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## **Resources for Yukon Based Employers Re: COVID-19**

### **Legal Resources**

There are many law firms publishing information on their websites to provide guidance to employers for issues related to COVID-19. I recommend the following resources:

- McLennan Ross (<https://mross.com/law/>) is an Alberta based law firm with an office in Yellowknife that services the Yukon with expertise in labour and employment matters. They have a number of resources on the “Recent Publications” section of their Labour and Employment page: [https://mross.com/law/Practice\\_Areas/Labour\\_And\\_Employment](https://mross.com/law/Practice_Areas/Labour_And_Employment)

### **Government Support**

The federal government has announced a number of financial supports for both employers and employees: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

The territorial government has also a site with information for employers: <https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/health-concerns-diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-information>

### **Employment Standards**

The Yukon *Employment Standards Act* and *Employment Standards Regulation* addresses topics such as:

- Layoff and termination
- Unpaid leave
- Vacation

[http://www.community.gov.yk.ca/pdf/Employment\\_Standards\\_FAQ\\_May\\_2017.pdf](http://www.community.gov.yk.ca/pdf/Employment_Standards_FAQ_May_2017.pdf)

More detailed information is outlined in the legislation. Employers considering termination or layoffs, either temporary or permanent, should review Part 8 of the *Employment Standards Act*:

[http://www.gov.yk.ca/legislation/acts/emst\\_c.pdf](http://www.gov.yk.ca/legislation/acts/emst_c.pdf)

### **Employment Insurance (EI)**

The federal employment insurance program provides income replacement benefits to eligible employees who are sick, terminated, or laid off: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei.html> The government has also announced an expansion of the Work-Sharing program that provides EI benefits to eligible employees who agree to reduce their normal working hours and share the available work while their employer recovers: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/work-sharing/guide-applicant.html>