

Nunavut

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Health & Safety

Mar 19: The Chief Public Health Officer declared an outbreak of whooping cough in Naujaat. The announcement comes 2 days after the Department of Health advised the public of an increase in reported cases of viral respiratory illnesses, including influenza B, norovirus, and gastroenteritis, currently circulating in Nunavut.

Action Point: Find out how to create a legally and clinically sound workplace [exposure control plan](#) to protect your employees against the risk of any infectious illnesses that may hit your workforce.

Payroll

Mar 11: The Nunavut Assembly passed [Bill 65](#) amending the *Income Tax Act* to make search and rescue volunteers eligible for the current volunteer firefighter tax credit.

New Laws

Mar 3: Second Reading for [Bill 74](#) to repeal the *Pharmacy Act* and replace it with a comprehensive new regulatory framework for all pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, interns, and students in Nunavut.

New Laws

Mar 4: Although it doesn't directly export to the U.S., Nunavut relies heavily on imports for essential goods, infrastructure, and services, making it vulnerable to rising costs and supply chain disruptions. The GN says it will promote local and Canadian consumption and that the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis Commission will no longer sell alcohol products made in the U.S. The GN is also reviewing its Party-Specific Exceptions under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.

New Laws

Mar 13: Under its new bilateral agreement with Ottawa, the GN will receive \$7.3 million over 3 years to improve residents' access to selected new drugs for rare diseases, and to support enhanced access to existing drugs, early diagnosis, and screening. The first step will be funding for 4 new drugs: Poteligeo, for treatment of mycosis fungoides, aka Sézary syndrome; Epkinly, for relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; Welireg for von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) disease; and Yescarta for follicular lymphoma, large B-cell lymphoma (LBCL), diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), and high-grade B-cell lymphoma (HGBL).

New Laws

Mar 4: The federal government's decision to extend the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit for another 2 years is good news for Nunavut given the METC's key role in supporting early-stage mineral exploration. However, the 3 territories continue to call for a 15% stackable North of 60 Mineral Exploration Tax Credit, an incentive designed to

recognize the higher costs of exploration in the territories.

Drugs & Alcohol

Mar 12: The following tobacco tax rate increases took effect in Nunavut: i. Cigarettes: from 30 cents to 40 cents per stick; ii. Smoked tobacco: from \$0.40 to \$0.533; and iii. Non-smoked tobacco: from \$0.30 to \$0.45.

Action Point: Find out how to comply with [workplace smoking laws](#).