



Occupational Health & Safety Information Bulletin

Cannabis and the Workplace

The legalization of non - medical cannabis use in Canada is expected to take effect on October 17 2018. As part of cannabis legalization, provincial governments are responsible for ensuring workplace safety.

At this time, Newfoundland and Labrador has not identified a need to amend occupational health and safety requirements in the province, as there are already provisions regarding impairment in the workplace.

The NL Occupational Health and Safety Regulation currently address impairment in the workplace. Section 26 of the OHS regulations states: “employers, supervisors or workers shall not enter or remain on the premises of a workplace or at a job site while his or her ability to perform work responsibilities is impaired by intoxicating substances or another cause that endangers his or her health or safety or that of other workers. The regulatory expectation is that employers, in consultation with the occupational health and safety committee, workplace health and safety representative or designate, develop programs which include risk assessment, policies, procedures and training in relation to impairment.

NL as a member of CAALL-OHS engaged the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) to develop a standard in relation to impairment. The standard is on target for completion in 2019.

The Canadian Center of Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) has developed a white paper in relation to impairment. It can be retrieved at the following link

http://www.ccohs.ca/products/publications/cannabis_whitepaper.pdf

Online: www.servicenl.gov.nl.ca/ohs

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