For more information or assistance, contact your local union health and safety representative, your union executive, your CUPE representative or the CUPE National Health and Safety staff representative for your province at:

Canadian Union of Public Employees

Alberta Regional Office 300, 10235 – 124 Street NW Edmonton, Alberta T5N 1P9 Tel. (780) 484-7644 Fax (780) 489-2202

Or contact the CUPE National Health and Safety Branch at: Tel. (613) 237-1590 Fax (613) 237-5508 Email: health_safety@cupe.ca For additional health and safety resources, visit **cupe.ca/health-and-safety**

CUPE Canadian Union of Public Employees



Section 31 of Alberta's Occupational Health and Safety Act protects a worker's right to refuse unsafe work. The law states that workers may refuse work if they believe that worksite conditions are dangerous or that the work constitutes a danger to the worker's health and safety (or to the health and safety of another worker or person).

Here's how you can refuse unsafe work:

- Notify your employer or supervisor at the worksite that you are refusing work because you don't think it is safe and state your reason for refusal.
- 2. If the employer does not remedy the dangerous condition immediately, the employer shall immediately inspect the dangerous condition with the worker and with a member of the health and safety committee or health and safety representative. There must be a written record of your notification, the investi-

gation, and action taken. A copy of the report must be provided to you and the committee member or representative.

- 3. If, in your opinion, a danger still exists, you can file a complaint with a government occupational health and safety officer.
- 4. The officer shall investigate the complaint and decide whether there is a dangerous condition. A copy of the report must be provided to you and the committee member or representative.
- 5. If you are not satisfied with the officer's report and recommendations, you must legally return to work, but may appeal the report within 30 days.

You have the legal right to a healthy and safe workplace.