Media Release

New First Aid Requirements for Workplaces in the Northwest Territories

Yellowknife, NT (December 7, 2020) – The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (WSCC) today announced the implementation of Canada wide first aid standards for workplace health and safety.

Amendments to *Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulations* in the Northwest Territories have been made to harmonize first aid practices across all provinces and territories in Canada. The amendments include new requirements on first aid risk assessments to help employers determine the quantity and type of first aid kits needed at a work site and the level of training and number of first aid attendants needed on site.

The changes will come into effect on January 1, 2021. Employers have one year from that date to use and update the first aid kits at their work sites and ensure they meet the requirements of the amended *OHS Regulations* and the Canadian Standards Association (CSA).

"Working in partnership with other Canadian provinces and territories and adopting common standards not only improves the legislation already in place, it makes it easier for employers working in multiple territories and provinces to provide safe work environments. We are happy to be a part of this national effort," said Debbie Molloy, WSCC President and CEO.

Important information:

1. **First aid training providers** need to update their training and training materials for January 1, 2021.
2. **Employers** have one year to use and update first aid kits at their work sites. The deadline is January 1, 2022.
3. **First aid certification** remains valid until the expiry date on the certification.

The WSCC has information and resources to help employers and workers put these changes into practice. Visit wscc.nt.ca/health-safety for more information, or contact us at 1 (800) 661-0792.

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WSCC is an arm's length government agency responsible for administering the Workers' Compensation Acts, Safety Acts, Explosives Use Acts, the Mine Health and Safety Acts, and associated Regulations.

Together, with our partners, the WSCC provides services to almost 40,000 workers and 4,000 employers across the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. We process over 3,000 claims and conduct over 1,000 inspections annually to ensure the safety of Northern workplaces. The WSCC is unique in Canada as it is the only workers' compensation organization in the country to insure workers across more than one province or territory. We proudly offer services in the official languages of both territories.