

WSCC Workplace Inspections



All employers are legally required to maintain a safe workplace by complying with the requirements in the *Safety Act(s)* and *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations (OHS Regulations)*. The *Act(s)* and *OHS Regulations* help to protect the health and safety of workers and employers in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

During an inspection, a Safety Officer visits your worksite and assesses your work practices. Inspections can result in Directions that detail the corrective actions that the employer needs to complete by an agreed upon date to protect the health and safety of people at the worksite. Inspections can also provide positive observations and feedback to employers.

Reasons for Inspection

Scheduled Inspection – The most common type of inspection. Your company was selected based on WSCC inspection criteria, or the employer has requested a visit from the WSCC.

Focused Inspection – A particular risk identified by the WSCC that employers should be aware of. For example, a topic based on overall injury rates or a change to legislation that impacts your industry.

Referral Inspection – A referral inspection typically comes from a *Report of Unsafe Work* or an *Employer's Report of Injury*.

Follow-up Inspection – These inspections happen when there are outstanding items from a past inspection or Direction(s). An employer may also request a follow-up inspection.

Definitions

Observations – Anything noteworthy that the Safety Officer sees in your workplace. Observations could include positive feedback, areas that could use improvement, or details describing imminent danger.

Directions – Directions outline areas where an employer is not adequately meeting safety legislation. They are clearly labeled on your inspection report, and will include the word “shall” along with a cited safety legislation that employers must comply with.

Imminent Danger – A situation or circumstance that poses clear and serious risk to one or more workers' health and safety.

Compliance – An employer following what is required under the Nunavut and Northwest Territories *Safety Act(s)* and *OHS Regulations*.

The WSCC wants to see employers succeed in keeping their workers safe and prevent injuries from occurring. In every step in this process, we encourage you to communicate openly with the Safety Officer you are working with. They will provide you with support to comply with safety legislation.

