

# Newfoundland & Labrador

## LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Electrical Safety

Mar 15: WorkplaceNL published [revised safety guidance](#) for electrical contractors specifying that an Electrical Permit must be purchased **before** electrical work is carried out. Permits are good for 1 year or 2 inspections, whichever comes first. An additional inspection is needed when deficiencies from previous inspections must be corrected with employers paying the required fees for additional visits.

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

### New Laws

Mar 12: The government noted that 2024 was another record-breaking year for Newfoundland immigration with nearly 6,000 new permanent residents accepted. Although federal cuts will be made in 2025, Newfoundland was successful in negotiating for the restoration of 1,000 economic immigration spaces.

### New Laws

Feb 19: To maximize use of the province's limited economic immigration capacity, the Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Nominee Program (NLPNP) and Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP) are moving to an expression of interest model. The way it works: First, individuals submit a short form identifying key characteristics, such as their occupation, education, language and willingness to reside in the province. The NLPNP or AIP then review the forms and select individuals to invite to complete a full application.

### Young Workers

Mar 20: That's the deadline for Newfoundland employers [to apply](#) for 2025 Summer Employment Program funding of up to \$4,032 (\$7,800 for nonprofits and municipalities) to hire students for full time summer jobs that will prepare them to enter the workforce when they finish school.

**Action Point:** Find out how to implement a [new and young workers safety and compliance game plan](#).

### New Laws

Mar 18: Newfoundland announced improvements to fertility services coverage that will eliminate the need of residents to travel outside of the province to receive in-vitro fertilization (IVF) and egg preservation services. Residents will also be eligible for a one-time IVF services subsidy of up to \$20,000, as opposed to previous rules limiting funding to \$5,000 per cycle up to 3 cycles.

### Infectious Illness

Mar 14: The government is warning poultry owners to guard their flocks against avian influenza (H5) after receiving a report of a suspected case in Conception Bay South.

Avian influenza continues to circulate in wild birds since an original outbreak in late 2021, with ongoing risk to the poultry sector. Commercial poultry producers should follow strict biosecurity plans and procedures to prevent the spread of avian influenza and other diseases.

**Action Point:** Use the [OHS Insider Infection Exposure Control Plan](#) template to guard chicken against H5 and humans against measles, COVID and other potential infectious illness outbreaks at your workplace.

### **New Laws**

Mar 3: In the face of new U.S. tariffs, Newfoundland is working with business, labour and community leaders to develop new trading partners for the province's exports across the fishery, forestry, critical mineral, and other sectors and to promote Buy-Newfoundland initiatives.

### **Environmental**

Mar 12: Newfoundland plans to propose new legislation that would allow for future offshore wind development in accordance with federal renewable energy requirements. Newfoundland and Labrador's offshore oil and gas sector has made significant progress in transitioning to clean energy and reducing carbon emissions.

### **Environmental**

Mar 3: Newfoundland announced that it's extending the tax reduction on gasoline and diesel of 7 cents per litre until March 31, 2026, which will maintain a lower price at the pump by 8.05 cents per litre (including HST.)

## **CASES**

### **PPE: Fisheries Employers, Supervisor Face OHS Charges for Worker's Death**

Newfoundland prosecutors have charged 2 companies with 10 OHS violations in connection with a workplace fatality, including failure to provide required equipment, training, instruction, and personal flotation devices. A supervisor was also charged for the incident [*Ocean Trout Canada of Bedford, Nova Scotia, Nova Fish Farm Inc. of St. Alban's, Newfoundland and Labrador (a subsidiary of Ocean Trout Canada Inc.), and a supervisor with Nova Fish Farm Inc.*, [Govt. Press Release](#), February 21, 2025].

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