

AUGUST 2024 MONTH IN REVIEW

Yukon

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Health & Safety

Aug 21: The Governments of Canada and Yukon will jointly invest +\$25 million over 5 years to bolster the territory's capacity to respond wildland fires. The money, which will come from the federal Fighting and Managing Wildfires in a Changing Climate Program (FMWCC) will be used to train firefighters and purchase PPE, weather stations, utility task vehicles and other equipment.

New Laws

Aug 27: Yukon published a new What We Heard [report](#) summarizing the feedback it received during the recent public engagement on proposed new legislation governing all stages of mining activity in the territory, including prospecting, mine operation, closure and site remediation.

CASES

Health & Safety: Judge Settles on \$80,000 Sentence for Driller's Fatality

There were no witnesses, so it wasn't exactly clear how the driller got killed. His body was found with the arms detached from the body, one arm wrapped around the rotating auger and the other was lying on the ground with the drill still rotating. The company and its corporate president pled guilty to 3 total OHS violations, including lack of machine guarding. So, the question became how big the fine should be. The maximum penalty for an OHS violation at the time of the incident was \$150,000. The Yukon court decided on a total penalty of \$80,000 considering the company's moderate size, lack of previous violations, prompt admission of guilt and genuine remorse—the victim and the president were close personal friends [[R. v. Saffa](#)

Engineering Incorporated, 2024 YKTC 17 (CanLII), July 17, 2024].

Action Point: Find out [how to create a vibrant safety culture](#) at your company