

Saskatchewan

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Laws

Mar 5: The government ordered the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority to stop purchasing U.S.-produced alcohol and directed that government procurement of goods and services prioritize Canadian suppliers, with the goal of reducing or eliminating U.S. procurement. Future government capital projects have been paused and contractors involved in current projects will have to report on and reduce consumption of American products.

New Laws

Mar 24: The newly proposed 2025 Saskatchewan Budget calls for a 45% non-refundable Small and Medium Enterprise Investment Tax Credit for individuals or corporations who invest equity in eligible small and medium-sized businesses in key sectors such as food and beverage manufacturing and machinery and transportation equipment manufacturing.

Drugs & Alcohol

Mar 25: Saskatchewan is eliminating the current provincial sales tax exemption on vapour products, which will also continue to be subject to the separate vapour products tax. In addition to generating \$3 million in revenue per year, imposing the PST on vapour products is expected to discourage young people and others from using them.

Drugs & Alcohol

Mar 10: Saskatchewan will get approximately \$700 million of the roughly \$32.5 billion landmark settlement agreement between the provincial and territorial governments and the tobacco companies.

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

Health & Safety

Mar 10: At 3.91 per 100 workers, Saskatchewan's 2024 total injury rate hit a new low for the second year in a row. Since 2009, total injury rates have decreased 57.62 per 100 since 2009. The 2024 time-loss injury rate fell 3.37% from 1.78 to 1.72 per 100 workers. There were 27 workplace fatalities (versus 29 in 2023), including 10 due to occupational disease, including 4 asbestos-related and 3 firefighter cancer-related; and 17 fatalities were from traumatic incidents. For the fifth year in a row, 90% of Saskatchewan workplaces had zero fatalities and zero injuries.

Workers' Comp

Mar 17: The Saskatchewan WCB began gathering public feedback on ideas for improving services in both the short- and long-term. Deadline [to comment](#): April 28.

CASES

Mental Stress: Workers' Comp Covers Anxiety from Excessive Workload

A worker submitted a workers' comp claim for the depression and anxiety she claimed she developed as a result of her excessive workload and stressful interpersonal incidents at work. As in most provinces, workers' comp in Saskatchewan covers psychological injury as long as a psychiatrist or psychologist provides a proper diagnosis and the worker is exposed to a traumatic event at work. Since the worker in this case had a proper diagnosis, the key issue was whether she experienced traumatic events. The normal stress that employees experience in doing their jobs isn't considered trauma. However, the evidence showed that the worker's workload and work-related interpersonal incidents were "excessive and unusual in comparison to pressures and tensions experienced in normal employment." So, the WCB Appeal Tribunal ruled that the worker had a valid claim for psychological injury [[25-8995-37 \(Re\)](#), 2025 SKWCBAT 337 (CanLII), March 12, 2025].

Action Point: Find out how to implement an effective workplace [mental health policy](#) for your employees.