

Northwest Territories

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Laws

Oct 21: [Bill 32](#), amending the *Public Service Act*, passed Second Reading in the Northwest Territories Assembly. The legislation makes a wide range of changes to the provisions governing employment rights and labour relations in public service.

New Laws

Nov 10: The Northwest Territories Nominee Program opened its third intake with revised guidelines: i. Employers no longer subject to application number limits based on business size; ii. Applicants with valid work permits who meet all other eligibility criteria may now apply, regardless of their work permit expiry date; and iii. Skilled Worker and NWT Express Entry applicants must have at least one year of full-time work experience within the last 10 years in the same or similar occupation as the one for which they're being nominated. This experience may come from different employers. Last month, the federal government fully restored the Program's 2025 allocation to 300.

Industry Challenges

Nov 26: That's the deadline to comment on [proposed](#) new *Mineral Resources Act* regulations covering rules for exploration, development, and operation of mines, drill cores, and the removal of minerals. This is the first of 3 scheduled engagements covering different aspects of the new regulations.

Drugs & Alcohol

Oct 31: The federal Emergency Treatment Fund announced that it will provide over \$1.6 million to Yellowknife Enhanced Street Outreach Program and Sahtu Harm Reduction and Support Program to support projects responding to critical needs related to substance use and addictions in Northwest Territories communities.

Action Point: Find out how to create a legally sound [Substance Abuse & Fitness Duty for Policy](#) at your workplace.

Workers' Comp

Dec 3: December 3rd is the deadline to comment on the WSCC's proposed new Policy 04.16 covering overpayments. The Board of Directors will review the Policy at its March 2026 governance meeting.