

JUNE 2023 MONTH IN REVIEW

Nova Scotia

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Laws

May 23: Nova Scotia officially pulled the plug on its COVID-19 public health emergency order and reporting requirements. **Translation:** COVID is now subject to the same regulations and requirements as influenza and other non-emergency respiratory illnesses. Employers should still implement workplace measures to prevent the spread of such illnesses as part of their general OHS duties.

New Laws

May 12: Criminal background checks are now mandatory for bouncers at late-night bars and cabarets. Bar security staff must also complete an approved security training course by July 1. At least one manager or supervisor who's completed the training program and provided a criminal record check must also be on-site during opening hours.

Accessibility

May 17: Nova Scotia is making progress on achieving accessibility but there's still plenty of room for improvement. That's the conclusion of the newly released [independent review](#) of the Accessibility Act, which includes 48 things the government can do to bolster standards making and engagement.

Action Point: Find out more about [accessibility laws across Canada](#)

CASES

Health & Safety: Prosecutor Didn't Prove Blasting Violation Beyond Reasonable Doubt

The Crown charged a paving contractor with 13 violations of the OHS *Blasting Safety Regulations*, relying heavily on videotape evidence from a camera installed by the developer on the roof of a neighboring building. The contractor contended the video evidence was inadmissible. The Nova Scotia court disagreed but still found the prosecution's evidence inadequate and dismissed all of the charges against the contractor [[R. v. Atlantic Road Construction & Paving Limited](#), 2023 NSPC 10 (CanLII), April 21, 2023].