

**June 30, 2022**

## **New Asbestos Abatement Requirements Introduced by the Government of BC**

Source: WorkSafeBC's "Insight" e-Newsletter

On February 16, 2022, the provincial government introduced new protections to keep workers safe from the danger of asbestos under Bill 5 – 2022: *Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2022*. Bill 5 received Royal Assent on March 10, 2022.

Under the new requirements, asbestos abatement contractors must be licensed to operate in B.C., and workers and employers who perform this work must complete mandatory safety training and certification.

WorkSafeBC is currently working to implement the new requirements, which include:

- Developing the standards that asbestos safety training and certification programs must comply with
- Developing a licensing scheme for abatement contractors
- Amending the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation to align with the changes to the *Workers Compensation Act* and support the certification and licensing schemes

Moving forward, CLR will keep you informed regarding the developments of the new requirements included in Bill 5. If you would like additional information or resources regarding asbestos in the workplace, please contact Glen Williams, Director, Health & Safety at CLR or the WorkSafeBC website at:

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/health-safety/hazards-exposures/asbestos>