

# New Brunswick

## LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Transportation Safety

Nov 5: [Bill 17](#) to eliminate use of registration stickers on all vehicles, including off-road and commercial vehicles, effective next spring, passed Third Reading but hasn't yet been proclaimed effective. Drivers will still have to annually renew their vehicle registration. Those who renew online have the option to print their own registration certificates immediately after payment or have them mailed. Enforcement officials will confirm registration electronically.

**Action Point:** Find out how far you can go in [disciplining workers for distracted and dangerous driving](#).

### Crane Safety

Nov 27: WorkSafeNB and the Nova Scotia Department of Labour announced that they will carry out joint tower crane inspections and share inspections data as part of a broader collaboration to coordinate and improve OHS enforcement in each province's respective construction sectors.

**Action Point:** New Brunswick employers can use the OHS Insider [Cranes/Hoists/Lifting Device Compliance Game Plan](#) to prepare for these inspections prevent crane violations at your workplace.

### New Laws

Nov 19: Newly passed [Bill 14](#), *The Free Trade within Canada Act*, promotes internal trade by ensuring that goods and services approved for sale in other Canadian jurisdictions are recognized as meeting New Brunswick's standards. The Bill also allows New Brunswick products to be more easily sold in provinces with similar legislation, including Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Québec, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

### New Laws

Nov 10: New Brunswick launched a one-year project to accelerate AI adoption and strengthen workforce readiness in the contact centre sector. Led by the McKenna Institute in collaboration with Contact NB and a network of partners, the AI Adoption in Contact Centres project will provide organizations and employees with skills, tools, and hands-on learning experiences to integrate AI responsibly into daily operations.

**Action Point:** Find out about [the 11 ways you can use](#) Artificial Intelligence to improve workplace safety and OHS compliance.

### Accessibility

Dec 3: New Brunswick issued a revised Disability Action Plan for breaking down barriers to accessibility. A month earlier, the province published its first [five-year strategic plan on accessibility](#) calling for, among other things, the establishment of new accessibility standards regulations for employment and workplaces.

**Action Point:** Find out how accessibility laws affect your OHS program and how to [ensure your workplace emergency response plan accounts for the disabled](#).

### **Workers' Compensation**

Dec 1: WorkSafeNB began issuing \$53.2 million in performance to hundreds of eligible employers across New Brunswick. The agency will mail cheques for refunds of \$1,000 or more; smaller refunds will be directly credited to employers' accounts to reduce their 2026 assessment premiums.

**Action Point:** Find out how much each province and territory is charging for [workers' compensation premiums in 2026](#).

### **Environmental**

Dec 19: That's the deadline to [comment](#) on New Brunswick's proposed [strategic action plan for solid waste management](#) designed to divert waste from landfills. About 30% of all waste in New Brunswick's regional landfills is organic waste from the residential, industrial, commercial, and institutional sectors.

### **Environmental**

Dec 5: People can now access information about contaminated sites around New Brunswick free of charge, through a [new online map viewer](#) that shows all contaminated site files initiated since the late 1980s. These range from minor incidents, such as motor vehicle spills, to major incidents involving significant releases, multiple contaminants and impacts on neighbouring properties. to the auditor general's November 2022 report on the contaminated sites program.

## **CASES**

### **Workplace Harassment: Records of Departure from Previous Job Relevant to Wrongful Dismissal Lawsuit**

Crandall University terminated a professor for cause based on the results of an outside investigation finding that he engaged in sex harassment against women during his previous tenure at another university. The investigation report also concluded that the professor deliberately misled Crandall during the hiring process by failing to disclose that he was on forced leave amid complaints about his conduct. The professor denied the allegations and sued Crandall for wrongful dismissal and defamation. In preparing for the trial, Crandall asked the professor to provide documents related to his departure from the previous university. The professor refused, claiming those documents were irrelevant and accusing Crandall of engaging in a "fishing expedition." But the New Brunswick court concluded that the documents were relevant to both the wrongful dismissal and defamation claims and ordered the professor to turn them over [*Dr. John Gordon Stackhouse Jr. and Sarah-Jane Britton v. Crandall University*, 2025 NBKB 256 (CanLII), November 17, 2025].

**Action Point:** Find out how to implement an effective [Workplace Violence and Harassment Compliance Game Plan](#) at your site.