

JULY 2023 MONTH IN REVIEW

Nova Scotia

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Laws

Jun 20: Nova Scotia expanded the Small Business Wildfire Relief Program to include Halifax Regional Municipality and Shelburne County businesses outside of the mandatory evacuation zones that were still forced to close for at least 5 days due to the fires. The Program provides one-time grants of \$2,500 to eligible businesses.

Health & Safety

Jun 7: With wildfires raging across the province, a new Nova Scotia WCB [safety alert](#) helps employers protect workers from smoke exposure. Recommendations: moving work to areas or times with better air quality, providing cool drinking water, slowing pace of heavy exertion work, training workers to recognize smoke exposure symptoms and providing and requiring use of N95 particulate filtering masks.

Privacy

Jun 20: According to the Nova Scotia Office of Information Privacy [2022 Annual Report](#), there were 678 privacy breaches reported by provincial agencies under the *Personal Health and Information Act* during the past year, affecting protected health information of 12,188 individuals. Nova Scotia Health reported the most breaches by far, with 507, followed by IWK Health Centre with 102.

Action Point: Find out the 12 things you should do to [prevent data breaches](#) at your workplace