

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Work Injuries

May 21: Yukon's lost-time injury rate of 1.3 per 100 covered workers was a decade-low, according to the WSCB's newly released <u>Annual Report for 2024</u>. Regrettably, there were 2 worker fatalities, as opposed to 1 in 2023. The WSCB's funded position at the end of 2024 was 138% of total liabilities.

New Laws

Jun 1: New *Business Corporations Act* rules require Yukon corporations to keep up to date information identifying individuals who own, control or benefit from 25% or more of the corporation's shares. Corporations need only to disclose this information to law enforcement, tax or regulatory authorities who request it for an investigation into money laundering, international tax evasion and other crimes. Corporations have one year (until June 1, 2026) to gather the required information.

New Laws

May 23: The Yukon Nominee Program selected the first round of employers invited to submit a full application. Priority will go to foreign nationals who've lived and worked in Yukon for at least one year, Yukon University graduates, French-speakers and applicants who've received a temporary measure letter of support. Yukon's cap for 2025 is 215 nominations.

New Laws

May 30: The governments of Yukon and BC have agreed to work together to connect their respective electrical grids and provide two-way transmission of clean electricity across their respective borders.

Training

May 29: Yukon launched a new initiative that will allow family physician residents from the University of Alberta to complete part of their residency in the Yukon. The Yukon Edmonton Pilot is expected to strengthen Yukon's efforts to recruit and retain health care providers and improve access to primary care in rural and remote communities.

Privacy

Aug 28: That's the deadline for Yukon residents to complete <u>an online survey</u> on how the law should deal with those who publish intimate images of another person without consent and support the victims of such disclosures.

Action Point: Find out how privacy laws affect workplace safety.

Environmental

Jun 6: Yukon amended its <u>Air Emissions Regulation</u> to require large-scale biomass burning units equal to or greater than 150 kilowatts of heat output to get an air emissions permit. Current systems owners must get the required permit by July 1,

2025; permitting requirements for new systems will take effect on December 31, 2025.

CASES

Infectious Illness: COVID Emergency Law Is Constitutional, Says Yukon Hight Court

Yukon's highest court rejected a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the *Civil Emergency Measures Act* the territory adopted during the COVID-19 pandemic, pooh poohing the contention about the Act's undermining balance of accountability between the executive and legislative branches as "fanciful" and "entirely lacking in merit" [*Mercer v. Yukon (Government of*), 2025 YKCA 5 (CanLII), May 16, 2025].

Action Point: Use the <u>OHS Insider Infection Exposure Control Plan</u> template to guard against COVID and other potential infectious illness outbreaks at your workplace.