

Manitoba

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OHS Enforcement

Oct 21: Since April 1, 2024, Manitoba has carried out 3,364 WSH inspections, resulting in the issuance of 275 Stop Work Orders and 6,446 Improvement Orders. There were also 8 reported OHS work refusals and 31 alleged reprisals.

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

New Laws

Oct 30: [Regulatory changes](#) took effect in Manitoba to restore the 1:1 apprentice-to-journeyman ratio, which was first implemented in response to the 1999 death of Michael Skanderberg, a 19-year-old electrician helper who was electrocuted while changing a light ballast without supervision. The previous provincial government increased the ratio to 2:1, a decision criticized for compromising safety.

New Laws

Nov 7: The Manitoba Assembly passed reform [Bill 16](#) requiring the provincial government to publish an annual report on all of its regulatory accountability initiatives during the year.

Workplace Violence

Nov 7: Newly passed [Bill 39](#) bans the sale of machetes and other long-bladed weapons to anyone under age 18 in Manitoba. *The Long-Bladed Weapon Control Act* also requires retailers to collect photo ID from purchasers and maintain records on each purchase for at least 2 years.

Action Point: Find out how to implement an effective [Workplace Violence and Harassment Compliance Game Plan](#) at your site.

Drugs & Alcohol

Nov 6: The federal government proposed [regulations](#) allowing Manitoba to participate in the new national coordinated system of excise taxes on vaping products manufactured in or imported into Canada. This means that Manitoba will be allowed to impose additional duties on vaping products at the federal rate, starting in 2025.

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

Workers' Comp

Nov 1: The Manitoba Workers' Comp Board announced that the 2025 Threshold Amount for Recalculating Current Year and Prior Years Assessment Rates for Class E Employers will increase from \$15,100 to \$15,720.