

2024 Change highlights: Miscellaneous parts of the OHS Code

OHS information for work site parties

This bulletin gives an overview of December 2024 changes to miscellaneous parts of the [Occupational Health and Safety \(OHS\) Code](#).

KEY INFORMATION

- In addition to the changes made in December 2024 to Parts 27, 33 and 37 of the OHS Code, minor changes were made to several other parts of the code.
- The changes included the following:
 - Updated definitions to clarify the intent of OHS Code provisions.
 - Slight changes to two requirements in order to align with other jurisdictions in Canada.
 - Editorial changes to adjust wording and align with terminology elsewhere in the OHS Code.

Effective date

Until March 30, 2025, work site parties can comply with either the new provisions in the [2024 OHS Code](#) or the previous provisions in the [2023 OHS Code](#).

Starting March 31, 2025, work site parties must comply with the new provisions.

Summary

The December 2024 amendments are the result of ongoing reviews and updates of the OHS Code. The changes to the miscellaneous parts of the code described in this bulletin include:

- Updated definitions to clarify the intent of OHS Code provisions.
- Changes to two requirements in order to align with other jurisdictions in Canada.
- Editorial changes to adjust wording and align with terminology elsewhere in the OHS Code.

This bulletin is only a summary of some changes to the OHS Code. Make sure to consult the legislation to ensure you're in compliance.

Definitions

The following definitions have been updated:

“Industrial power producer” in Parts 17 and 40 means an employer authorized in Alberta to generate electrical energy as an independent power producer or solely for its own use in manufacturing or in the handling of material.

“Secure” in Part 15 means ensuring that an energy-isolating device cannot be released or activated.

“Utility worker” in Parts 17 and 40 means a worker engaged in the work of an electric utility, industrial power producer or rural electrification association.

“Energy-isolating device” means a device that prevents the transmission or release of hazardous energy. (Note: this term replaces the term **“control system isolating device”** in the OHS Code.)

Requirements

Parts 18 and 41 of the OHS Code incorporate changes related to CSA Group (CSA) standards to align with other jurisdictions in Canada:

Part 18 Personal protective equipment

In Section 246, CSA-approved respiratory protective equipment has been added to the list of respirators that employers can use to meet the requirement in this section.

Part 41 Work requiring rope access

In Section 835, the applicable CSA standard is now CSA Standard Z259.12-16 (R2021), *Connecting components for personal fall-arrest systems (PFAS)*.

Other highlights

Other changes and clarifications in the code include:

Part 5 Confined spaces

Section 49 Protection – harmful substances and hazardous energy

Wording has been changed to clarify that “harmful substances” are “hazardous substances”, and “energy” is “hazardous energy”.

Part 10 Fire and explosion hazards

Section 175 Isolating methods

Section 175 has been removed, as its provisions were moved to Section 215.4 in 2009.

Section 176 Pigging

Section 176 has been removed, as its provisions were moved to section 215.5 in 2009.

Part 11 First aid

Section 181 First aid providers

The reference to the *Nursing Homes Act* has been removed (since the act was repealed in April 2024), but the facilities to which this provision applies remain the same.

Part 31 Diving operations

Section 437 Intakes, pipes and tunnels

The name of the referenced CSA Standard Z275.2-04 has been updated from “*Competency Standard for Diving Operations*” to “*Occupational Code for Diving Operations*”.

Part 40 Utility workers - electrical

Sections 800 to 804

The term “employee” has been revised to “worker” in Sections 800, 801, 802, 803 and 804 to clarify that employees are workers.

Part 41 Work requiring rope access

Section 818 Low stretch (static) and high stretch (dynamic) rope

Changed the referenced work site party from “employee” to “employer”.

Schedule 2 Tables 5, 6 and 7

These tables have been updated.

Contact us

OHS Contact Centre

Alberta toll-free

- 1-866-415-8690

Edmonton region

- 780-415-8690

Deaf or hard of hearing (TTY)

- 1-800-232-7215 (Alberta toll-free)
- 780-427-9999 (Edmonton region)

Notify OHS of health and safety concerns

alberta.ca/file-complaint-online.aspx

Call the OHS Contact Centre if you have concerns that involve immediate danger to a person on a work site.

For more information

Occupational Health and Safety Code

alberta.ca/occupational-health-and-safety-code

Ask questions about legislation changes

ohsreview@gov.ab.ca

Report a workplace incident to OHS

alberta.ca/ohs-complaints-incidents.aspx

Website

alberta.ca/ohs

Let us know what you think!

To provide feedback on this publication, visit ohs-pubstore.labour.ab.ca/LH012 and click “Give resource feedback”. For more OHS resources, visit the [OHS Resource Portal](#).

© 2025 Government of Alberta

This material is for information only. The information provided in this material is solely for the user's information and convenience and, while thought to be accurate and functional, it is provided without warranty of any kind. Neither the Crown, nor its agents, employees or contractors, will be liable to you for any damages, direct or indirect, arising out of your use of the information contained in this material. If in doubt with respect to any information contained within this material, or for confirmation of legal requirements, please refer to the current edition of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, Regulation, and Code, or other applicable legislation. Further, if there is any inconsistency or conflict between any of the information contained in this material and the applicable legislative requirement, the legislative requirement shall prevail. This material is current to March 2025. The law is constantly changing with new legislation, amendments to existing legislation, and decisions from the courts. It is important that you keep yourself informed of the current law. This material, including copyright and marks under the *Trademarks Act* (Canada), is owned by the Government of Alberta and protected by law. This publication is issued under the Open Government Licence – Alberta. For details on the terms of this licence and commercial or non-commercial use of any materials in this publication, visit open.alberta.ca/licence. Note that the terms of this licence do not apply to any third-party materials that may be included in this publication.