



## LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Immigration

Aug 21: The federal government approved an additional 67 allocations for the Yukon Nominee Program for 2025, bringing the total for the year to 282. In addition, Yukon can reissue 13 employer invitations to compensate for withdrawals from the first round of invitations.

**Action Point:** Find out what companies and their HR directors need to know to [navigate the immigration law maze](#).

### Employment Benefits

Aug 14: Yukon extended the signing bonuses and exam fee reimbursement for nurses through to March 31, 2027, retroactive to April 1, 2025. New nurse practitioners and registered nurses will receive a signing bonus of \$7,500 and new licensed practical nurses will receive \$4,500, with a required 12-month service agreement. The government will recover the bonus on a prorated basis for each month that a nurse who doesn't put in the full 12 months fails to work.

### New Laws

Jul 28: The Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce will receive up to \$150,000 from the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor) to support annual small business events over the next 3 years, including a Small Business Week to be held in the fall and a Trailblazers Symposium coinciding with International Women's Day.

### New Laws

Aug 7: Construction will soon begin on a new community recreational space in Dawson, supported by a combined investment of \$63.9 million from the federal and Yukon governments, with \$47 million coming from Ottawa and \$16 million from the territory.

### Health & Safety

Aug 28: The Yukon WSCB will hold an open house to discuss a [proposed plan](#) to establish a new framework for imposing Administrative Monetary Penalties for WSC violations. Those who can't attend can provide feedback by completing a WSCB [online survey](#) by September 5.

**Action Point:** Don't get smacked with Administrative Monetary Penalties! Find out how to survive OHS and other [surprise government inspections](#).

## CASES

## **Social Media: Defamatory Facebook Posts Cost Ex-Employee \$50K. . . and Counting**

A non-profit that shelters the homeless and provides other support for the vulnerable sued an ex-employee for posting and refusing to take down statements on his Facebook page describing the organization as “Black-hating, racist, phony, and drug-dealing.” The Yukon court ruled that the ex-employee checked all the boxes for defamation: he posted the comments on a publicly accessible Facebook page, named the organization by name and did it deliberately to harm the organization’s reputation. So, it threw the book at the ex-employee, who didn’t show up to court, by awarding the organization \$50,000 in damages (while noting that the price could go up if the posts remained on the site much longer) and issuing an injunction order to cease publication [[Connective Support Society v Melew](#), 2025 YKSC 49 (CanLII), August 8, 2025].

**Action Point:** The notion that employees’ Facebook postings and other social media communications are purely private and protected by freedom of speech is a myth. Employers can, in fact, discipline—and as in the *Connective* case, actually sue—employees for social media postings that harm a company’s employees or business. But you must have a legally sound HR policy. Use the HR Insider template to create your own [Social Media Use Policy](#).