

New Brunswick

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Work Injuries

Jun 30: WorkSafeNB released its [2024 Annual Report](#). Takeaways: The lost-time injuries rate remained at a 5-year low of 1.0 per 100 workers. Healthcare had the most injury claims at 25%, followed by public administration at 20%, and manufacturing at 14%. The occupations with the most injury claims were nurses (15%), teachers and labourers (11% each), and truck drivers (6%). Traumatic psychological injury claims accepted increased from 227 to 255. There were 14 fatality claims, 1 fewer than in 2023.

New Laws

Jun 13: The federal government agreed to increase New Brunswick's 2025 immigration allocation by 1,500 to 4,250. The additional nominations have all been allocated to the Provincial Nominee Program. As part of the negotiations, New Brunswick has agreed to relocate 400 asylum claimants to the province within 2 years.

Drugs & Alcohol

Jul 7: New Brunswick signed a Memorandum of Understanding to allow direct-to-consumer alcoholic beverage sales to and from other Canadian jurisdictions who've adopted equivalent free trade rules.

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

Workers' Comp

Jul 1: Effective today, WorkSafeNB will pay new surviving spouses, that is, spouses of a worker who dies on or after July 1, 2025, 90% of the deceased worker's net earnings, with no family income test. The surviving spouse must use an amount equal to 10% of benefits paid, combined with accrued interest based on the rate of return, whether positive or negative, to purchase an annuity at age 65.

Workers' Comp

Jun 24: Newly updated [WorkSafeNB Policy 25-015](#) revises the rules governing workers' comp coverage of medical cannabis for treatment and management of work-related central nervous system injuries and neuropathic pain.

CASES

Lockout Tagout: Company Fined for Not Revising Lockout Procedure After Modifying Machine

WorkSafeNB fined a wood products manufacturer \$18,000 for failing to establish a written lock out procedure for a timber incisor machine. The problem began when a worker suffered a fractured arm while working with the machine. OHS inspectors concluded that the victim had limited understanding of the lock out process to bring the machine to a zero-energy state. A month earlier, the company modified the machine's hydraulic system without updating the lock out procedure or training workers in the new system modifications [*Marwood Ltd.*]

Action Point: You can prevent OHS fines like these by implementing a legally sound [Lockout and Hazardous Energy Control Compliance Game Plan](#) at your site.