

Publisher's Note

2018 — Release 2

Previous release was 2018-1

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Highlights

Two significant developments have taken place since the last update - legalization of the use of recreational cannabis in Canada and the amended WHMIS legislation coming into full force on December 1, 2018. The changes to relevant and other entries in the guide are highlighted below.

Cannabis and Smoking: The federal *Cannabis Act, 2018* and Ontario's new *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017* came into effect on October 18, 2018. For consistency, a new entry on **Cannabis in the Workplace** has been added and it replaces the entry on Marijuana (Cannabis) in the Workplace. The **Smoking** entry has been updated to reflect the extension of the prohibition on smoking to the smoking of cannabis.

WHMIS: Entries on the elements of WHMIS - Labels, safety data sheets and training have been updated and these now deal solely with the new requirements, as the transition period to allow companies to come into full compliance has ended; WHMIS 1988 is no longer applicable. The major entry on the **Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System** has been similarly updated. All references to WHMIS 1988 and WHMIS 2015

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have been removed and instead reference is made to and information provided on the requirements of the WHMIS regulation, as amended.

OHS & Other Acts: These have been updated, for the main part to reflect the higher penalties for infractions. Where applicable, reference is made to the set fines imposed for scheduled offences under the *Provincial Offences Act*. The entry on **Tickets and Fines** now has information on these.

Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSDs): A new, updated and comprehensive “MSD Prevention Guideline for Ontario” is now available. This updated entry provides further information.

Figure C, Codes and Standards, has been updated to reflect new or updated standards referenced in OHS regulations.