

APRIL 2023 MONTH IN REVIEW

Saskatchewan

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Immigration

Mar 14: The federal government agreed to increase Saskatchewan's Immigrant Nominee Program allocation by 42% above 2022 levels over the next 3 years including 18,000 in 2023. Saskatchewan now will also have sole authority to assess a candidate's ability to economically establish and intent to reside in the province.

Employment Benefits

Mar 14: Second Reading for Bill 108 amending the *Pension Benefits Act* to let employers establish solvency reserve accounts and use letters of credit instead of solvency deficiency contributions to fund DB plan operating deficits. It would also eliminate liability of plan administrators that enter into annuity buyout contracts with insurance companies under certain conditions.

Accessibility

Mar 13: Bill 103, which would establish accessibility standards and requirements across different aspects of public life, including employment, in Saskatchewan patterned after accessibility laws in Ontario, Québec and other provinces is now through Second Reading.

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

Workplace Violence

Feb 28: The federal government is providing Saskatchewan \$1 million to support

crisis hotlines for victims of gender-based violence across the province. Crisis lines are often the first place victims go to report incidents and seek help. Nationwide usage of these lines has increased significantly since the COVID pandemic began.

Action Point: Implement a legally sound [workplace violence and harassment investigations policy](#) at your workplace

Health & Safety

Mar 15: WorkSafe Saskatchewan, the WCB and Ministry of Labour Relations published a new 5-year [strategy](#) for reducing workplace injuries and fatalities focusing on 3 high-risk sectors: health care, transportation and construction.