## DRUGS AND ALCOHOL POLICY

[Organization Name] recognizes impairment as a serious health and safety issue in the workplace as it can reduce the abilities and judgment of employees. We also recognize that substance abuse and dependency are medical issues that certain employees may struggle with. [Organization Name] is therefore committed to:

1. Creating a safe and healthy workplace by prohibiting the unsafe use of drugs and alcohol in the workplace; and
2. Providing support to any employees with dependency issues.

[Organization Name] will adhere to the guidelines set out in the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Act and the Alberta Human Rights Act.

POLICY

To protect our organization, employees, clients, and the public at large, [Organization Name] prohibits the use of any substances that lead to impairment such as drugs or alcohol, whether legal or illegal, while in the workplace or representing [Organization Name], unless they have been authorized in writing for use by management for medical reasons or in special circumstances such as a company event.

Employees may not be impaired while working, whether on-site, off-site or while working from home. Employees who are unfit to report to work for any reason should notify their supervisor using their regular process. Safety is our number one priority at [Organization Name].

Employees who fail to comply with this policy may face disciplinary action, including termination, or the involvement of the authorities, where necessary.

Safety Concerns with Machinery or Equipment

Driving or operating machinery, including work vehicles, while under the influence is strictly prohibited. Should an employee who operates machinery or equipment, including company vehicles, report to work and inform their supervisor of their current state of impairment, their supervisor is required to take immediate action, which may include sending the employee home in a taxicab or other commercial vehicle, and pursuing disciplinary action at a later date when the employee is no longer impaired.

Solicitation or Possession of Illegal Substances

Solicitation, or possession of illegal substances within the workplace is strictly prohibited all times. There are no exceptions to this rule.

Work Events

Certain work situations (work parties, events, etc.) may allow for consumption of legal substances. These exceptions to company policy will be communicated by management and employees will be expected to use appropriate judgment and reasonable consumption levels while in these situations.

Employee Responsibilities

Employees are responsible for:

* Following the procedures outlined in this policy
* Informing their supervisor/manager if they are under medical care and require the use of a prescription drug which may impair their abilities
	+ Employees are not to share their diagnosis or prognosis with the supervisor/manager; the information regarding their medication is precautionary only
* Employees must also inform their supervisor/manager in the event they arrive at work impaired
* If an employee should observe the suspected impairment of another employee, they have a responsibility for informing their supervisor/manager to ensure the health and safety of all others attending the workplace
* Using their judgement in the case of work events, either taking place off-site or at [Organization Name]’s premises

Supervisor/Manager Responsibilities

* Informing employees about and enforcing the company’s drug and alcohol policy
* Ensuring employees under their direct supervision are fit for work
* Alerting the authorities should an employee attempt to drive while under the influence or a legal or illegal substance
* Providing job accommodation to employees who require it
* Providing clear instructions to employees for special events such as company parties to ensure employees clearly understand what they are and are not allowed to do

Suspicion of Impairment

[Organization Name] will provide training to supervisors and workers on the impact of impairment and on how to recognize and respond to possible signs of impairment.

This includes the use of the Suspicion of Impairment checklist and then follow-up actions with the employee who is suspected of being impaired.

Follow-up actions may include:

* Ensuring that the employee is returned to their home
	+ However, if the employee is impaired, [Organization Name] will not condone them using their own vehicle and will make arrangements for alternate transportation such as a taxi or an uber
		- Should an employee insist on driving themselves, the authorities will be notified
* Scheduling a meeting with the employee at the workplace to discuss the impairment
* Inquiring about potential dependency/addiction

Additional actions may include drug and alcohol testing, administrative leaves or suspensions, and agreements for counselling as appropriate under human rights and employment legislation. Each situation will be assessed individually.