# Saskatchewan

#### **LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# **Industry Challenges**

Jul 9: Saskatchewan announced that it's expanding the Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive (TMEI) to include ground-based and borehole geophysical surveys, core logging and other early-stage mining exploration activities. Launched in 2018, TMEI provides financial grants to exploration companies that undertake eligible drilling activities.

### **Workers' Comp**

Jul 1: The Saskatchewan WCB launched a new Medical Appointment Allowance policy (<u>Policy 17/2025</u>) and process for payment of allowances to workers who take an occasional absence from work due to a medical appointment for their work-related injuries.

# **Workers' Comp**

Jul 7: The WCB published a revised <u>Fact Sheet</u> that explains the employer's right to appeal injury claims and other workers' comp decisions and how the appeals process works.

#### **CASES**

#### Powered Mobile Equipment: Struck-By Injury Results in \$120,000 OHS Fine

A potash company was on the receiving end of Saskatchewan's second largest OHS fine of 2025 stemming from an incident in which a worker was struck by a metal crane rail that was being dragged along the ground by a telehandler. The company was fined \$120,000 after pleading guilty of permitting or requiring a worker to remain within range of powered mobile equipment's swinging load or part resulting in serious injury to a worker [Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc., Govt. Press Release, July 3, 2025].

**Action Point:** Don't let this happen to you! Find out how to implement an effective Powered Mobile Equipment Operation Policy at your workplace.

# Transportation Safety: Employer's Disability Insurer Can't Piggyback on Release Agreement

A truck driver receiving long-term disability benefits from Blue Cross through his employer got terminated. He sued the company for wrongful termination and discrimination but ended up settling the case for \$25,000. Blue Cross then denied the driver's claim for disability benefits contending that it was covered by the release and settlement agreement. But the Saskatchewan court didn't buy it. Blue Cross didn't sign the release, and the driver didn't expect or intend it to cover Blue Cross or

any other third party. So, the court dismissed the case and ordered Blue Cross to pay the driver's legal costs [Czernewcan v Blue Cross Life Insurance Company of Canada, 2025 SKKB 76 (CanLII), June 10, 2025].