

LEGAL DOES NOT EQUAL SAFE

IMPAIRMENT RISK IN THE SAFETY-SENSITIVE WORKPLACE

SAFETY BULLETIN

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As of October 17, 2018, recreational cannabis is legal in Canada. The use of alcohol and drugs can have serious adverse effects on the safety of workers and the public. Impairment in the workplace has always been unacceptable and will continue to be unacceptable. Cannabis use will be dealt with the same as any other cause of substance impairment.

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU PREPARE

- Refer to the [Canadian Model for Providing a Safe Workplace, Version 6.0](#), a framework outlining minimum expectations for a safe workplace
- Watch PSAC's video [Cannabis in Safety-Sensitive Workplaces](#) featuring occupational psychiatrist and cannabis expert, Dr. Charl Els
- Register for Alberta Construction Safety Association's course called [Alcohol & Drugs: Work Site Guidelines \(ADWG\)](#)
- Read [Cannabis-Impaired Driving: What You Need to Know](#), a Safety Bulletin from Energy Safety Canada
- Download [Marijuana & the Safety-Sensitive Worker](#) by Dr. Brendan Adams
- Through broad industry collaboration, Energy Safety Canada has released a common set of [Life Saving Rules](#); nine were adopted from the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (IOGP), along with the addition of a Fit for Duty rule to reflect the Canadian oil and gas operating environment



DID YOU KNOW?

- The effects of cannabis use are complex and highly variable between individuals; everyone reacts differently*
- Alcohol and cannabis impairment are not the same; they affect different areas of the brain*
- Cannabis use doubles the risk of a car crash[‡]
- Male cannabis users had a 28 per cent higher rate of hospitalization due to injuries than non-users; female users had a 37 per cent higher rate[‡]
- Cannabis use negatively impacts alertness, motor coordination, reaction time, short-term memory and the ability to handle unexpected events*

References:

*[Marijuana & the Safety-Sensitive Worker](#) by Dr. Brendan Adams

[‡]Marijuana Use Among Drivers in Canada, 2000-2014. Traffic Injury Research Foundation, December 2017

[†]Susan Goodwin Gerberich et al, "Marijuana Use and Injury Events Resulting in Hospitalization" (2003) 13:4 Ann Epidemiol 230

