

# Saskatchewan

## LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### New Laws

Jun 4: The federal government announced that it will match every dollar donated to the Canadian Red Cross to support wildfire disaster relief and recovery efforts across Saskatchewan. Meanwhile, the provincial government is providing \$15 million to the Canadian Red Cross to work with the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency to support wildfire evacuees. All residents over age 18 that reside in communities that have been evacuated will also receive \$500 in financial assistance from the province.

### New Laws

Jun 20: At \$2.3 billion, retail sales in Saskatchewan grew 2% from April to March, the highest month-to-month growth of any province. Saskatchewan's real GDP also hit a record \$80.5 billion in 2024, an increase of \$2.6 billion, or 3.4%, second in the nation for real GDP growth and over double the national average of 1.6%.

### Drugs & Alcohol

Jun 1: Saskatchewan officially eliminated the provincial sales tax exemption on vapour products. Vaping products remain subject to the separate vapour products tax. In addition to generating \$3 million in revenue per year, imposing the PST on vaping products is expected to discourage young people and others from using them.

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

## CASES

### Termination: Disability Insurer Can't Piggyback on Employee's Release

#### Agreement

A truck driver receiving long-term disability benefits from Blue Cross through his employer got terminated. He sued the company for wrongful termination and discrimination but ended up settling the case for \$25,000. Blue Cross then denied the driver's claim for disability benefits contending that it was covered by the release and settlement agreement. But the Saskatchewan court didn't buy it. Blue Cross didn't sign the release, and the driver didn't expect or intend it to cover Blue Cross or any other third party. So, the court dismissed the case and ordered Blue Cross to pay the driver's legal costs [[Czernewcan v Blue Cross Life Insurance Company of Canada](#), 2025 SKKB 76 (CanLII), June 10, 2025].