

Alberta

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OHS Enforcement

Jul 1: From now through March 31, 2026, OHS Alberta will perform proactive inspections of oil and gas sites to verify companies' compliance with their OHS duties to safeguard workers from machine injury, exposure to harmful substances, musculoskeletal disorders, and workplace harassment and violence.

Action Point: Find out how to implement an [Ergonomics and Musculoskeletal Injury Prevention and Compliance Game Plan](#) at your workplace.

First Aid

Jul 1: Alberta OHS published the [updated list of approved first aid training agencies](#) in the province and the training courses they're approved to teach for the third fiscal quarter, which expires on September 30, 2025.

Action Point: Find out how to implement an effective [First Aid Compliance](#) Game Plan at your workplace.

Transportation Safety

Jul 9: Newly published [traffic safety regulations](#) ban tow truck drivers from stopping or parking their vehicles on a highway within 200 meters of a damaged or disabled motor vehicle on a highway unless requested to do so by a peace officer, emergency vehicle personnel, or the owner or driver of the damaged or disabled motor vehicle. Exceptions apply. Effective date: August 9, 2025.

Infectious Illness

Jun 13: Alberta is making major changes to its COVID-19 vaccine program in response to new federal procurement rules requiring provinces to pay for their own vaccines. Starting this fall, vaccines will be offered free of charge to high-risk persons through public health clinics only. Community pharmacies will no longer administer COVID-19 vaccines.

Action Point: Find out how to use the [OHSI Infection Exposure Control Plan](#) to protect workers from infectious disease at your workplace.

New Laws

Jun 18: Statistics Canada reports that tourists spent \$14.4 billion in Alberta in 2024, surpassing the previous record high of \$12.8 billion in 2023. At 12%, Alberta's year-over-year tourism growth rate was 4 times above the national average. By comparison, 2024 tourism spending was up 7% in Québec, 2.5% in BC, and down 2.3% in Ontario.

New Laws

Jul 3: The Alberta Manufacturing Productivity Grant, a newly launched 2-year pilot program, will provide small- and medium-sized manufacturing companies in the province up to \$30,000 in matching funding for new machinery, equipment, and

technology upgrades. Manufacturing companies from all sectors [may apply](#) by October 31, 2026, as long as they have a physical location in Alberta that makes, refines, refurbishes or processes a product or material, uses or locates the equipment or technology from the grant in Alberta, and employs between 5 and 750 employees.

New Laws

Jul 7: Alberta and Ontario signed an agreement to develop strategic trade corridors and energy infrastructure to connect each province's oil, gas, and critical minerals to global markets. The two provinces will also collaborate on nuclear energy development. Under a second agreement reducing barriers to improve interprovincial trade of liquor products requires Alberta to explore prioritizing made-in-Canada vehicle purchases for its government fleet.

Privacy

Jun 11: New *Protection of Privacy Act* rules and penalties for public bodies took effect in Alberta, including the requirement that agencies develop clear rules for sharing protected personal information with each other when providing common or integrated services to the public.

Action Point: Find out how [privacy laws affect workplace safety](#).

Drugs & Alcohol

Jul 2: New red tape cutting regulations allow small liquor producers the right to serve their own local products on party bikes, removing an outdated barrier that had prevented local producers from advertising their own brands. Businesses that own or lease large buildings may also now carve out a separate liquor store within their space, provided that it has its own entrance and full floor-to-ceiling walls separating it from other retail operations.

Drugs & Alcohol

Jul 2: New cannabis regulations allow federally licensed cultivators and processors to apply for a retail licence to sell their products directly from the same property, commonly known as “farm-gate” sales. The new rule aligns Alberta with other provinces and gives consumers more access to homegrown cannabis products, while supporting licensed growers.

Workers' Comp

Jun 30: Proposed changes to Alberta [WCB Policy 04-10](#) would simplify the application process for short-term home assistance, home maintenance allowances, and housekeeping allowances for workers who can't maintain their own homes due to functional limitations from covered work injuries. Deadline to comment: September 29.

Environmental

Jun 17: Alberta announced that it's investing \$50 million from the industry-funded TIER system to develop new technologies for cleaning up the water in oil sands tailing ponds to reclaim oil sands processing lands for future use. Oil sands operators responsible for site management and reclamation will soon be able to apply for

funding of up to \$15 million per project via the new Tailings Technology Challenge program.

Environmental

Jul 4: The federal government announced that it will invest over \$21.5 million to support carbon capture, utilization and storage technologies projects across Alberta, including \$10 million for the Bow Valley Carbon Storage Demonstration Project, \$4 million for the Wabamun Hub CO₂ Storage Optimization Project, \$5 million for Enhance's Origins CCS Hub: Development and Regulatory Work, and \$2 million for the Oxy-Fire Combustion for Diesel Generator CO₂ Capture project.

CASES

Powered Mobile Equipment: Excavator Bucket Fatality Costs Development Firm \$350,000

A worker performing maintenance on an excavator bucket pin was crushed to death after getting caught between the lower excavator arm and a grounded excavator bucket. The victim's employer pleaded guilty to permitting a worker to remain in range of a hazardous load, cab, counterweight, or any other part of powered mobile equipment and was fined \$350,000. In exchange, the Crown dropped all of the other OHS charges [*Delta Land Co. Inc.*, [Govt News Release](#), July 8, 2025].

Action Point: Find out how to implement a legally sound [Machine Guarding Compliance Game Plan at](#) your workplace to avoid injuries and OHS fines like these.

Confined Spaces: Food Plant Fined \$330,000 for Superintendent's Smokehouse Death

A food plant superintendent entered a smokehouse to check the temperature and got trapped inside. By the time a coworker discovered the situation, it was too late to save the superintendent's life. The proceeds of the resulting \$330,000 OHS fine against the employer will go to Alberta Food Processors Association to develop a confined spaces training program for the food processing industry [*Sofina Foods Inc.*, June 19, 2025].

Action Point: Don't let this happen to you! Use the [OHS Insider Confined Spaces Compliance Game Plan](#) to avoid confined space fatalities and violations at your workplace.

Machine Safety: Oilfield Company Fined \$126,000 for Failure to Guard Drilling Equipment

An oilfield worker disassembling a piece of drilling equipment suffered serious injury after getting hit by a projectile. The victim's employer was fined \$126,000 after pleading guilty to failing to provide safeguards to protect a worker from accidentally coming into contact with debris, material or objects thrown from machinery or equipment [*TAQA Drilling Solutions Inc.*, June 4, 2025].

Action Point: Find out how to prevent these kinds of injuries by implementing a legally sound [Machine Guarding Compliance Game Plan at](#) your workplace.

Powered Mobile Equipment: Driving Truck Too Deep into Puddle Isn't Just Cause to Terminate

An oilfield site Fuel and Lubricant Technician (FLT) tentatively attempted to drive his 4-wheel drive refueling truck through a large puddle blocking the road. The water turned out to be deeper than he expected and began to seep into the cab. So, he put it in reverse and tried to back out but the engine stalled and he had to be rescued from the partially submerged vehicle. The company suspended and then fired the FLT for committing a slew of safety violations and using bad judgment. The Alberta court ruled that the FLT was wrongfully dismissed and awarded him 10 months' notice and nearly \$100,000 in damages, finding that the company totally overreacted. Driving into puddles was common practice at the site; the FLT might have driven too deep into the puddle but that wasn't just cause to terminate his employment [[Rodrigues v Fort McKay Strategic Services LP](#), 2025 ABKB 414 (CanLII), July 8, 2025].