

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

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WORKERS COMPENSATION ACT – FIREFIGHTERS’ OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE REGULATION

On November 8, 2022, the BC Government [announced](#) that the Province is amending the Firefighters’ Occupational Disease Regulation under the *Workers Compensation Act* by adding the following two cancers to the list of work-related cancers:

- Pancreatic
- Thyroid

The amendment means that if a firefighter develops one of the listed work-related cancers after a certain period of employment, it is presumed that the cancer arose from their employment. The firefighter is then eligible for workers’ compensation benefits without having to provide evidence that the disease is work-related.

There are currently 16 cancer presumptions already recognized for firefighters, as well as presumptions for heart disease and heart injury. The addition of the above two cancers will expand the list of presumptions to 18.

The [current version](#) of the Firefighters’ Occupational Disease Regulation is pending the newly announced changes.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any comments or questions about this update, please e-mail RES360@metrovancover.org or call 604-451-6558.

SOURCES

“B.C. expands cancer coverage for firefighters”, November 8, 2022
[B.C. further expands cancer coverage for firefighters | BC Gov News](#)