail.

CASES

Machine Safety: Lumber Company Fined \$355,000 for Machine Fatality

A timber worker was using a pike pole to clear a blocked photo eye in a Canter 4 machine. Suddenly, the pole contacted the energized rotating side heads causing the pole to hurtle toward the worker and inflict fatal injury. The victim's employer was fined \$355,000, the highest reported OHS fine in Alberta this year, for a machine safety violation with the money to go to Northwestern Polytechnic to develop a comprehensive training program for new and inexperienced workers in forestry, oil and gas, manufacturing, mining, and agriculture. The Crown dropped 11 other charges under the plea bargain [*Weyerhaeuser Company Limited*, [Govt. Press Release](#), May 26, 2026].

Action Point: Don't let this happen to you!! Find out how to prevent these kinds of injuries and penalties by implementing a legally sound [Machine Guarding Compliance Game Plan](#) at your workplace.

Material Handling: Railway Contractor Fined \$120,000 for Failing to Secure Hydraulic Jack

Workers were completing temporary post-tensioning of a segment of the Valley West LRT Line Expansion project. As one of the jacks pressured up, the concrete crumbled, causing the tensioning bar and jack to strike the worker resulting in serious injuries. The employer was fined \$120,000 after pleading guilty to not taking all reasonable steps to ensure that equipment (a hydraulic jack) was contained, restrained, or protected to eliminate potential danger to workers if the equipment was moved or dislodged [*Marigold Infrastructure Partners Inc.*, [Govt. Press Release](#), May 29, 2026].

Action Point: Jacks and automotive lifts are extremely hazardous. Find out how to implement an effective [Tire, Wheel, & Rim Servicing Safety & Compliance Game Plan](#) at your workplace.