1. KEY CHANGE (2026): NO SINGLE "TEMPERATURE LIMIT"

WorkSafeBC has **moved away from fixed temperature limits**.

What the regulation now says:

- There is **no single temperature where work becomes unsafe**
- Heat risk must be assessed based on:
    - temperature
    - humidity
    - workload (light / moderate / heavy)
    - clothing / PPE
    - radiant heat (sun, roofing surfaces)
    - duration of exposure

This is a **risk-based system, not a fixed limit system**

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2. NEW GUIDELINES (G7.28, G7.29, G7.30, G7.31)

In **March 12, 2026**, WorkSafeBC introduced/updated key heat stress guidance:

- **G7.28 – Heat stress exposure limits (new)**
- **G7.29 – Heat stress assessment (revised)**
- **G7.30 – Heat stress controls (new)**
- **G7.31 – Provision of water (new)**WorkSafeBC

These formally require:

- **Assessment**
- **Exposure control plan**
- **Controls + monitoring**
- **Water provision**

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3. WHAT "LIMITS" MEAN NOW (IN PRACTICE)

A. ACGIH / WBGT-BASED EXPOSURE LIMITS

WorkSafeBC now aligns with:

- **ACGIH Threshold Limit Values (TLVs)** (WBGT-based)

This means:

- Exposure limits are based on:
    - workload
    - acclimatization
    - environment

✓ NOT a single °C value

B. HUMIDEX ACTION LEVELS (FIELD USE)

While not legal limits, these are widely used and **accepted in BC for compliance**:

Humidex	Risk Interpretation	Required Action
< 30	Low	Monitor
30–33	Moderate	Increase hydration
34–37	High	Add controls
38–39	Very high	Add rest breaks (~15 min/hr)
40–41	Severe	Significant rest (~30 min/hr)
42–44	Critical	Major restriction (~45 min/hr)
≥ 45	Extreme	Stop or medically control work

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4. WHAT IS A "HEAT LIMIT" UNDER WORKSAFE BC?

You are considered "OVER LIMIT" when:

- Workers **cannot maintain safe body temperature**
- OR **controls cannot prevent heat illness**

This includes:

- inability to hydrate
- inability to cool
- symptoms appearing
- work-rest cycles not sufficient

Practical "Stop Work" Triggers

Even though not written as a fixed number, inspectors expect:

- Humidex ≥ 45 → **extreme (stop work)**
- WBGT ≥ ~32°C → **extreme (ACGIH limit)**
- Heat warning issued → reassess/modify
- Workers showing symptoms → **mandatory removal**

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5. CONSTRUCTION-SPECIFIC EXPECTATIONS

WorkSafeBC is very clear for high-risk industries like roofing:

You MUST:

- Perform **heat stress assessment**
- Implement **Exposure Control Plan (ECP)**
- Establish **work-rest cycles**

You Must Provide

- Shade
- Water
- Supervision

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6. NEW REQUIREMENT: WATER (G7.31)

- Must provide **adequate potable water**
- Must be:
    - readily accessible
    - sufficient for conditions
- Encourage frequent drinking

Common benchmark:

- ~1 cup every 15–20 minutes

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7. CRITICAL COMPLIANCE POINTS (INSPECTOR FOCUS)

What WorkSafeBC will look for:

- Written **Heat Stress Exposure Control Plan**
- Evidence of **daily monitoring**
- Defined **trigger levels**
- **Worker training**
- Enforced **work-rest cycles**
- Active **supervision**

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8. SIMPLE SUMMARY (FIELD-READY)

✓ There is NO fixed °C limit

Instead:

- Use **Humidex or WBGT**
- Apply **work-rest cycles**
- Adjust for:
    - PPE
    - sun exposure
    - workload

✓ Practical "limits" you should enforce:

- Start controls: **~23–25°C** early warning WorkSafeBC
- Mandatory controls: **Humidex ≥ 38**
- Heavy restrictions: **Humidex ≥ 40**
- Stop work: **Humidex ≥ 45**

Bottom Line

- WorkSafeBC has shifted to a **risk-based heat exposure model**
- "Limits" are:
    - **dynamic (WBGT / Humidex-based)**
    - **dependent on work conditions**
- Employers must prove:
    - hazards are assessed
    - controls are effective
    - workers are protected
